RHOA ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

Report to the Hunters Woods Village Council
9/7/71

On Tuesday, August 17, 1971, the RHOA Elections Committee met to consider the advisability of changing the method of electing members to the Board of Directors of the Association, as requested by Mr. Bernard J. O'Reilly, Vice Chairman of the Hunters Woods Village Council. Members present were: Irwin Holmes, Calvin Larson, Winnie Luché, Elinor Perez, Pat Sayre and Beverley Sharp.

Present Situation

At present the By-Laws require that the entire nine members of the Board of Directors be elected every three years at the annual meeting of the members of the Association. Voting by proxy is prohibited. Vacancies may be filled by the remaining members of the Board or at a meeting of the members. Special meetings may be called by the President, the Board of Directors or by members of the corporation holding not less than one-fifth of the votes. The corporation must publish notice of any meeting of the members.

Chief Concerns

The discussion concentrated on two chief concerns. They are:

1. The large number of people who are eligible to vote (more than 1800 households now; this figure is increasing rapidly) combined with the prohibition of proxies makes it extremely difficult if not impossible for a meaningful number of residents to participate in the election of directors.

2. The nature of the major concerns of the Association, i.e. complex, long-range operations, indicates that some built-in continuity is desirable in the body which has ultimate control of the Association.

Recommendations

As possible solutions to these problems, the committee unanimously recommend that the following changes be made in the By-Laws of the Association:

1. Article III. Section 1 should call for an election to be
held on the Saturday following the annual meeting of the members for the purpose of electing directors and/or settling any other questions to be decided by the members of the corporation, with the polls open for a minimum of 7 hours and the places and procedures to be decided by the Board of Directors.

2. Article III, Section 2 should provide that special meetings of the members or special elections may be called by the President, the Board of Directors, or members of the corporation holding not less than one-fifth of the votes.

3. Article III, Section 4 should require the corporation to publish notice of any annual or special meeting of members and any annual or special election.

4. Article IV, Section 3 should stipulate that the regular annual meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held one week following the annual meeting of members.

5. Article IV, Section 2 should provide that one-third of the directors shall be elected to three year terms each year, with the transition to be accomplished by electing one-third to two year terms and one-third to one year terms at the next election.

We further recommend that:

1. The annual election of directors and the election of people to fill RHOA posts below the Board of Directors level be conducted at the same time.

2. The designation of polling places and election procedures be delegated to an Elections Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverley D. Sharp

Beverley D. Sharp, chairman
RHOA Elections Committee