

SRCC Ad-hoc Bylaws Committee
Outline of Approved Amendments
09/04/2017

Members: Carol Martin, *Chair*; Gretchen Otto, *President*; past Presidents Sounthaly Outhavong, Marc Davis; and David Swann.

The SRCC Bylaws - 2017 PROPOSED REVISION 24 June 2017 document is posted to SRCC website www.srccatx.org.

Below is a summary of the key revisions.

1. In general, we have the Bylaws to reflect the way we currently operate. We are fixing language that was redundant or confusing and arranging information to be in a logical order.
2. Boundaries: Update the East boundary to include new streets extending Parker Lane.
3. Clarify that Family Membership is intended for family members residing at the same address and each member of a Family Membership is entitled to a vote.
4. Restate quorum requirement to be either (a) twenty members, or (b) one-tenth of members whichever is less.
NOTE: After the revisions were presented at the May meeting, the committee received suggestions regarding quorum count. Consequently the committee made this change

Article V – Meetings and Voting

"A quorum is either (a) twenty members, or (b) one-tenth of members, whichever is less.

RATIONALE: The bylaws have always stated that for General Membership meetings the quorum is one-tenth of members. Attendance at meetings is usually at least twenty members. However with the popularity of dues discount options for multi-year payments and family memberships, our membership count continues to increase and it can be challenging to reach the one-tenth attendance count every month. By adding the alternative requirement to have at least twenty members present, it is less likely there would be meetings where we could not take action due to lack of a quorum.

5. Clarify the existing requirement that members must be present in person at a General Membership meeting in order to vote.
6. At Executive Committee meetings, only members of the EC can vote. General Membership is welcome to attend and participate on a non-voting basis.
7. Being present in person is important at EC meetings. We are proposing that EC email votes be restricted to only emergency situations and require a higher standard for approval: a minimum of half the Executive Committee must cast a vote and the decision must pass by an absolute majority of the full Executive Committee. Only as a last resort, where a critical deadline prevents the normal process of delaying the vote until next scheduled EC meeting, would EC be able to conduct a vote via email.
8. Expand the Executive Committee to include Standing Committee chairs and Austin Neighborhood Council Representative in addition to Officers and Area Coordinators.

9. Add an Officer position of Membership Secretary. Rationale is the importance of this role in determining eligibility to vote, confirming quorums & handling membership funds.
10. Specify that Officers share responsibility for maintaining online the official SRCC docs and using the collaboration tools.
11. Include the Finance Committee and add a Historic Preservation Committee in the list of Standing Committees.

NOTE: After the revisions were presented at the May meeting, suggestions to add a committee for historic preservation issues was proposed. The Bylaws committee made this change:

Article VIII – SRCC Committees

(a) Standing Committees

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

To support efforts to create historic districts and preservation generally. To review applications for demolition, provide advice, and suggest a course of action.

RATIONALE: Special issues concerning historic preservation are often beyond the scope of the SRCC Planning & Zoning committee and it will be practical to have a committee dedicated to these situations to review items and make recommendations.

12. Previously the Standing Committees were grouped into four categories. Now, for clarification, each of the eight Standing Committees is described separately to better describe the committee's purpose and function. Specifically: Historic Preservation committee; Parks and Environment committee; Schools committee; Public Safety committee; Mobility committee;
13. Create a Communication Committee to include the roles of newsletter editor, website managers.