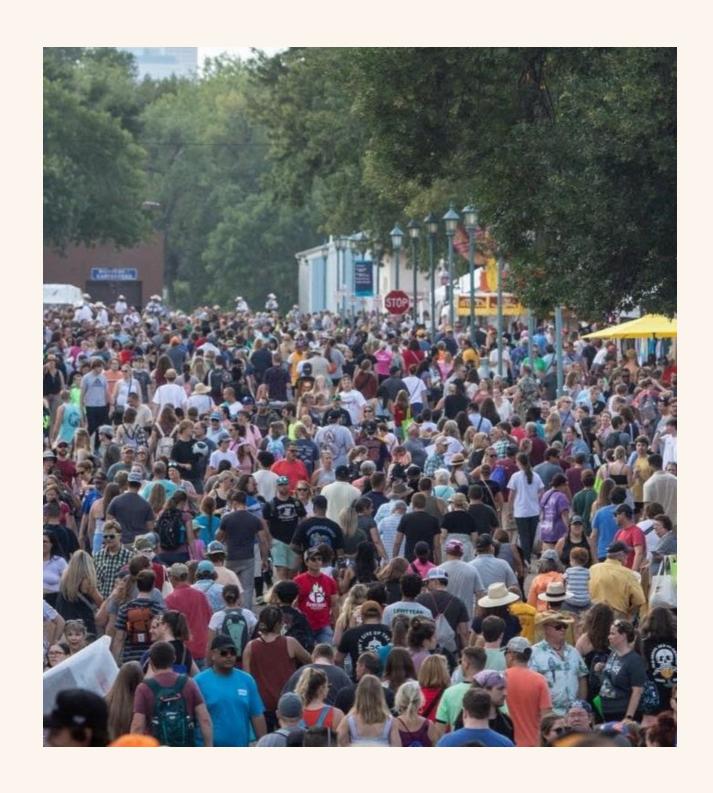
YOU ARE NOT ALONE

The Challenges are Everywhere





MEET MIGHTY!



Melissa Martinez-Sones

- 22 Years of Nonprofit Experience, 9 as a Consultant
- Mother of Three
- Block Club Leader
- Blue Ribbon-winning Baker
- Saint Paul Enthusiast

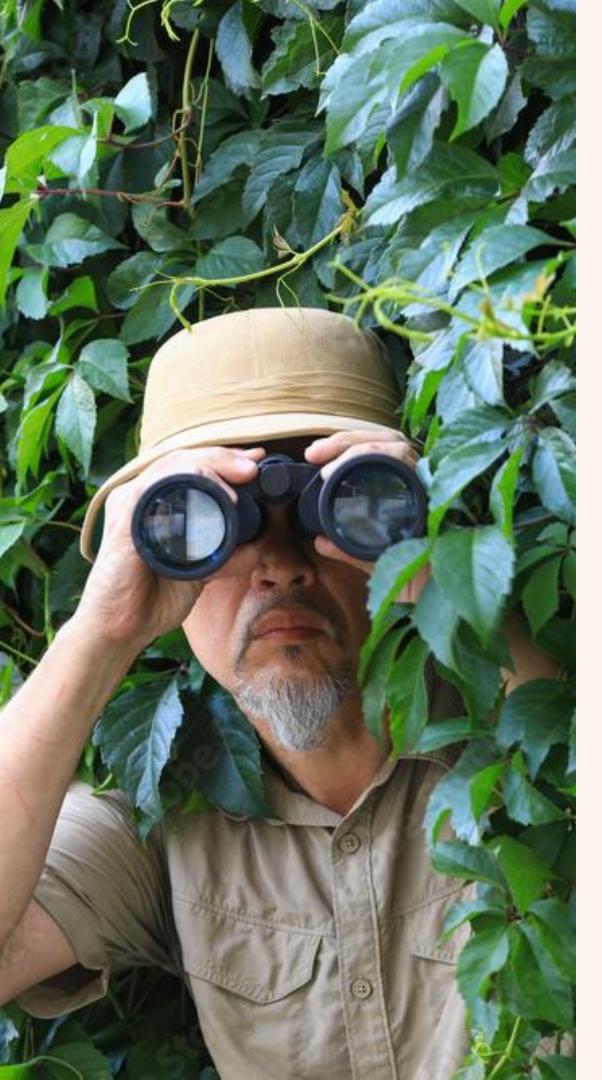
Roger Meyer

- 30+ Years of Nonprofit Experience,
 20+ as a Consultant
- Frequently on Multiple Day Bike Trips
- In the Band "Hay Bale"
- Father of Three
- Minneapolis Convert

WHO IS IN THE ROOM?

- Executive Directors
- Board Members
- Senior Leadership
- Staff

Show of Hands!



OUR OBSERVATIONS OF THE SECTOR

What we're seeing, hearing, and learning from our vantage point.

DISCONNECTED AND DISENGAGED BOARDS

- Pre- to Post-COVID degradation
- Acting as individuals, not as collective
- Unclear roles with Executive Director, support from E.D.
- Lack of authentic engagement, commitment, or ownership

DISCONNECT BETWEEN BOARD AND STAFF

- Lack of understanding of each others' roles and responsibilities
- No shared sense of purpose or common view of mission
- No authentic relationships

STAFFING TURNOVER AND CHALLENGES

- Turnover creates challenges around overwork, continuity and team building
- Staff unclear/not following their role
- Staff feel unheard
- Shared Leadership: lack of clarity (who makes decisions?)
- Anti-Racism/DEI work
 - Disconnect between Board and staff
 on pace/scope of work
 - Pause mission-focused work to focus on DEI?

WHY IT MATTERS



What is the Impact?

- Sector instability
- Inability to move organizations and efforts forward
- Feelings of hopelessness
- Burnout and cynicism

Tell us
what you
think

REACTIONS FROM THE ROOM

What other challenges are you facing that we haven't discussed?

WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

What we've seen that works.

Engagement and Clarification

Inclusive Decision-making Grace and
Patience

WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

What we've seen that doesn't work.

Working on
these issues
instead of
mission focused
work

Leadership
vacuums (or
waiting for
someone else to
lead)

Conflict Avoidance



How have you successfully handled these challenges in your organization? What else could we be doing as a sector? As leaders?

REPORTING BACK

Sharing take-aways from your small group discussions...

- How have you successfully handled these challenges in your organization?
- What else could/should we be doing as a sector? As leaders?

NOW WHAT?



Next Steps and Staying Connected

- Are there next steps here?
- How can we stay connected to colleagues/peers?



THANK YOU!

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