



Request for Action

To WPRA Membership – 2018		
Item Bylaws Amendments	Meeting Date November 1, 2018	Prepared by Jennifer Rzepka, CAE
Item Description Overhauled format and substantive changes		Reviewed by Denise Larson, Park Section Representative
		Reviewed by Jeff Skoug, President

Action Requested

The following bylaws amendments will be presented to the General Membership during the Annual Business Meeting of the Wisconsin Park & Recreation Association (WPRA) at 8:30 am on November 1, 2018 during the Annual Meeting in Grand Ballroom D at the KI Convention Center, 333 Main St, Green Bay, WI 54301. All members are asked to review the material in advance and be prepared for the discussion and votes at the meeting.

Background/Discussion

Throughout 2018 the Board of Directors has been reviewing the current governing documents of WPRA and making certain determinations for the good of the organization's future. As a starting point, a complete restructuring of the bylaws to align them with more current association practice has been performed.

The biggest change is simply the order and format of how the data is presented. While the whole document *looks different*, it's really the same data, just reorganized and some of the duplicative language describing the areas of the profession was removed as it was inconsistent and incomplete, at times contradictory within the document.

In addition to the reorganized format, the following substantive changes which will be presented for membership approval during the meeting:



ADDED

Previously not included in the document.

Article I – Organization / Section 2. Purpose – WPRA is a statewide voluntary organization dedicated to enriching the professional and educational opportunities available to personnel in parks, recreation and related fields, so that they may better service the needs of their communities and or participants, and to advocate and promote the benefits of parks and leisure services to the general public.

MOVED

Language describing the position of Executive Director was previously in three separate Sections of the bylaws, proposal is to condense into one statement and place under the general Organization section of the document.

Article I – Organization / Section 3. Executive Director – An Executive Director may be retained by the Board of Directors and subject to the control of the Board, serving at the pleasure of the Board. The Executive Director shall be responsible for office operations, duties as noted in the job description, and other duties assigned by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director does not count in the quorum for the Executive Committee or Board of Directors, nor do they have voting privileges.

MOVED and CHANGED

Previously all membership categories were listed together without order, proposed document separates into the two categories (Individual vs. Group), and any reference to the fee structure was moved into the Membership Process Section, and language about voting privilege was streamlined for consistency. Proposed order is as follows:

Article II – Membership / Section 1 – Categories: Membership in the WPRA shall be designated as an Individual Membership or Group Membership.

- A. Individual Membership
 - i. Individual Professional
 - ii. Administrative
 - iii. Emeritus
 - iv. Lifetime Honorary
 - v. Citizen/Advocate/Friend
 - vi. Student
- B. Group Membership
 - i. Department
 - ii. Agency
 - iii. Organizational
 - iv. University/Faculty
 - v. Board/Commission
 - vi. Commercial



CHANGED

The membership category formerly referred to as “Office Support” was changed to “Administrative”.

CHANGED

At the 8/14/18 Board meeting the Board of Directors determined that the language describing Student Membership was too restrictive. They propose removing the word “undergraduate” and a reference to a required quantity of credits. New proposed description is as follows:

Article II – Membership / Section A. Individual Membership / vi. Student – Student Membership shall be open to any student currently enrolled full-time in a college or university. Student Membership does not include the privilege of voting except as members of committees or holding office, except that the Young Professionals Network Section Representative shall be a full voting member of the Board of Directors if they are classified as a Student Member.

CHANGED

The Section formerly referred to as “Student Section” was changed to “Young Professional Network Section”. This affects two areas of the bylaws, proposed edits below:

Article II – Membership / Section A. Individual Membership / vi. Student – ... “except that the Young Professionals Network Section Representative shall be a full voting member of the Board of Directors if they are classified as a Student Member.”

Article VII – Sections/Subsections / Section 1 – Section/Subsection Definition: ... “Current Sections of the Association are Park Section, Recreation Section, Aquatics Section, and Young Professionals Network.”

CHANGED and REMOVED

At the 8/14/18 Board meeting the Board of Directors determined that membership in WPR should not be limited to alliance with only two Sections. Reference to this throughout bylaws was inconsistent and incomplete, so to remove and clarify, the following two edits are proposed:

REMOVED

Article II – Membership / Section A. Individual Membership / vi. Student – A Student Membership includes the Student Section plus one additional professional membership category, i.e. Aquatics, Recreation, Park.

ADDED

Article IX - Nomination and Election Procedures / Section 6 – Section Representative – ...”, and shall be elected by the total membership of the Association.” (*which is consistent with the language about voting for Regional Representatives.*)



CHANGED

Current WPR practice allows for up to 5 individuals in the University/Faculty category, bylaws currently state 4. To be consistent with current practice, the proposed edit is:

Article II – Membership / Section B. Group Membership / iv.

University/Faculty – ... “If the number of faculty holding membership exceeds five (5), additional individuals may join at the Agency rate.”...

CHANGED and ADDED

The language previously under the general Membership section in Sections 14 and 15 was combined with previous Article II that described Dues and Fees, and language within certain membership descriptions was also moved to this more comprehensive section. The Dues and Fees title was changed to Membership Process, and language regarding rates for Premiere Students and Premiere Agencies was added since it was not previously included in the bylaws. Proposed order is as follows:

Article II – Membership Process

- A. Application
- B. Dues
- C. Rate
 - i. Premiere Student Rates
 - ii. Premiere Agency Rates
- D. Emeritus/Lifetime Honorary Exclusion
- E. Termination

CHANGED

To retain more engagement by the Immediate Past President position, the Board of Directors is proposing removing the current non-voting restriction from that position as an Ex-Officio member of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, to a voting position and their involvement factoring into the count for a quorum. Three areas of the bylaws would require edits:

FORMER LANGUAGE

- The immediate Past President shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, and serve as the Board liaison to committees as indicated on the WPR Organizational Chart. The Past President does not count in the quorum for the Executive Committee or Board of Directors, nor do they have voting privileges.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE

Article III – Terms and Duties of Officers / Section 3. Officers & Officer Terms / I. Immediate Past President – The Immediate Past President shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, and as a non-voting, ex-officio member of all committees and Task



Forces as indicated on the WPR Organizational Chart. The Immediate Past President shall be a voting member of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors.

FORMER LANGUAGE

- The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, President-Elect, Past President, Secretary/Treasurer and the Executive Director. The Executive Director and Past President shall be non-voting members and do not count in the quorum.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE

Article IV – Terms and Duties of Executive Committee / Section 1.

Executive Committee Composition: The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, President-Elect, Secretary/Treasurer, Immediate Past President and Executive Director.

FORMER LANGUAGE

- The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, the President-Elect, the Past President, the Secretary/Treasurer, four Regional Representatives, Park, Aquatic, Recreation, Student and Section Chairpersons. The Past President and Executive Director serve as non-voting members and do not count in the quorum. The representatives for the Aquatic, Park, Recreation Sections shall serve a two year term.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE

Article V – Terms and Duties of the Board of Directors / Section 1 –

Board of Directors Composition – The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, President-Elect, Secretary/Treasurer, Immediate Past President, one (1) representative from each of the Regions and Sections identified within these Bylaws.

REMOVED

Since membership data and Section affiliation is already kept in the association office, not separately by Section leaders, “membership lists” are not provided to the office.

REMOVED

Article VII – Sections/Subsections / Section 4 – Section/Subsection Operations

– Each Section/Subsection shall submit copies of its annual budget and proposed amendments to its Bylaws to the Board of Directors for approval. Each Section/Subsection shall furnish the Association office with copies of meeting minutes, ~~membership lists~~, and other pertinent papers.



Financial Impact

None

Attachments –

- Current Bylaws
- Proposed Amended Bylaws
- Comparison document showing the language side-by-side with comments on edits in a third column.

Sent by e-mail on October 3, 2018, may also be downloaded from the www.wpraweb.org