

Tahoe Donner Elections Committee Minutes, March 2, 2021

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM Via ZOOM

Amended March 16, 2021

1. Present: Committee Members Bette Rohrback, Nan Carnal, and Charlene Simmons; TD staff Robin Bennett and Joe Reeder; Tahoe Donner Members Benjamin Levin and Laura Lindgren; Inspector of Elections Brent Collinson
2. Member Comments: The Committee discussed a comment submitted by Min Yi to the Election Committee mailbox. To facilitate candidate communication with Tahoe Donner Members, candidates will be advised to post their website link on all communications. In addition, candidates will be advised to make sure they have an updated email list, available from Tahoe Donner staff. Given the virtual nature of this year's campaign, both full and part-time owners will have equal access to all campaign events.
3. Committee Member assignments regarding monitoring of the email box and taking meeting minutes were discussed and approved. *Brent approves of committee plan to review applications as submitted for completeness only. If deemed incomplete for any reason, the applicant will be notified that they may resubmit any missing documentation prior to the deadline.*
4. The April TD News submission was discussed. Two articles will highlight interviews with 2 present/past board members and a summary of recently approved 2021 Campaign Guidelines. Bette & Joe will send out a draft for review.
5. The Election Marketing Plan presented by Joe Reeder was reviewed and adopted (3-0). The final plan is attached.
 - a. Key communication dates and FAQs were updated.
 - b. The committee discussed the option of placing a ballot drop box at Northwoods from Friday, June 25 (9 AM – 5 PM during open board meeting and ballot counting) thru Sunday morning, June 27, at 11:30 AM when voting concludes. Legal counsel previously advised that providing this option to facilitate in-person voting, would be at the discretion of the Inspector of Election. Brent approved the plan. Bette will update the Election Procedures previously approved by the board to reflect this option. Information will also be included in the Notice of Annual Meeting which is mailed to members with the formal election packet. (Updated Election Procedures reflecting this change are attached).

6. The committee reviewed and edited the text of the documents which will be included in the Candidate Packet. *A potential issue with the Web Posting Guidelines document was raised. The question is whether or not the EC can decline to post a submission by a candidate to their individual TD web page if, in the committee's opinion, the post does not adhere to the approved Campaign Guidelines. Since Brent had left the meeting the decision was made that Bette would reach out to him for clarification before approving the posting guidelines as written. All participants will be advised of the outcome of that discussion, and the decision that follows.*

March 11, 2021

Bette discussed above with Brent. His position is that refusing to post is equivalent to redacting content, like the candidate's statement. 3.1 of the Election Rules addresses use of Association media. Midway through the first paragraph it says, "Where equal access is required, the Association shall not edit or redact content from these communications but may include a statement specifying that the Candidate or member, and not the Association is responsible for the content. The Association is not required to offer communication opportunities to Candidates or Members advocating a point of view; however, if such a benefit is offered to one Candidate or Member, the same opportunity must then be offered to all. If the Association does permit Association media to be used to distribute Candidate statements or information or other advocacy material related to a vote or election, reasonable restrictions on the size, weight and format established by the association must be followed."

*After further discussion with Brent and all committee members and TD members present for the original discussion, the decision was made to post, **as submitted**, on the candidate page of the TD website, the candidate's name and, if provided, the candidate's e-mail address, introductory video, official candidate photo, candidate's statement and **personal campaign web address**. Candidates can then communicate with members outside of Association channels and the committee will not be involved in evaluating any content posted there. The Web Posting Guidelines that will be included in the Candidate Packet are attached.*