



MIDDLE ATLANTIC PLANETARIUM SOCIETY

Promoting excellence in all facets of planetarium education and programming

MAPS BY-LAWS AMENDMENTS BALLOT : November 1, 2023

With acknowledgement to the MAPS Constitution Review Committee, The MAPS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE seeks your approval of the following proposed amendments to the MAPS By-Laws.

The relevant article written in the current MAPS By-Laws is listed first. The proposed amendment is listed second, with new words underlined and comments *in italics*. The rationale for the change is listed third.

If you want to amend the existing article, then vote “FOR” the amendment on the ballot. If you do not want to amend the existing article, then vote “AGAINST” the amendment on the ballot. The proposed amendments in Section A are to be voted on individually, while the proposed amendments in Section B are to be voted on as a group

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING BALLOT

The deadline for voting electronically is **December 1, 2023**. If you have issues voting please contact: membership@mapsplanetarium.org

BY-LAWS PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

A. Each of the Proposed By-Laws Amendments listed in this section (A) will be voted on individually.

(1) CURRENT BY-LAW:

ARTICLE III- Officers and Their Duties

Section 2. The President shall be the Society’s representative to the International Planetarium Society. If the President is unable to attend a council meeting of the IPS, the Past-President shall act as the Society’s representative. If neither the President nor Past-President is able to attend a council meeting of the IPS, the President-Elect or a designee appointed by the President shall be the Society’s representative.

Proposed By-Law:

Section 2. The President shall be the Society’s representative and point of contact to the International Planetarium Society. (*All other language deleted.*)

Rationale for Change:

New IPS governance structure eliminated IPS representatives and attendance at IPS Council Meetings. President is specified as point of contact instead.

(2) CURRENT BY-LAW:

ARTICLE III- Officers and Their Duties

Section 3. The President, as executive officer of the Society, shall authorize all expenditures of the Society.

Proposed By-Law:

Section 3. The President, as executive officer of the Society, shall be advised of all expenditures of the Society, and their approval must be obtained for all expenditures in excess of \$500.

Rationale for Change:

Bring into alignment with existing Section 9 [*Section 9. The Treasurer must obtain approval of the President for any expenditure of more than \$500.00*]

(3) CURRENT BY-LAW:

ARTICLE III- Officers and Their Duties

Section 7. The Secretary shall:

- Keep an accurate record of the business proceedings of the Society and the Executive Committee.
- Attend to the correspondence of the Society.

Proposed By-Law:

Section 7. The Secretary shall:

- Keep an accurate record of the business proceedings of the Society and the Executive Committee.
- Record minutes of Executive Committee and regular business meetings of the Society.
- Provide a report of the minutes of the Executive Committee at the next meeting of the Executive Committee and provide the minutes of the last regular business meeting of the Society at the next regular business meeting of the Society.
- Attend to the correspondence of the Society.

Rationale for Change:

Specifying that minutes will be taken and when they will be reported.

(4) CURRENT BY-LAW:

ARTICLE IV – Committees

Section 3. An audit as conducted by a Certified Public Accountant may be called for at any time by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Proposed By-Law:

Section 3. An audit as conducted by a Certified Public Accountant shall be conducted every other year.

Rationale for Change:

Specifying review by a Certified Public Account on a set schedule.

(5) CURRENT BY-LAW:

ARTICLE IV – Committees

Section 6. The Elections Committee shall have no less than three members, appointed by the President.

Proposed By-Law:

Section 6. The Elections Committee shall consist of a Chairperson appointed by the President and at least two other members appointed by the Chairperson. Members of the Elections Committee shall not be currently serving as officers or board members of the Society. The Elections Committee shall select a system for voting prior to November 30th and facilitate the election as outlined in Article V.

Rationale for Change:

Specifying the committee structure and that the Elections Committee shall not be the same people that are serving as MAPS officers. Codifying the Elections Committee's duty to select a voting method and deadline.

(6) CURRENT BY-LAW:

ARTICLE IV – Committees

Section 11. The Editor of the *CONSTELLATION* shall be appointed by the President and act as Chairperson of the Publications Committee.

Proposed By-Law:

Section 11. The Chairperson of the Publications Committee shall be the editor of the *CONSTELLATION*.

Rationale for Change:

Clarifying the role and order of appointment of the editor.

B. The following group of individually listed Proposed By-Laws Amendments in this section (B) will be voted on as a whole because all the changes are related to the dissolution of the Audit Committee.

(1) CURRENT BY-LAW:

ARTICLE IV – Committees

Section 1. Standing committees of the Society shall be: Audit, Awards, Constitution Review, Education, Elections, Historian/Archivist, Membership, Memorial, Program, Publications, and Website Committee chairs shall be appointed by the President.

Proposed By-Law:

Section 1. Standing committees of the Society shall be: Awards, Constitution Review, Education, Elections, Historian/Archivist, Membership, Memorial, Program, Publications, and Website Committee chairs shall be appointed by the President.

Rationale for Change:

Elimination of the Audit Committee as a result of committee restructure and the additional need of a Certified Public Accountant for financial review.

(2) CURRENT BY-LAW:

ARTICLE IV – Committees

Section 2. An audit of the financial books of the Society shall be conducted annually by the Audit Committee.

Proposed By-Law:

This section will be eliminated and duties brought into alignment with Article IV- Committees, Section 3.

Rationale for Change:

Elimination of the Audit Committee as a result of committee restructure and the additional need of a Certified Public Accountant for financial review.

(3) CURRENT BY-LAW:

Article V- Nominations and Elections

Section 6 A. The Audit Committee shall act as tellers for the annual election

Proposed By-Law:

Section 6 A. The Elections Committee shall act as tellers for the annual election

Rationale for Change:

Realigning duties of the committee.

(4) CURRENT BY-LAW:

Article V- Nominations and Elections

Section 6 B. The Audit Committee shall stamp each ballot with a “date received.” Any ballot received after the deadline printed on the ballot will not be counted.

Proposed By-Law:

Section 6 B. The Elections Committee shall ensure that each ballot’s submission date is recorded. Any ballot received after the deadline printed on the ballot will not be counted.

Rationale for Change:

Realigning duties of the committee and updating wording to allow for electronic voting and record keeping.

(5) CURRENT BY-LAW:

Article V- Nominations and Elections

Section 6 D. Election results will be announced by the Audit Committee during the business meeting at the annual conference, and in the Spring Issue of the CONSTELLATION, and/or electronically.

Proposed By-Law:

Section 6 D. Election results will be announced by the Elections Committee during the business meeting at the annual conference, and in the Spring Issue of the *CONSTELLATION*, and/or electronically.

Rationale for Change:

Realigning duties of the committee.

(6) CURRENT BY-LAW:

Article V- Nominations and Elections

Section 7 A. All ballots must be saved by the Audit Committee through the annual meeting.

Proposed By-Law:

Section 7 A. All ballots must be saved by the Elections Committee through the annual meeting.

Rationale for Change:

Realigning duties of the committee.