

Nominations & Elections Committee Report for June 8, 2020 REA Rep Council

Members: Larry Mosko, Courtney Stepp, Sara Jerger, Amanda Halley, William Coleman, Becky Spitznas

The newly formed N&E Committee started meeting back in February soon after the resignations of the former Exec board. Since then we've met over a dozen times and most of those meetings have taken place since the current distance learning model took place in mid-February.

The committee is working the best we can to make sure all REA elections, whether REA-wide or at the building levels, are open to all, fairly run, transparent, and consistent with the REA bylaws and procedures adopted by Rep Council, and void of any issues of impropriety. Though challenging in these times, this is our objective at every meeting of the committee.

The N&E Committee worked with WEA staff and BallotPoint to conduct the March election of officers and Exec Board members, who were then immediately installed into office.

After the school closure in mid-March we had several meetings to talk through a system for the immediate election for needed building reps this May after adopting policies at Rep Council in April's meeting. N&E examined the number of members at each worksite and determined the number of available rep positions using the 1:12 ratio of the bylaws. Having no past records showing which year the term of office of individual reps would expire, the Committee polled the current reps. Nominations were solicited three times using a Google Forms link. That process required balloting to occur only if the number of nominees exceeded the number of open positions. Only one building needed to take a vote, due to a low number of nominations. A number of rep positions remain unfilled at this time. Per the process adopted in April by Rep Council, member counts at each building will be reviewed again in September, and any new (or vacant) positions will be filled at that time using the election process.

The N&E committee were also tasked to collect nominations from the REA membership for the election of RUC board members for the 20-21 by the Rep Council at the June Rep Council meeting.

Here are some additional items being addressed by the N&E Committee as we continue to move forward:

- The N&E committee is just starting to develop long-term recommendations for all elections within the REA. Recommended policies, including a number of procedures adopted by Rep Council this year, are under development for consideration by Rep Council.

- The Constitution & Bylaws committee is working on revised drafts of REA's governing documents and will bring proposals forward to Rep Council in the future. The N&E Committee will coordinate with the C&B Committee to ensure that all our guiding documents will be consistent.
- As these changes take place, the N&E committee is working under the current constitution and bylaws and all procedures or guidelines adopted along the way by Rep Council for specific elections. We are aware that the bylaws have not always been followed in the past. This past lapse can lead to current misunderstandings, and we look forward to continuing to establish and improve election procedures.