



2020 Board of Directors Elections Early & Absentee Voting Plan

Summary

In April 2020, NENA plans to conduct its regular Board of Director Elections with the addition of early and absentee voting. NENA's Bylaws will need to be revised with approval of the Board of Directors and the General Membership. Also, NENA will need to update its recruitment, promotion and voting policies and procedures.

Goals

- Increase eligible voter participation in electing NENA's leadership.
- Elevate communications about the NENA Board of Directors and its impact in the community.
- Recruit Board candidates early, allowing more time for the community to interact with candidates and make informed decisions

Timeline

February 2019

- Staff prepares bylaws revision document and supporting materials for review by the Board of Directors.
- Board votes to approve the proposed bylaws language changes (2/28/2019)

March 2019

- Staff submits notification of the bylaws revision in the March and April Nokomis Messenger articles and on the NENA website.
- Staff prepares bylaws revision document and supporting materials for review by the General Membership. Posts on NENA website.

April 2019

- General Membership votes on proposed bylaws revisions at the 2019 Annual Meeting (4/25/19).

Dec 2020

- Staff prepares all recruiting and nominating materials (Timeline, forms, online forms, etc)

Jan - March 2020 - Heavy Recruitment

- Outreach to all community with emphasis on renters, POCl and low-wealth residents.
- Board information session(s) and one-on-one meetings.
- **Online Candidate Guide & Voting – Launches on 3/26/2020**
 - Online early/absentee voting is open from March 26 – April 20, 2020
 - Candidates can be added to online Candidate Guide at any time
 - Translated into Spanish and Somali
 - Price out a mailer (See PPNA example - Could be very expensive). Can be a promo piece for the annual meeting
- **Learning About Candidates:** NENA will use its newsletter, social media and other tools to notify the community about the candidates. Voters can read through candidate profiles and vote online or in person at the Annual Meeting. If a voter attends the Annual Meeting they can talk with candidates at their leisure, read their posted profiles and hear their speeches prior to voting.

April 2020 - Annual Meeting (4/23/2020)

- Winners announced at Annual Meeting.
- Candidate Guides to be printed and placed on tables at Annual Meeting.
- Nominations From The Floor: People wishing to nominate themselves from the floor can do so in a specific section of time prior to the formal introduction of the nominees.
- Candidates will receive specific name tags that identify them as a nominee so community members can ask them questions and talk about neighborhood issues during the open house portion of the event.
- NENA will continue to use same election process: Chair gives overview of elections, break out into neighborhoods, candidate speeches, eligible members will be given ballot(s) for voting.
- Staff to have online votes tallied prior to the Annual Meeting. Members who used the early voting option can change vote at Annual Meeting.
- Early/Absentee votes will be added to votes cast at Annual Meeting to determine winners.