

## Election Committee Meeting 10-28-21 3:00 PM

In Attendance: Jim Babcock, Ruth Crowell, Joan Casey, Michael Dixon, Meaghan Swan

1. Roles for Meeting: Notetaker - Joan; Timekeeper - Meaghan
2. Discussion of known election-related concerns
  - Questions about WILD APRICOT platform
    - WILD APRICOT platform was in question because there are concerns among some members that an individual could monitor “live” voting results and then potentially promote one candidate near the closing of a close race. Concerns continue about this possible scenario.
    - The association moved to WILD APRICOT because previously, membership just logged in to the old website and might have been able to vote more than once. WILD APRICOT limits each member to one vote.
  - Questions about campaigning and privacy.
    - Most of the “sticky” questions come up about campaigning, such as who can campaign for candidates, etc.
    - Access to emails for campaigning, who has them, who does not was a concern.
    - Funneling information about candidates through the organization - e.g., mass emails, web posts, etc - may be a preferred alternative to individual member campaigning efforts since it will allow for vetting of information and equal opportunities for each candidate to get information out about their qualifications, positions, etc.
3. Reviewed draft proposal for survey
  - Will be sent to current members as well as those who held active membership at the time of the election
  - Name and email addresses will be optional
  - We will look into whether we can limit one response to each member through either Wild Apricot or Survey Monkey
  - Minor edits made to questions
  - One question seeks member input about campaigning (whether to continue to allow or make more restrictive in terms of who can campaign)

- The extent to which a candidate may campaign for themselves was discussed
- A question was crafted to list options members could select as preferred ways to learn about candidates:
  - Email campaigns
  - Written candidate statements
  - Written candidate responses to a series of questions crafted by the Nominations Committee
  - Written candidate responses to questions submitted by members (reviewed by the committee for consolidation purposes, etc).
  - Candidate nights (like a town hall format) live-streamed online

4. Other concerns:

- Will MASP review candidates' written statements before sharing?
  - Yes, to ensure accuracy of the information and to make sure the campaigning rules are followed. An objective set of criteria will be used to determine when a statement can be released. If a problem is identified, the candidate will be notified that the statement must be revised before it will be made public.
- Possible intentional or unintentional rule violations during elections. This may need to be addressed in future meetings. It will likely involve a lengthy discussion.
- Can candidates be given full access to member emails? The committee concluded that this was not a viable option since it would possibly violate the privacy policies.

5. Next steps:

- Finalize language of the survey – get questions answered from Kim – timing of sending the survey out by the annual meeting Nov. 19, 2021.
- Planning to send out in mid-November.
- Reconvene January 6, 2022 to review survey results

Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:10 pm