

RESPONSES TO GVR CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

John Stock

- 1. WHAT DO YOU THINK ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF A GREAT BOARD MEMBER? A great board member for a large nonprofit organization must be an experienced listener. Meeting procedure and organizational knowledge are also critical skill sets. The member must be readily available to constituents and directors. The great board member must put hidden agendas and personal grievances aside to effectively represent the members' interests. My 12 years experience as a director and past-president of a 7500 member national nonprofit organization has given me the experience and knowledge to be a great director.**
- 2. WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE BOARD'S CHALLENGES? There are two major challenges the 2019 board will face. The first is financial. The oversight of the new pickleball venue which now sits at approximately \$2.2 million will take a large amount of available time. Other large capital projects are in the wings and will also require a similar effort. Secondly, GVR is a growing organization that requires continual attention and management. As growth continues so must staff, vehicles and structure maintenance. Growth and inflation will require a dues increase in the not-too-distant future. The increase will have to be justified and communicated to the members through proper research and transparency. With 28 years of experience in project management in both the private and public sectors, I will**

bring extensive knowledge in solving the challenges facing the board.

3. WHAT MOTIVATES YOU TO DO YOUR BEST WORK?

My best work occurs when I have passion for a cause. I'm motivated by important issues and work well under pressure even if there are short deadlines.

4. WHAT ARE THE TWO OR THREE MOST CRITICAL ISSUES FACING GVR IN THE NEXT 3 TO 5 YEARS?

Planning: Long range planning is an extremely important element of any nonprofit organization. The Board is responsible for ensuring the on-going health of GVR.

Finances: With great service and facilities comes larger expenses. This will require constant vigilance by the Board and its appropriate committees. Just as important is input from the members. **Consensus-building:** There is already serious debate about what GVR is supposed to provide and at what levels. The challenge is first to build consensus and then move forward with one voice. My experience as a certified mediator has taught me to listen to everyone and successfully work toward a satisfactory solution.

5. IS THERE SOMETHING THE CURRENT BOARD IS DOING OR NOT DOING THAT YOU WOULD HANDLE DIFFERENTLY?

Presently, some Board members have not had the opportunity for good board training. Meetings are often contentious and rules of order are sometimes forgotten.

Meetings can be more efficient and productive. I believe GVR has addressed the situation and look forward to the new board training that is being implemented.

6. WHICH BOARD COMMITTEE DO YOU HAVE A SPECIFIC INTEREST IN SERVING ON AND WHY?

I'm interested in serving on the Board Affairs Committee and/or the Nominations and Elections Committee. My previous experience working with nonprofit governance best qualifies me for these two committees.

Respectfully submitted

John R. Stock