SOMOS Advisory Board Policy

An advisory Board is a volunteer group formed to give advice and support to SOMOS’ Board of Directors and Executive Director. An advisory Board may contribute to the organization in many different ways — and the same nonprofit may have multiple advisory Boards.

Unlike the Board of Directors, an advisory Board does not have formal legal responsibilities or decision-making authority and cannot issue directives that must be followed. Advisory Boards typically do not have as many rules and procedures, such as those concerning Board elections, as a Board of Directors.

Instead, like other committees, an advisory Board makes recommendations and provides suggestions, consultation and information to the Board of Directors. The advisory Board's action plan and powers are delegated by and subject to the direction and control of the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors will name a chairperson who will be the primary contact with the Executive Director and the Board of Directors. The chairperson will name a vice-chair/recording secretary to assist with Advisory Board business.Advisory Board members are encouraged to share ideas, information, and resources with the Board of Directors and the Executive Director of SOMOS. The Advisory Board will meet a minimum of once a year by Zoom, teleconference or in person.They are invited to attend a segment of the annual Board retreat (typically held in January each year) to assist with visioning future goals, events, and programs. They are also invited to attend the annual member’s meeting (typically held in early March each year) to review the previous year’s finances, budget, policies, and programs. Advisory Board members will serve for a three-year term which can be renewed at least once, and more if the Board of Directors continues to benefit from their skills and experience. The number of Advisory Board members will not exceed the current number of Board of Directors. The Advisory Board will consist of a maximum of ten members. Additional members may be added at the Board of Directors’ discretion.

Advisory Board members will consist of ex officio Board members and community members who are passionate about promoting SOMOS’ mission especially as it relates to supporting writers, readers, and learners and honoring the cultural diversity of Taos and the Southwest through its programs and events.

Approved unanimously on 9-15-21 Board meeting