

Bylaws/elections committees joint meeting June 9, 2019

Bylaws/elections committee reports are posted on the .net site. Comments and questions may be sent by email to elections@oregoncountryfair.org.

Apologies, there are no meeting notes for our May 19th meeting. We worked primarily on fine tuning the survey. We had good feedback from Wyetta on our research questions and our survey is almost ready to roll out with the survey crew at fair time. We aren't sure if we need management approval but survey crew says they can do it.

This June meeting, our focus was on our suggestions for bylaw changes.

Heidi got a response to our request for legal advice regarding some of our election related questions. The lawyer agreed with the recommendation from Mary Miller (NAO) that it is not advisable to have alternates on our board of directors. The committees feel that we need more information about this (as will the membership) and will ask for that.

We think a work session with the board and fair family will be needed to discuss the pros and cons of changing the term length, board composition, and term limits. The NAO recommendation is to have 12 members on the board, with four elected each year to three-year terms. This needs to be a larger fair family discussion than just our two committees. Our current board structure has worked for us for a long time, we need time and many brains to consider how this new structure would be beneficial.

We worked on bylaw language to more clearly define how to initiate a recall of a director and for advisory proposals. Further discussion regarding petitions for advisory proposals (aka adding an item to the agenda) had us thinking there is little time for voters to consider these petition items and get information before the ballots are sent out. The current deadline for petitions gets them published in the September Fair Family News. Some of us like the idea of a deadline 4 to 6 months before the annual meeting so there could be discussion during fair time. A deadline to get them in the August FFN (end of July) would give members time to send feedback with pros/cons for the September FFN issue and for the voter pamphlet.

The next document will be a collection of the new bylaw language that we will present to the board for consideration. Any bylaw changes that are approved would go into effect for the 2020 election.

We agreed our next meeting will be after the fair but a date was not set.