

FHNA PROPOSED BY-LAWS REVISIONS
Fall 2016

Provision	Current By-Law	Proposed Revision	Rationale
Art. IV, § 1	The Board of directors shall consist of 7 members	The Board shall consist of either 7 or 9 members	We'd love to get more neighbors involved on our Board of Directors if we have neighbors interested and committed to helping. The option to add two additional Directors would help increase involvement and spread out the responsibilities of the current Directors. An odd number of Directors is preferred for voting purposes
Art. IV, § 2	Directors shall serve two year terms	Directors shall serve four year terms , and Directors may be elected to serve consecutive terms	Given the nature of our organization, two-year terms barely give a Director time to understand the operation of the Board and the events we host. Longer terms would allow for greater institutional knowledge and more opportunity to evolve the events we host. Similarly, it is logistically difficult to find replacement Directors every two years
Art. IV, § 2	Terms shall be staggered so Directors are elected in alternating years	Remove this language	Naturally, Directors will be elected on a rotating basis and may need to be elected at either the spring or the fall meeting.
Art. IV, § 4	Meetings are called by the President; a majority of Directors may call a meeting	Reworded for clarity. There is no change to the effect of the by-law	
Art. V, § 6	Officers shall serve one-year terms	Officers shall serve two year terms	Given the nature of our organization, one-year terms do not give the officer sufficient time to learn the position or the responsibilities. We need to have greater institutional knowledge, which can be obtained by longer term limits.

			Also, we have had difficulty filling some of the more time-consuming Officer positions, so we want to maintain our willing volunteers for longer terms.
Art. V, § 6	Officers can serve no more than two consecutive terms in one office	Remove this requirement	Over the years, we've had a difficult time filling some of our Officer positions. When that issue arises, the Board ought to have authority to retain its Officers for consecutive terms rather than being forced to appoint an unwilling Director to serve as an Officer. There are other removal provisions if an Officer needs to be removed for conduct issues.
Art. VI, § 2	A membership meeting held in March shall be known as the Annual Meeting of the FHNA, and annual financial reports will be given and elections will take place	Remove the requirement that the spring meeting be held in March. Revise to provide that both membership meetings will have a report of the finances and elections as necessary	Our By-Laws require us to have two membership meetings each year. Removing the requirement that one be held in March will allow the Board some flexibility in scheduling. The current By-Laws require the Board to update the membership on finances and to hold elections only during the March meeting. The revision will require finance updates at both meetings and allow for elections when necessary. Because people step off the Board for various reasons and at various times during the year, it is important to allow for elections at either annual meeting.
Art. XI, § 2	No current provision	Add authority to allow the Board to vote via email as it agrees	Sometimes issues arise that require a vote of the Board before a formal meeting can be held. This provision will specifically grant the Board authority to conduct those votes via email.