

Proposed By-law Amendments – Zonta Club of Kitchener Waterloo

Legend: ~~Deletions~~

Additions/Changes

Proposal Number 1 and 2 needs to be dealt with together. Proposal 3 and 4 should be dealt with together

	Exsiting By-laws	Proposed Amendment	Rational
1	<p>Article XIII Districts Section 6 Officers b) Election. Officers, with the exception of the secretary, shall be elected at the district conference immediately preceding the convention. Election shall be by ballot vote of voting members present and voting. Area directors and/or vice area directors shall be elected by the delegates from the clubs in that area, either at the district conference, or, at the option of the district, at the area meeting immediately preceding the convention. Elections at area meetings shall be in accordance with the procedures in Article XIII, Section 11 (a)(4)(a).</p>	<p>Article XIII Districts Section 6 Officers b) Election. Officers, with the exception of the secretary, shall be elected at the district conference immediately preceding the convention. Election shall be by ballot vote of voting members present and voting. The election shall be by conference voting members. Area directors and/or vice area directors shall be elected by the delegates from the clubs in that area, either at the district conference, or, at the option of the district, at the area meeting immediately preceding the convention. Elections at area meetings shall be in accordance with the procedures in Article XIII, Section 11 (a)(4)(a).</p>	<p>Currently “by ballot” appears to 2 sections of the by-laws, Section 6(b) and Section 14. This can be confusing. This proposal moves how the election is conducted “by ballot” or “acclamation” to section 14. The proposal also simplifies the language in this section by using the term “conference voting members”. This terminology is used elsewhere in the by-laws, Article IV Section 11 and Section 14. Conference voting members provides greater clarity than the term “voting members present and voting”.</p>
2	<p>Article XIII Districts SECTION 14. Election. Election shall be by ballot vote, and a majority vote of the conference voting members shall elect district officers. In the event that no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast for any office, only the two candidates receiving the largest number of votes shall remain on the second ballot. The district Nominating Committee shall be elected by plurality vote.</p>	<p>Article XIII Districts SECTION 14. Election. Election shall be by ballot vote unless there is but one nominee for the office. If there is only one nominee, the nominee shall be acclaimed to office and the presiding officer shall announce this to the conference voting members. If a ballot vote is required a majority vote of the conference voting members shall elect district officers. In the event that no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast for any office, only the two candidates receiving the largest number of votes shall remain on the second ballot. The district Nominating Committee shall be elected by plurality vote.</p>	<p>Under Robert's Rules of Order, if there is no opposition there is no need for a formal vote. The matter is decided by "acclamation" or by "unanimous consent." "If only one person is nominated and the bylaws do not require that a ballot vote be taken, the chair, after ensuring that in fact, no members present wish to make further nominations, simply declares that the nominee is elected" (Robert's Rules, 11th ed., p. 443.) In order to take advantage of acclamation the by-laws must be amended to remove ballot voting when there is only one candidate.</p> <p>Alternative An alternative would be to use the language currently available in the Article XIV Clubs 4b). Election. At the election meeting, officers and directors shall be elected by ballot vote unless there is but one nominee for the office, in which case a voice vote may be taken. A majority vote shall elect.</p>

3	<p>Article XIV SECTION 4. Officers and Directors</p> <p>(b) Election. At the election meeting, officers and directors shall be elected by ballot vote unless there is but one nominee for the office, in which case a voice vote may be taken. A majority vote shall elect. At the option of the club, balloting may be by mail.</p>	<p>Article XIV Section 4 Officers and Directors</p> <p>b) Election. At the election meeting, officers and directors shall be elected by ballot vote unless there is but one nominee for the office, in which case the nominee <i>shall be acclaimed to office and the presiding officer shall announce this to the club members.</i> At the option of the club, balloting may be by mail.</p>	<p>In order to align this proposal with the proposals above, changes need to be made to the sections dealing with club elections. Again Robert's Rules of Order does not require that a further voice vote be taken.</p>
4	<p>Article XIV Clubs SECTION 8. Nominating Committee.</p> <p>(b) Election. If nominees are unopposed, a voice vote may be taken and committee members may select their own chairman. If elected by ballot vote, the designated number of committee nominees receiving the highest number of votes shall constitute the club Nominating Committee. The member receiving the highest number of votes shall be chairman of the Nominating Committee</p>	<p>Article XIV Clubs SECTION 8. Nominating Committee.</p> <p>b) Election. <i>If nominees are unopposed, they shall be acclaimed to the office and announce to the club by the presiding officer.</i> Committee members may select their own chairman. If elected by ballot vote, the designated number of committee nominees receiving the highest number of votes shall constitute the club Nominating Committee. The member receiving the highest number of votes <i>shall chair</i> the Nominating Committee.</p>	<p>In order to align this proposal with the recommendations above, changes need to be made to the sections dealing with club nominating committee elections. The second part of the amendment deals with the use of the word Chairman. This proposal is more gender neutral.</p>