CODE CHANGES 2019: Polling Officers

TO: Council
FROM: Elections Committee
January 2019

Amendment to create the new position of Polling Officers. Also to modify the rules for removing campaign material after elections. And to remove a lingering reference to the defunct position of Executive Director.

Additions are indicated by **bold italics**. Deletions are indicated by striking through (like this).

**SECTION IX A. Electoral Procedures**

**Article 1. Elections Committee**

A. Composition

1. The Elections Administrator shall be composed of the following six (6) voting members, all of whom shall be Active Members of the Society:

   (a) the Elections Administrator, who shall be Chair;
   (b) the Chief Returning Officer;
   (c) the Communications Officer;
   (d) the Events Officer; and
   (e) two (2) poll clerks *Polling Officers*.

The Archivist & Clerk of Council and the Executive Director or their designate shall attend meetings of the Committee at the invitation of the Chair.

2. All members of the Elections Committee except the two *Polling Officers* shall be appointed by Council on the recommendation of the Human Resources Committee in accordance with Section V, Article 9 of the Code.

3. The two poll clerks *Polling Officers* shall be appointed by Council on the recommendation of the rest of the Elections Committee before the close of nominations.

...
C. Duties of Committee Members

2. The Chief Returning Officer shall:

   (a) ensure that **Polling Officers and** poll clerks are adequately trained pursuant to Article 5(8)(a);

   (b) be responsible for preparing and distributing information on relevant rules and regulations to the **Polling Officers and** poll clerks;

   (c) assign poll clerks to polls, and ensure that the polls are adequately staffed during the polling period;

   (d) be responsible for the design and layout of the Society’s polling stations;

   (e) along with the Elections Administrator, supervise the initial viewing of voting results at the end of the voting period; and

   (f) have such other powers and duties as are outlined in the Bylaws or the Code or assigned by Council, the Elections Administrator, or the Elections Committee from time to time.

5. **The Polling Officers shall:**

   (a) attend all meetings of the Elections Committee from the date they have been hired;

   (b) attend all events organized by the Elections Committee, including but not limited to the All-Candidates Meeting and All-Candidates Forums;

   (c) manage voting stations (including opening and closing, enforcing campaign regulations, and safeguarding electoral equipment);

   (d) communicate any technical difficulties at the polling stations to the Chief Returning Officer;

   (e) clean up candidate posters and other promotional material after the end of elections as required; and

   (f) have such other powers and duties as are outlined in the Bylaws or the Code or assigned by the Elections Committee, the Elections Administrator, or the Chief Returning Officer from time to time.

Article 2. Nomination and Campaign Regulations

... (l) Candidates and campaign organizations must ensure that their physical campaign material is removed within one (1) week following the end of the Official
Campaign Period. If this is not done, the Elections Committee may deny a candidate their reimbursement. The poll clerks shall remove the material and the cost of removal shall be deducted from the candidate's reimbursement.

Article 5. Polling Regulations

8. Poll Clerks

(a) All poll clerks and Polling Officers shall be required to attend a training session arranged by the Chief Returning Officer, at which they shall be given information on the rules and regulations relevant to them.

(b) While working at a polling station, no poll clerk shall make remarks supporting or opposing any candidate or referendum question; nor may a poll clerk inspect a voter's marked ballot; nor may a poll clerk vote while working. Once hired, a poll clerk shall not work as a volunteer or otherwise assist in any way in any candidate’s campaign or in any referendum campaign.

(c) Poll clerks shall

(i) manage voting stations (including opening and closing, enforcing campaign regulations, and safeguarding electoral equipment);

(ii) communicate any technical difficulties at the polling stations to the Chief Returning Officer;

(iii) clean up candidate posters and other promotional material after the end of elections as required; and

(iv) have such other powers and duties as are outlined in the Bylaws or the Code or assigned by the Elections Committee, the Elections Administrator, or the Chief Returning Officer from time to time.