

NEA BYLAWS AMENDMENTS – MARCH 2015

Proposal: Update bylaws related to elections and amendments.

The New England Archivists (NEA) executive board proposes to amend articles that relate to elections and amendments.

The current bylaws states:

4. OFFICERS and GOVERNMENT

6) Officers and representatives-at-large shall be elected by mail ballot of a majority of those members voting, from a slate presented by the nominating committee. Nominees must be members of New England Archivists. At least two candidates shall be slated for each office. The slate shall include the name of any member nominated by a petition signed by not less than ten per cent of the membership and received by the chair of the nominating committee not later than sixty days in advance of the annual meeting. The ballot shall contain space for write-in candidates for each office. Ballots shall be mailed to members at least thirty days in advance of the annual meeting. To be counted, ballots must be returned to the chair of the nominating committee postmarked not later than ten days in advance of the annual meeting, and received by said chair not later than the second day before the annual meeting.

The NEA executive board proposes:

4. OFFICERS and GOVERNMENT

6) Officers and representatives-at-large shall be elected by a majority of those members voting, from a slate presented by the nominating committee. Nominees must be members of New England Archivists. At least two candidates shall be slated for each office. The ballot shall contain space for write-in candidates for each office. Ballots shall be available to members at least sixty days in advance of the annual meeting. Voting method shall be decided by the executive board, ensuring proper vote count and security.

RATIONALE for changes to Article 4.6:

1. NEA is no longer voting by mail.
2. Petitioning to be a candidate is redundant, as members can nominate themselves or campaign as a write-in candidate.
3. Voting now occurs in advance of the annual meeting to create a more seamless transition period and separate the act of voting and membership renewal, which is on a rolling-year basis.

The current bylaws states:

4. OFFICERS and GOVERNMENT

7) In the event of a tie vote for any office, the successful candidate shall be determined by re-balloting the membership using the same mailing list as for the original ballot.

The NEA executive board proposes:

4. OFFICERS and GOVERNMENT

7) In the event of a tie vote for any office, the successful candidate shall be determined by re-balloting the membership. Voting method shall be decided by the executive board, ensuring proper vote count and security.

RATIONALE for change to Article 4.7:

1. NEA is no longer voting by mail.

The current bylaws states:

9. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to these bylaws must be proposed in writing and filed with the secretary at least sixty days prior to an annual meeting. Copies shall be mailed to all members at least thirty days in advance of the annual meeting. An affirmative vote by a two-thirds majority of voting members present shall constitute passage.

The NEA executive board proposes:

9. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to these bylaws must be proposed in writing and filed with the secretary at least sixty days prior to an annual meeting. Copies shall be made available to all members at least thirty days in advance of the annual meeting. An affirmative vote by a two-thirds majority of voting members present shall constitute passage.

RATIONALE for change to Article 9:

1. NEA no longer communicates to members via the US Mail. Members will be made aware of amendments via NEA current (or future) suite of communication tools (website, email, listserv, etc.).