

Minutes - Elections Advisory Committee Meeting – February 9, 2018

Meeting convened at 10:00 AM

Held in Ocean Pines Administration Building

Meeting Minutes

Members Present

Evan Smith
Mark Heintz
Rick Turner
Steve Tuttle
Steve Habeger

Board liaison – Director Slobodan Trendic

This was the Election Committee's scheduled monthly meeting

There were no public comments.

The Elections Advisory Committee(EC) had approved via email the minutes of the January 12, 2018 meeting.

The meeting Agenda as presented was approved with no additions or changes.

The status of Resolution M-06 was reviewed. As requested by the BOD the resolution was reviewed again by the By-Laws and Resolutions Committee at their January 29 meeting. This committee unanimously endorsed the proposed changes to M-06 as proposed by the EC.

The EC asked liaison Trendic to place M-06 as proposed and which had a 2nd reading at the BOD January 27 meeting to the BOD as a motion for approval at the February 25 BOD meeting.

Chair person Tuttle gave a brief synopsis of email exchanges with Director Moroney regarding the proposed changes to M-06.

The EC discussed the question of candidate advertising in OPA publications. It is the unanimous position of the EC that candidates not be allowed to advertise in OPA publications. A motion to that affect will be drafted by Steve Habeger for review by the EC and presentation as a motion at the February 25 BOD Meeting. The intent of the motion will be to ask the BOD to direct the GM to modify the existing advertisement policy to state that ads by candidates will not be accepted for publication. Short of that passing the BOD, EC would like the BOD to require that all candidate ads published in OPA literature to include a clear statement the OPA is not supporting or endorsing the candidate.

Director Colette Horn, as Secretary of the BOD has certain responsibilities with respect to the certification of candidates. Director Horn will attend the next meeting of EC (March 9) and the EC will review with her the responsibilities describe in OPA documents.

The Election Timeline and Candidate Questions for publication were discussed. No changes were made to the timeline and the EC will use the same 3 questions used last year for the candidate responses that will eventually be published in the OPA quarterly newsletter.

Director Trendic raised the question about having in hand a recount procedure in case needed in the future due to a close election. Tuttle will forward the draft procedure developed last year for review by the committee to begin the process of developing a recount procedure/process.

EC also discussed ways to improve the accuracy of cast ballots for the upcoming election:

1. Communication via email to Association members on how to properly mark a ballot.
2. Make the deadline date for receipt of ballots very clear in all literature, including a reminder of the time it takes for mail to reach OP via Salisbury
3. Prepare a sample ballot to show exactly how to mark the ballot
4. Check with our printer to determine best color scheme for presenting the ballot and election literature.

The next scheduled meeting dates for the EC are: March 9, April 13 and May 11.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Tuttle

Elections Advisory Committee Chair