

Resolutions submitted for consideration by the NPPA Board of Directors, May 2007

Resolution 1:

Resolution to eliminate full-time photo employment as requirement to run for NPPA office:

Presently, both executive board and regional directors must make a majority of their incomes from photography. In the present economic climate, many people make incomes outside of photography that sometimes exceed that of their photo business. Present rules would make any director or executive board member ineligible to be in office if they were to win a lottery, making their income exceed that of their photo business. If they were to earn more in trading stocks for the year, sell real estate in excess of their photography business, or make income from public relations that exceeded their photo business, would also make them ineligible.

Instead, Region 2 asks that this requirement be dropped in favor of candidates provide proof that the majority of their time annually is spent in the photo business.

Present rules eliminate highly qualified people who are penalized for having more income in other pursuits other than photography. This might even come into play against those teaching in schools and not making income from photography, but from teaching it.

Submitted by:

Todd Maisel, Region 2 Director

Mark Dye, Region 2 Associate Director

Resolution 2:

Resolution to eliminate 2-candidate minimum for regional elections:

Election of regional directors should be changed from having to be forced to have competition in said election, to elections where there is no requirement of a challenge. Presently, elections require there to be at least two candidates. That should change to be no requirement for a challenger.

Instead, at least three emails should be sent to regional members requesting candidates; at least three notices posted on regional web site; notices posted on that national web site for candidates; at least one mailing to members of that regional asking for candidates. It should not be imposed that an election should be required to have at least two candidates, but instead, all efforts should be made to request of those regional members that someone run for the office.

Submitted by:

Todd Maisel, Region 2 Director

Mark Dye, Region 2 Associate Director

Resolution 3:

Whereas the field of photojournalism has changed inexorably since the NPPA was founded in 1946

And whereas the number of full-time staff positions in the field continues to decline

And whereas the amount of money available to freelance photographers in the editorial aspects of photojournalism continues to shrink

And whereas many freelance photographers must work both in non-editorial and non-photography related areas to support their families

And whereas it should be one's knowledge, wisdom and experience that determine whether someone should be eligible to serve as an officer in the NPPA

And whereas it is up to nominating committees to select qualified candidates and screen those candidates appropriately ...

Be it resolved to amend the bylaws of the organization, section III, B, 1, a, iii to read:

Membership

- Membership shall be divided, according to member's occupations. There shall be eight divisions, known as News Division, Military Division, Industrial Division, Technical Division, Public Information Division, Student Division, International Division and Retired Division. ~~For the purposes of definition, a member must receive over 50 percent of his/her income from one or more news organizations or from an accredited journalism education program to be considered as employed full time. The divisions are:~~

News Division

- Those who are employed, ~~full-time~~, by one or more news organizations in the production of photojournalistic images intended for the general public, ~~by a news organization.~~
- Those who are employed ~~full-time~~ by a news organization in the production, editing, or processing of photojournalistic images intended for the general public.
- Those who are self-employed or under contract with a news organization, and whose ~~full-time~~ occupation is to produce photojournalistic images intended for the general public.
- Those who teach photojournalism in an accredited journalism program ~~on a full-time basis.~~
- Those also involved in the editorial process of photojournalism, such as, but not limited to, reporters, managers and producers.

Submitted by:

Sean D. Elliot
NPPA Secretary

Resolution 4:

Resolution to reform NPPA Elections procedures:

Whereas technology has improved to the point where we are able to be more efficient by conducting elections online, and

Whereas it is necessary that our governing documents explain the procedures by which we conduct our business,

Be it resolved that the Standing Rules of the NPPA be amended as outlined on the following pages. Additions to the existing text are identified in a larger bold font, and things to be stricken are identified with a double-strike line.

III. Elections

A. Election of national officers

1. The National President ~~and~~, Vice-President, **and Executive Committee Board Member Representative**, who serve for one year, shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Board of Directors. The National Secretary, who serves for two (2) years, shall be elected at the annual meeting of the board in even numbered years. The National Treasurer, who serves two (2) year terms, shall be elected on the odd numbered year. In the event a President is re-elected, the past-president would then serve another term, or should he/she opt not to serve another term nominations would be opened for a past past-president to serve the term instead.
2. At least **six (6)** months before the election of national officers, it is the duty of the President to appoint a committee on nominations of at least three (3) news division members. **Members of the national Nominations Committee (including the chair) shall not be eligible as candidates for national office during the year of their tenure.**
3. Notice of appointments to the committee on nominations shall be published on the NPPA Web site.
4. The committee on nominations ~~shall meet at least once as a committee of the whole; they~~ shall consider and investigate all suggestions for nominations for various elective offices submitted by the general membership and shall, by majority vote, select at least one (1) candidate for President and two (2) candidates for each other office.
5. After a thorough search by the nominations committee, if the deadline for nominations passes and a second candidate has not been found, the nominations chair may waive the requirement for a

second candidate. Such a waiver shall not limit the right of a Board member to nominate a second candidate from the floor.

6. The nominations chair shall issue a written report to the Executive Committee by **April 1** and the names of candidates selected for national office shall be published on the NPPA Web site in April.
7. Nominations from the floor by members of the Board of Directors will be accepted upon seconding.
8. Should any candidate for national office, withdraw his/her name from the election, nominations will be reopened and the board members will nominate other candidates for that office.
9. Should a Vice President decide to withdraw his/her name from election for the office of President, the board and election chair shall search for and submit names of two candidates for the office.
10. In the event that it reaches an impasse, the Board of Directors shall postpone the election for a reasonable period of time not to exceed 24 hours to allow for a candidate search. After it reconvenes, if the Board again fails to nominate a second candidate, the Board shall elect an election chair.
11. The chair of the committee on nominations shall seek and receive candidate nominations for a period of 30 days, at which time he/she will prepare a ballot to be mailed to directors and associate directors and the Chapters Board representative 31 days after the close of the national convention. Ballots shall be returned to the election chair for a vote tally.

B. Electors and election process

1. The director for each region and the Chapters Board representative shall be the electors for the national officers.
2. Election shall be by plurality vote on a secret ballot. All vote tallies will become part of the records of NPPA and will be published on the NPPA Web site.
3. The President shall appoint a pollster to collect and count all secret and confidential ballots at the annual business meeting. This person shall not be a voting member of the board, a national officer or candidate for office. The ballots and results shall be presented to the secretary for recording.
4. A member of the board who cannot be present for the balloting for national officers may present his/her verified secret ballot in advance to the pollster or to the National Secretary for forwarding to the polling officer.

C. Election of Executive Committee Board Member Representative –

Special Rules

- ~~1. An Executive Committee Board Member Representative shall be elected annually for a term of one year by a plurality vote of regional officers and Chapters Board representative.~~

1. To be eligible for the position, the board member must not be going out of office during the term he/she will serve on the Executive Committee.
2. Candidates for the position of Executive Committee Board Member Representative shall be nominated from the floor at the annual business meeting at the beginning of the election for national officers.
- ~~3. A vacancy in the position of Executive Committee Board Member Representative shall be filled by mail ballot of the regional officers, and chapters board representative. The National Secretary will initiate proceedings within two weeks of the vacancy by receiving nominations from aforementioned board members, taking a mail ballot vote, and announcing the results immediately. The newly elected Executive Committee Board Member Representative shall serve out the remaining term.~~

D. Election of regional officers

1. Elections of regional officers shall be held during November of each year.
2. All regional officers shall be elected for a term of two (2) years. ~~Regional officers shall be limited to serving for two (2) consecutive full terms in the same office. This article does not limit the right of a regional officer to seek reelection to a regional office previously held.~~
3. Regional Officers and the Chapters Board Representatives shall be elected in alternate years. Election of officers for the even numbered regions shall be held in even numbered years. Elections of officers for the odd numbered regions and Chapters Board Representative shall be held in odd-numbered years.
4. The candidate receiving the plurality of votes cast for each office shall be elected December 1st, and shall assume duties January 1st, to hold office until a successor is elected and qualified.
5. If a candidate officially withdraws from an election (by notifying the Secretary ~~by registered mail~~ **in writing**) ~~after ballots have been mailed, but~~ prior to their tabulation **of votes**, the election shall be declared invalid, and the appropriate nominations committee shall reopen nominations for a period of two weeks. The committee shall then notify the National Secretary, ~~by registered mail,~~ of the results of the search. ~~The ballots shall then be reprinted and remailed.~~ **Online voting will begin as soon as reasonably possible, as administered by the National Secretary. Voting will continue for a period of 30 days** ~~Ballots must be returned to the National Secretary not later than midnight of the last day of the month, two (2) months following~~

~~the date of the last scheduled election tabulation~~, at which time the National Secretary shall tabulate the votes and declare a winner.

6. The National Secretary is designated as the official to count the ballots and notify each candidate and the national officers of the results of the elections.
7. Rules pertaining to NPPA elections will be posted on the NPPA Web site. The candidate's photograph and biographical material submitted should be posted on the NPPA Web site.
8. NPPA officers who serve more than two terms or four years on the Board of Directors shall be given the option of utilizing the title "Senior Board Member" to recognize their commitment to the organization.

E. Election of Chapters Board representative

1. No less than two candidates shall appear on the ballot.
2. To be eligible for election, the candidate must be a news division member in good standing for at least one (1) year prior to the election.
3. A Chapters Board representative shall be elected by a plurality vote of the chapter presidents of chapters in good standing for a term of two years ~~and limited to two (2) consecutive terms.~~

F. Nominations and ballots for regional officers and Chapters Board Representative

1. In election years, the general membership shall be notified of the opening of board nominations by publication on the NPPA Web site in April. Such notice shall include June 1 as a deadline for nominations.
2. Nominations for regional office and Chapters Board Representative shall be made by a nominations committee, appointed pursuant to Article IV, at least ~~one (1)~~ **six (6) months** year before preparation of the ballots, or by petition signed by at least fifteen (15) news division members in good standing with the region and meeting all other petition requirements ~~online voting commences~~. Candidates shall not be members of their respective nominations committee. All write-in candidates must meet all requirements as specified by the Bylaws and Standing Rules. Should a regional candidate running for election withdraw from the election after the June 1 nomination deadline, nominations will be reopened for a two-week period up to September 1 upon the notification of the regional and national nominations chairs and the national Executive Committee.
3. The nomination chair shall send nominations to the National Secretary not later than ~~June 15~~ **August 1**. These nominations shall be published on the NPPA Web site in September.
4. ~~Nominations by petition must be sent by registered mail to the appropriate regional director postmarked before June 1. The regional director will forward petitions to the nominations chair by~~

~~June 15, with a notice to the nominations chair and the Executive Director.~~

- ~~5. The National Secretary shall forward the nomination information to the Executive Director who shall prepare and mail ballots with names of candidates for each office.~~
- ~~6. No less than two candidates must be listed on the ballot for each regional office.~~
- ~~7. Ballots are addressed and mailed to the last known address of each member on November 1. Ballots must be received on or before November 30th at the designated office or depository.~~
8. The ballots will list all qualified candidates, in addition, a means shall be provided on each ballot that will permit a member to write in the name of a candidate not nominated under the provisions of the regional nominations committee ~~or the petition method~~, and a means will be provided to permit a member to vote for such a write-in candidate.

G. Midterm Vacancies

- 1. In the event that the Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, or EC Board Member Representative resigns or is otherwise removed from office before completing the term they were elected to, The President will immediately appoint a nominations chair to find at least two (2) suitable replacement candidates.**
- 2. Nominations will remain open for a period of two (2) weeks, after which time a special election will be held. Online voting will be used to conduct the election, as administered by the National Secretary.**
- 3. The National Secretary shall implement measures to insure the identity of each voting member participating in the online election.**
- 4. The board of directors will have one week in which to cast their vote in the special election.**
- 5. The winner of the special election will immediately assume the duties of the position to which they have been elected.**
- 6. In the event that the President resigns or is otherwise removed from office before completing the term they were elected to, The Vice-President will assume the role of President, and a special election will be held to fill the position of Vice-President.**

H. Online Elections

- 1. The National Secretary, with the help of the NPPA webmaster, shall administer all regional elections and any necessary special elections through the organization's website.***
- 2. The change in the administration of these elections is meant only to take advantage of technological advancements which will save time and money for the organization.***

Respectfully submitted,

Matt McColl, Region 10 Director
Sean D. Elliot, NPPA Secretary