



Watsonia Neighbourhood House

47 Lambourn Road
PO Box 236
Watsonia Vic 3087

T: 03 9434 6717
E: admin@watsonianh.org.au
ABN: 22400871456

www.watsonianh.org.au
Inc: A0024293B

Volunteering Opportunity Governance Committee

A volunteering opportunity is available on our Governance Committee. We are a learning organisation, committed to continuous improvement, and we are seeking people from diverse backgrounds to bring their different life experiences, perspectives and skills to make our thriving organisation even stronger.

About us

Watsonia Neighbourhood House is an Incorporated Association operating as a not for profit community organisation within the Banyule local government area since 1991.

Watsonia Neighbourhood House brings people together to participate, learn and connect to their local community. We do this through social, educational, recreational and support activities using a community development approach. Community development is about enabling communities to identify and address their own needs. It starts from the assumption that communities have existing strengths and assets that make them part of the solution. Community development practice is about doing with, rather than doing for.

We are funded through Victoria State Government Department of Families, Fairness and Housing through the Neighbourhood House Coordination Program, and are well supported by Banyule Council in numerous ways including an annual recurrent funding agreement and lease of our premises.

You can find more information about us and our Annual Reports on our website www.watsonianh.org.au.

Responsibility of the Governance Committee

As an incorporated association we must have an elected Governance Committee, who is responsible for governance of the organisation (planning, policy and employment). The organisation uses a set of organisational values and strategic objectives to guide decision making.

Good governance provides organisational leadership: it shapes the organisation's mission and values and focuses on outcomes and sustainability.

The Committee members are accountable for the expenditure of funds in accordance with the organisations financial management practices and funding service agreements. An Annual Report which includes annual financial statements is produced and presented at the Annual General Meeting and submitted to Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission.

What's required of a Governance Committee volunteer?

The Committee meets on a monthly basis for approximately 2 hours. These meetings are scheduled at the convenience of the members, currently on a Wednesday evening at 5.30pm via Zoom. Between meetings, authority to act for the organisation is delegated to the Manager so that the day to day operations continues. The Manager attends the monthly meetings to provide information and assist with decision making.

Sometimes Committee members are required to respond to emails and phone calls and invited to attend events outside of the meeting times.

We will require a current Working with Children and Police Check and our Constitution requires all Committee to be a financial member of the organisation (cost is \$10 per annum).

What experience or qualifications do you need to be a Governance Committee volunteer?

Most importantly, to be a volunteer on the Governance Committee you need to be passionate about community and share our commitment to our core values;

- Equity - we treat staff, volunteers and all community members with fairness and respect in accordance to their needs.
- Inclusiveness - we welcome all community members equally and provide an environment that is accessible for everyone.
- Engagement - we develop strong and meaningful connections with our community.
- Diversity - we recognise and value an individual's differences.
- Honesty and integrity - we act in an ethical manner.
- Innovation and creativity – we are adaptive and open to new ideas.

We would welcome professional experience in any of stakeholder management, risk management, employment/HR, business, governance/committee or ethics.

Governance and other professional development training are available to Committee members as well as an orientation to our organisation.

How do I apply?

If you are interested in applying for a position on our Governance Committee, please contact our Manager, Lucie Holden on 03 9434 6717 or email manager@watsonianh.org.au.