

Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaws Revision—August 2015

Committee members: Andrew Cassidy-Amstutz, David D’Onofrio, Jim Gerencser, Lisa Mangiafico (Chair), Amy Schindler, and MARAC Chair Brian Keough (ex-officio). Professional Registered Parliamentarian Dawn Fairchild serves the committee in an advisory capacity.

Since the conference in Boston, the Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaws Revision has undertaken the following work:

- 1) Drafted and sent (with Tammy’s assistance) a survey to get feedback on the draft available at the Boston conference;
- 2) Reviewed both the comments from the Boston lunch meeting and the survey;
- 3) Prepared the next draft for Steering Committee comment;
- 4) Presented the draft for Steering Committee discussion. The Steering Committee voted to approve the draft and place it before the members for final consideration at the Roanoke conference Town Hall and Business Meetings.

Additions to the draft

A fairly robust discussion at the Boston lunch meeting centered around filling vacancies in elected positions. The upshot of those discussions were suggestions that the MARAC chair have the discretion to fill vacancies on an interim basis until the results of the election to fill that position were known, which could be up to 60 days from the point that a vacancy in the position takes place. These changes have been incorporated into the draft.

Next Steps

With the Steering Committee’s approval of a final proposal to place it before the members for discussion in Roanoke, followed by a mail ballot vote, the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaws Revision has essentially concluded. To finalize its work, the committee will assist the Steering Committee in the discussions of the proposal at the Roanoke meeting, and draft a memo and ballot to accompany the finalized document that comes out of the Roanoke conference for a mail ballot vote by the membership.

Appreciation

The Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaws Revision wishes to extend its extreme appreciation to all the members who took the time to participate in the various town hall discussions, responded to surveys, participated in Steering Committee discussions, or contacted committee members directly to provide feedback. The resulting document has been largely informed by these comments and feedback, and we thank you for your care and concern during this process. We also express our appreciation for Parliamentarian Dawn Fairchild who has brought so much clarity to the committee’s discussions.