



What happened?

Life as a LINX Board Member



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21st February 2024

LINX121

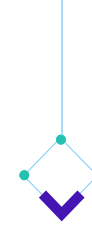








Me

- Involved in the Internet industry since 1999
- Joined Andrews & Arnold in 2012; General Manager
- Saw what happened with another organisation in the industry in 2020/21
- “Anything I can do?”
- Not critical of LINX – *help it stay going the right way*

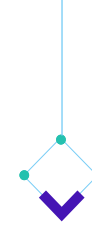








What is an NED?

- Non-executive Director 
- Legal and fiduciary responsibility 
- Not “managing the company”, but advising, steering, overseeing 
- To support and also to challenge the Executive 



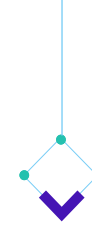


What is required to become an NED?





- Higher ~~education~~ 
- Prior Board ~~experience~~ 
- Qualification in ~~accounts / Law / Governance / Technology~~ 
- A big idea and unbreakable self-assurance 

(Some may be helpful!)

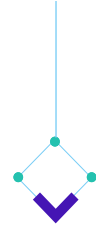




What is actually required to become an NED?

- Management experience in the industry ✓ 
- Willing to put in the work – read documents, attend meetings ✓ 
- Genuine interest in and care for the future of the organisation ✓ 
- Ability to listen, question, debate and compromise ✓ 

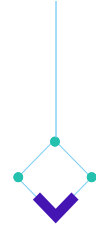




A typical board meeting

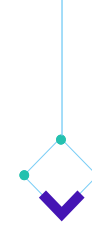
- Agenda followed, minutes taken
- Chair leads the meeting
- Some regular items such as reports from subcommittees, H&S, etc.
- Agenda items, including financial, pricing, risks, new ventures, etc.
- Meeting closed.













A typical board meeting?

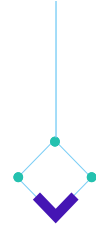




Recent Example “Main” Agenda Items

-  Budget Approvals for network upgrades 
-  Annual Accounts 
-  New CFO hiring 
-  Nairobi Opportunity (and future opportunities) 



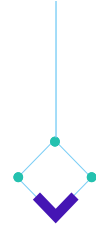


Time commitment as a LINX NED – example: 2023

- I had involvement in LINX business on **29** individual days
- **But** vastly less than 29 days worth of person-hours
- This includes :
 - 8-10 board meetings
 - 2 strategy days
 - 2 open strategy sessions
 - LINX events
 - committee meetings
 - CFO interviews/discussions
 - SMT guest



- Some very short and/or via Zoom; easily fitted around other commitments



From the NEDs, LINX gains:

- A broadened range of perspectives, experience and opinion
- A check and balance / sanity checking
- Member voices better represented
- Board *ambassadors*; e.g. to help explain decisions to members
- (slight) Diffusion/sharing of underlying responsibility

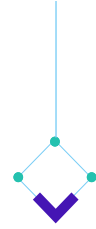




Benefits to NEDs

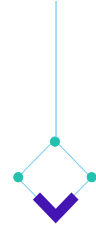
- A wider-perspective view of the industry
- Input into decisions that affect the Members
- Useful, transferrable and sought-after experience
- Experience of the Co-operative / Membership model
- A stipend





Stand for election to the LINX board!





But, also, I'd be grateful for your vote, in May!



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