

By-laws Committee 2015 - 2017

Chair: Cecilia Essenmacher
Members: Nancy Rekowski
Penny Chamousis

The newly revised National bylaws were presented at the National Convention in July and were well received. After discussion and some changes, they were unanimously accepted.

Almost immediately the committee began looking at some items that were overlooked in the National document for the 2017 Convention.

With the changes of the National bylaws, it is necessary to review what had been approved as a template for the newly incorporating chapters and states. A few recommendations were made for the committee to discuss.

The chairs of the Incorporation and Bylaws committees discussed sending the new bylaw templates to all the incorporated states and chapters. All units need to update from the old bylaws because of the changes to the national bylaws. A letter was drafted that set a deadline of 30 days after this year's annual meetings. The templates and letter were sent to the units. After chapter elections in April and State elections by the end of June, the committee will begin looking at those submissions to assure they are in compliance. Thanks to Cathy Keister and Bobbie Morris on their help on this.

The effort to get incorporated chapters and states to revise bylaws didn't work very well. Since it is imperative that these be updated and are supposed to be on file in the National Office, we will continue to contact those who have not responded. Thanks to all those who met the deadline.

The committee worked on additional changes and additions to the National Bylaws which were overlooked in Springfield, 2015. Most of the changes are housekeeping issues.

No changes were submitted to the committee for review.

The main areas of concentration for changes have been the at-large representative election. Which, according to Robert's rules of order,

AVVA's current practice for electing at-large representatives by postal service must be stated in the bylaws.

We have also had to deal with the involuntary transferring of members.

I would like to thank my committee members, Nancy Rekowski and Penny Chamousis for their help on the committee and dismiss them from their duties. For other members who have had input into our process, you have been invaluable, Thank you.

Respectfully

Cecilia Essenmacher
Bylaws Committee Chair