



## Elections Committee (EC) Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2023 – 10:00 am

**Call to Order:** meeting was called to order by Chairperson Piatti at 10:04 am.

**Verification of quorum:** was attained, Committee Members George Alston, Tom Schwartz and Nanci Osborne were in attendance, along with BOD Liaison and OPA VP Rick Farr. Also in attendance was Cindy Hoffman from the Bayside Gazette.

**Approval of Agenda:** the agenda was approved by general consent.

**Public Comments:** None.

**Chairperson Remarks:** This hybrid meeting is being recorded and will be posted to YouTube. This week, Josh Davis posted election information on the OPA website. Candidate applications must be received by May 10. Since there is no Search Committee this year, applications will go to OPA Senior Executive Office Manager Linda Martin who will authenticate the date and time received. As an aside, 2002 election records show that there had been an increase of 19 OPA Owners due to the purchase of building lots in Triple Crown Estates. It is expected to increase by 11 for this year's election.

**BOD Liaison Remarks:** VP Farr thanked the committee for all their work in the past few months. He noted we were under time constraints, appreciated our professionalism and recommendations to the Board.

**Approval of prior meeting minutes:** George Alston motioned to approve the minutes of our November 3, 2022, meeting, seconded by Tom Schwartz and unanimously approved.

### Reports

**Scanning Software:** George reported the faults with the Snap Survey software used for the election. His research reveals that REMARK software is superior and that Thom Gulyas of Ace Printing, who viewed a webinar on this product, endorses its use this year. We must work out the details of who will purchase the subscription for this \$1,200.00 software package.

**Scanning Equipment:** The Xerox scanner purchased in 2022 and used in the 2022 election worked well. The major issue as stated about was with the Snap Survey software. The difference between Optical Character Reader (OCR) and Optical Mark Reader (OMR) software was discussed. It is preferable to use OMR software with our Xerox scanner.

## **Unfinished Business**

The EC submitted our first investigative report to the Board in November 2022, which summarized our findings, along with process change recommendations. After review, several Board members asked for clarification and we rendered a second report in January 2023 which addressed their questions. During the February 18 Board meeting, Chair Piatti further clarified our position. Today, we have rendered another report standing by our original recommendations. We are hopeful the Board will approve these recommendations at the March 18 Board meeting so we may move forward with planning which includes a proposal to Ace Printing and Mailing for election services.

## **New Business**

**Appointment of EC member.** Member Elaine Brady has resigned from the EC and plans to submit her application as a board candidate. Although there are three EC member applications, this committee has determined two are unsuitable for appointment due to them displaying enmity towards the committee with insulting social media remarks. The third applicant, Mrs. Mary Tipton, has not responded to multiple emails or telephone messages. Therefore, we will ask the OPA to publicly announce that we are seeking a new member.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 10:27 am. Next meeting tentatively scheduled for April 9, 2023.