Revisions to the UGHA Bylaws

Annual meeting
Monday, October 17, 2011

Impetus for the revisions

- Requirement for a quorum at meetings
 - nothing gets passed without external vote
 - Lack of participation equates to a "No" vote
- No mention of Communication Officer
- Secretary/Treasurer a challenging combination

Bylaws Review

- Ad hoc committee members, two meetings
 - Kevin Silverstein, Chair
 - Sue Gehrz
 - Sue Hoyt
 - Russ Hobbie
- Board members, two meetings
- Steering committee, one meeting
- Community review period, two weeks

Ground rules

- Kevin will present the proposed changes
 - Discussion is encouraged from the audience
 - A motion to amend any changes can be made and voted upon
- An e-mail will be sent to all households with the final proposed bylaws amendments
 - Households will be allowed to vote Yes/No to the entire set of amendments via an anonymous survey
 - Voting closes two weeks after e-mail

Proposed changes

- Voting procedures and decision requirements
- Petition threshold for raising issues
- Communication Officer description
- Split of Secretary/Treasurer position
- Clarification of all officer duties
- Change to the fiscal year definition
- Minor edits for clarity

Voting procedures and decision requirements

Current rules

- A quorum is required (52+ households) for any action to be taken on agenda items at a meeting
- A vote can take place outside the meeting (via mail or e-mail), but 52+ households must return a ballot to achieve a decision
- A quorum is not required for elections

Voting procedures and decision requirements

Proposed rules

- Voting items distributed in agenda two weeks prior to a meeting
- During meeting, a motion may be made and voted upon to amend these voting items
- Voting at meetings limited to election of Board members and to amendments on voting items.
 - A decision on these votes is determined by a majority of households attending the meeting.
- On all other voting items brought to a meeting, households may submit electronic votes or written ballots after the meeting is adjourned.
 - A decision on these votes is determined by a majority of the votes received*
 - These will be accepted for two weeks after the meeting.
- A majority of the steering committee can determine in advance of the vote on an issue that the vote must be done by secret ballot.
- Only one member of each household may vote.
- Voting results will be communicated via e-mail no later than 48 hours after the voting has closed.

*Amendments to the bylaws themselves require a majority of all households in the Grove for passage as described in Article IX.

Petition threshold for raising issues

Current rules

 5 households required to initiate a voting item not suggested by the Steering Committee

Proposed rules

- Raise threshold to 10 households
 - This is still less than 10% of households
 - Avoids potential for small group pushing their "agenda"

Communication Officer description

- Invaluable position is not mentioned in the existing bylaws
- Suggested wording stipulates a stipend contingent upon available funds
- General duties outlined, but precise duties will be determined by annual contract with the President

Split of Secretary/Treasurer position

- Problems with current merged position
 - Difficult to fill due to diverse responsibilities
 - Taking minutes at annual meeting difficult due to presentation requirements
- Proposed changes
 - Split responsibilities across two positions

Clarification of all officer duties

- Clearer descriptions of the job requirements for each office
- A requirement, with deadlines, to transfer materials to the incoming officer

Change to the fiscal year definition

- Move to federal fiscal calendar to simplify
 - dues accounting
 - stipend payment to Communication Officer

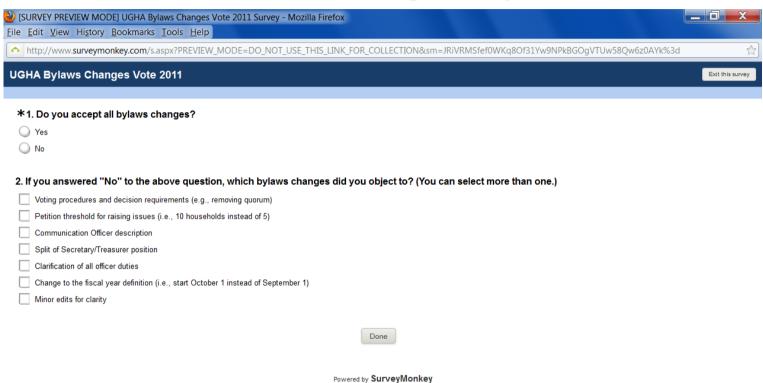
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The new voting experience

- E-mail to all residents will notify that a ballot has been mailed to the primary e-mail address for a household
- One private URL will be mailed per household
- Residents will follow the link to Survey Monkey
- We will know who voted, but not how they voted

The new voting experience



Create your own free online survey now!





