

**July 16, 2009 Governance Committee Call**  
**Notes by A. Thompson**

Attending: Nancy Rideout, Michael Moore, Julie Heather, Sean Fitzgerald and Anthony Thompson  
Absent: P. Miller and Don Mehl

1. The group did a recap of Legislation proposals. Sean provided some feedback from Legislation Committee:

- a. Some minor grammatical issues (i.e. the word “for” vs “to”, his/hers, etc).
- b. Duplicate number in section with 506.8 – group discussed and suggested just renumbering in the order that they are drafted with 506.8 (Permanent Committee of the Board) and increasing the number after 506.9, etc [ Key issues was the ordering of listing of the EC before or after permanent committee of the Board ].
- c. Legislation asked if section of 502 should be removed since 502.10 cover most of these topics with the accompany policy document. The consensus was to leave all other part of 502 for now.
- d. Wording in 505.3.2 on “resident” was a question from Legislation Cmte since one can be a member of a LMSC and zone and not be a “resident”. Since the Governance did not have the background on why is worded as “resident”, it was suggested the Legislation make a proposal to reword to “member of Zone”, since it is beyond our role of Governance from the charter and tasks assigned.
- e. In section 506.10, the nearly identical sentences for filling board position and officers positions. It was suggested we have this issue reviewed by Meg Smath to combine these two sentence into one.

Legislation is working to get the “clean-up” done next week and submitted to HOD Delegate packets, as Sean is travelling internationally. Legislation Committee will start having conference call in August and has asked that someone from Governance be available to answer question in their conference calls. [ This should be on the agenda for our next Governance Meeting ]

2. Communications Planning

The group did some brainstorming toward a communication plan and discussed the following:

- a. Direct communication with affected HOD Committees – follow-up with Committee chair to get on next conference calls with full committee to answers questions about proposed legislation that affect each committee.
- b. Posting Governance Meeting minutes. Each Committee member should review minutes and be ready to discuss at next meeting.
- c. USMS Discusson Forum - Convention Topics. Anthony spoke with Jim Matysek, USMS IT Director. Jim suggested that no new space was needed on discussion forum, but suggested we post a series of discrete topics to keep discussion separated. Obviously, not want to start until HOD delegate packets are distributed.
- d. Direct e-mail to HOD delegate & timing of it – all at once or series of e-mail. With advantages to both, it was decided to have several small e-mail covering the concept would be the best plan. Potentially have 4: one on BOD items, HOD Committee changes, LSMC Min Standards, and changes to coordinators. Other felt that direct communication with HOD was not a good idea, since information would be in the HOD delegate packets and discussion on USMS Forum would be more appropriate.
- e. HOD Delegate Packets - a report or summary, due Sun 26-July to Tracy Grilli. Governance Committee should have a summary report, but what content. The report

should also direct the readers to the committee report to web posting of minutes or summary and group e-mail to send queries to the Governance Committee on proposed legislation (governance@usms.org).

- f. Getting feedback to Governance in a group e-mail (get setup with Meg Smath) By having the comments come to the whole group, we could all stay informed. We will need to divide the legislative proposals among the committee and each be responsible to respond to assigned sections.
- g. Graphic representation of Governance changes. Some people need some graphics to help understand the changes. Just like some will read e-mail, some will read HOD delegate packets, some will participate in USMS Discussion Forum, etc. Anthony volunteered to draft some graphics by next meeting.
- h. Planning for Convention – have 5-15min block of time in first HOD to overview the governance processes, the Governance Committee meetings (frequency and process), work by BOD and by Committee. Also to encourage those who had feedback to attend the unopposed Legislation committee meeting in late afternoon of first full day of Convention.

3. Other business for Governance - Policy Documents – suggested to table until August as lower priority than Communication Planning and execution.

4. Schedule next meeting – Thurs 23-July at 7pm EST

Also reviewed that Michael can still attend Marketing Cmte meeting on Sun 26-July at 8pm EST, but Julie has another conference call and cannot.