

Summary of Proposed changes to the Bylaws and Policies & Procedures

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The following list of proposed changes to the Bylaws and Policies & Procedures were developed by the Bylaws Committee in conjunction with the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors has approved this list to be presented to the Association for an advisory vote at the annual meeting. A final vote of the Board of Directors will follow the Annual Meeting. If approved, the Bylaws changes will take effect October 1.

Bylaws changes

- 1) Remove Intern status as the time frame for that has expired.
- 2) Reorganize and expand the board (15 total members):

Executive Committee/Officers (existing):

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Clerk
- Immediate Past President

Other Directors/Coordinators (existing):

- Outreach Coordinator (previously the Volunteer Coordinator - in part)
- Communications Coordinator
- Education Coordinator
- Certification Coordinator

Other Directors/Coordinators (new):

- Gardening Coordinator (previously the Volunteer Coordinator - in part)
- Master Gardener Training Coordinator
- Membership Coordinator
- External Programming Coordinator
- IT Coordinator
- Regions Coordinator

- 3) Move the start of term to January following September election to add an overlap period. This also requires a change to the definition of Immediate Past President.
- 4) Add a statement limiting the out of budget spending that can be done by officers without board approval.
- 5) Make formatting and language cleanup changes.

Policies & Procedures changes

- 1) Rewrite the mission statement so that the first bullet (a) is incorporated into the mission statement and the second and third bullets (b and c) are clearly written as being in support of the primary mission. (see new text below)
- 2) Restructure and reword the section on "Qualification of Master Gardeners" to:
 - A. Add new MG level @ 650 hours called Senior Principal MG

- B. Remove Intern status as the time frame for that has expired
 - C. Add Provisional MG status for Transfers to bylaws
 - D. Simplify the language around the definition of Active Master Gardeners
- 3) Reorganize and expand the board (15 total members - see list above). Remove the list of duties for all board positions as it is incomplete. Job duties for each position will be listed in job description documents. This change includes the removal of the restriction that the President vote only in the case of a tie. President would now be able to participate in all board votes taken.
 - 4) Dues vote at the annual meeting will only be taken if the dues are changing.
 - 5) Move the start of term to January following September election to add an overlap period. This also requires a change to the definition of Immediate Past President.
 - 6) Move the bylaws review to odd years to avoid conflict with Nominating Committee.
 - 7) Make formatting and language cleanup changes.

Proposed new wording for the mission statement in Section 2.1 of the Policies and Procedures:

The MMGA shall be a charitable educational organization and, in furtherance of the purposes of the Corporation, the MMGA shall undertake as its mission to share knowledge and experience with the public through outreach: educational, horticultural and gardening programs. In support of this mission, it will undertake:

- a) To provide the Master Gardener Training Program to interested members of the public; and
- b) To provide graduates of the Master Gardener Training Program with educational and practical opportunities to extend their knowledge and interests in gardening and related topics.