

POLICY MOTION

COMMITTEE: Election and Bylaws

TITLE: Bylaws Amendment: Addition of Youth Board Seat

PURPOSE: To amend the MVCC bylaws to include a Youth Board Seat pursuant to Los Angeles Administrative code §22.814.

BACKGROUND: Generally, to be elected to the board of a neighborhood council a stakeholder must be at least 18 years of age. However, a Neighborhood Council may create up to one "Youth Board Seat" which may be occupied by a minor. Such a seat may only be occupied by an individual who is at least 14 years of age, but not older than 17, on the day the election for that seat occurs. Additionally, stakeholders as young as 14 years old may vote in the election for a Youth Board Member. The MVCC Bylaws already contemplate the addition of a Youth Director position in Article X, Section 3.

There are many potential benefits to adding a Youth Board seat. Doing so would likely increase civic engagement among young people in Mar Vista, assisting with outreach. Additionally, having a wider age range on the board would offer more unique perspectives to be considered at meetings. Potential downsides would include an even number of directors in total — 16 — which could result in tied votes and gridlock. This could be resolved by eliminating an at large-director position.

THE MOTION: Article V, Section 1: Composition, currently reads as follows:

"Number of Directors: The Board shall be comprised of fifteen (15) Directors, including the five (5) officers described in Article V. Of the fifteen (15) Directors, one (1) shall be elected "Community" Director, seven (7) shall be elected "At -large" Directors and seven (7) shall be elected "Zone" Directors."

This motion would amend Article V, Section 1 to read as follows:

"Number of Directors: The Board shall be comprised of fifteen (16) Directors, including the five (5) officers described in Article V. Of the fifteen (16) Directors, one (1) shall be elected "Community" Director, one (1) shall be elected "Youth" Director, seven (7) shall be elected "At -large" Directors and seven (7) shall be elected "Zone" Directors.

Youth Director: Candidates for Youth Director must be Mar Vista Stakeholders and at least fourteen (14) years of age and no more than seventeen (17) years of age, at the time of election or selection."

DIRECTED TO: MVCC Board of Directors

ACTION/VOTE COUNT:

MVCC Election and Bylaws Committee meeting, Date 1/18/2024

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Motion of

Motion

MVCC Board Meeting, **MONTH 1st, 2023**

Motion of opposition moved by Director XXX, seconded by Director XXX

Motion of opposition approved by the MVCC Board XX-XX-XX