

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

Proposed changes

- Voting procedures and decision requirements
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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

The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window with the following details:

- Address bar: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?PREVIEW_MODE=DO_NOT_USE_THIS_LINK_FOR_COLLECTION&sm=JRiVRMSfef0WKq8Of31Yw9NPkBGogVTUw58Qw6z0AYk%3d
- Page Title: UGHA Bylaws Changes Vote 2011
- Navigation: File, Edit, View, History, Bookmarks, Tools, Help
- Buttons: Exit this survey

***1. Do you accept all bylaws changes?**

- Yes
- No

2. If you answered "No" to the above question, which bylaws changes did you object to? (You can select more than one.)

- Voting procedures and decision requirements (e.g., removing quorum)
- Petition threshold for raising issues (i.e., 10 households instead of 5)
- Communication Officer description
- Split of Secretary/Treasurer position
- Clarification of all officer duties
- Change to the fiscal year definition (i.e., start October 1 instead of September 1)
- Minor edits for clarity

Done

Powered by **SurveyMonkey**
Create your own [free online survey](#) now!

Taskbar: C:\Users\ksilvers..., SurveyMonkey -..., [SURVEY PREVIE...], 8:26 PM