

present to the Board of Trustees a complete list of interested candidates collected up to that point in time including verification that each interested individual is qualified to be a candidate.

Section 3. Candidate Qualifications

Persons interested in running for a Trustee seat shall express their interest in writing or by electronic communication to the Election Committee. The deadline to qualify for candidacy in the March election shall be at the conclusion of the regular or special February LJCPA meeting. Candidates may announce their interest in running and be added to the list at the February meeting subject to their being qualified as a candidate. In order to be a candidate in an election to become a Trustee, a Member of the LJCPA must have documented attendance at three of the LJCPA's meetings in the preceding 12-month period.

In the election process, the LJCPA shall seek enough new Trustee candidates to exceed the number of Trustee seats open for election in order to allow those who have served for six consecutive years to leave the group for at least one year.

Section 4. Voting Policies

All voting policies are established with the goal of assuring fair access to the election process and to avoid voting improprieties.

The LJCPA holds its annual election at the La Jolla Recreation Center from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. on the day of the March regular meeting.

The LJCPA will require proof of identity of those LJCPA Members who are seeking to vote in Trustee elections.

The ballot presented to LJCPA Members to vote will clearly identify which candidates are running, how many candidates can be selected, and which candidates, if any, must receive a 2/3 majority of the vote due to service beyond six consecutive years of service.

Write-in candidates are allowed. If it is later determined that the write-in candidate is ineligible, any vote cast for an ineligible write-in candidate is an invalid vote and will not be counted.

Voting shall be by secret written ballot. Proxy voting for elections is not allowed under any circumstances. Development and promotion of "slates" of candidates is contrary to the intent of Council Policy 600-24.

No person may campaign for votes within ninety feet of the building in which a polling place is located. Election Committee officials may provide for the removal of persons violating this prohibition.

Section 5. Election Procedures

The Elections Handbook, which is an attachment to the Administrative Guidelines, provides general guidance for Planning Group elections. The following are procedures pertaining to all LJCPA elections:

A. The President of the LJCPA will appoint and the Board of Trustees shall ratify an Election Committee consisting of 4 to 7 members. Said Election Committee shall not include any Trustee who will stand for re-election or any Member that is running in the election. The primary purpose of this committee is to supervise the election preparation as well as the election itself. The Election Committee shall also review the eligibility of candidates between the

time a candidate applies to run and the preparation of the ballot.

B. Voting is done by secret ballot placed in a box, with the Election Committee monitoring to ensure voters that their ballot has been cast in secrecy. A plurality of votes cast will determine the election of candidates. Six (6) of the eighteen (18) elected Trustees shall be elected by written secret ballot at each annual meeting and shall hold office for three (3) years thereafter. Each LJCPA Member may cast votes equal to the number of vacant Trustee positions. They may cast fewer votes than the number of vacant positions, but not more. They may not cast more than one vote for any candidate. If any ballot is received which indicates votes exceeding the number of positions available or more than one vote per candidate, then that ballot will be void and will not be counted. The individuals who receive the most votes will be elected, with those receiving the greatest number of votes being assigned the longest available term. The Election Committee is responsible for determining the validity of ballots.

C. The Election Committee shall create a clear and simple ballot. The ballot must clearly state the number of open seats available and how many candidates for which to vote. The ballots must stipulate that only pens may be used to mark the ballots. Write-in candidates are allowed and space must be provided on the ballot for write-ins.

D. The polling location shall be the La Jolla Recreation Center located at the intersection of Prospect Street and Draper Avenue. The polls shall be open and monitored from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. on the date of the election. Proxy and absentee ballots are not allowed.

E. The President of the LJCPA will announce the close of the elections and shall state that ballots will not be accepted after the polls close. All the ballots will be collected and counted by the Election Committee. In the event of a tie vote, a coin toss will determine the winner, with the candidates having an opportunity to be present. Upon final verification of the count, the Election Committee shall report the results to the LJCPA President who shall certify and immediately announce the results. The President shall cause the results to be posted on the LJCPA website and offer the results for publication in the local newspapers.

Section 6.

Election Results and Challenges

The annual election becomes final one week after announcing the validated election results at the conclusion of the noticed, regular March monthly LJCPA meeting if no challenge to the election results has been filed. The President is responsible for preparing, certifying, and forwarding the election results to the City. New Trustees shall be seated in April at the start of the regular meeting in order to allow their full participation as Trustees at the April LJCPA meeting.

Special elections become final one week after the votes are tabulated following the election if no challenge to the election results has been filed. Trustees elected at special elections shall be seated at the next regular or special meeting of the Board of Trustees.

The Chair of the Elections Committee shall take custody of election ballots. Any challenge to the election results must be filed with the Chair of the Elections Committee in writing within one week of the announcement of the results of the election. If no challenge to the election results has been made within said time period, the ballots shall then be destroyed.