

27 December 2018

Subject: Proposed Amendments to By-Laws of Post 44

This amendment was proposed in November 2018, but, thanks to the alertness of a member, was considered deficient in one area (5th bulleted section below). As a result, the modified amendment was read at our December General Meeting and will have a second reading and approval at the January 24, 2019 General Meeting.

Our Constitution and By-Laws were changed in 2015 to modify the methods and procedures used to elect new officers to the Post. A significant component of these changes caused the nominations to be closed after the initial committee and floor nominations in the March meeting. No additional nominations were possible even if an ideal candidate was identified after the nominations were closed. This could easily result in the Post not being able to vote for the candidate best suited for the position. To allow the Post to be served by the best candidates possible, it is proposed that we amend the by-laws, essentially restoring the process that was originally in place and aligning our process with others at district, department and national levels.

PROPOSED CHANGE OF BY-LAWS ARTICLE 2

(Replacement) SECTION 2. The Officers and Executive Committee, together with a member of the Board of Trustees shall be elected annually, at the time and in the manner as follows:

- On or before the regular March meeting of the Post, a Nomination Committee shall be appointed by the Post Commander, which shall consist of three members, and the committee shall thereupon meet and from a list of Post members, shall place in nomination, on a written list, one or more names of Post members, for each chair office, for the Executive Committee, and for the three Trustees, and thereafter submit its reports at the regular meeting in March. Following the submission of the report of the Nomination Committee, nominations shall be deemed temporarily suspended.
- No member may run for or hold more than one elected position at the same time.
- A list of nominees shall be published by the Post in the monthly bulletin or, absent the monthly bulletin, by a written or electronic special publication.
- At the regular May meeting additional nominations for any office may be made from the floor, providing nominees are present or have accepted the nomination in writing and thereafter, nominations shall be closed.
- Following the closing of nominations, elections for said offices shall be held. Such elections may be by written ballot, standing vote or voice vote as the exigencies of the situation may require at the time. **When written ballots are**

used, the Commander shall designate three judges from the meeting attendees who are not themselves nominees for any office.

- When a vote is taken using written ballots, those same ballots shall be destroyed immediately after the winner is announced.
- When an individual is to be elected for an office, the candidate receiving the majority of votes cast shall be elected. When two or more individuals are to be elected for an office, the candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected.
- Only members in good standing with current membership cards shall be entitled to vote.
- Each Officer, Executive Committee member and Trustee elected shall be installed and take office at or before the regular June meeting of the post.
- All elected officers, Executive Committee members and Trustees shall serve for one year.

In addition to these process changes, in order to assure Post vitality and to align our by-laws with those of district, department and national, the following amendment is proposed:

Article 2, (new) Section 5.

To assure continuing vitality in the management of the Post, the Commander shall not serve more than two consecutive terms unless there are no other nominations for that office.

As specified in our current By-Laws, this proposed change is being presented, in writing, to be voted upon at the next General Meeting (January 24, 2019) after appropriate notification is provided to the membership.

Motion made by Rodger Wells, Adjutant Post 44