

Seabrook Island Property Owners Association 2024 Election

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What are the positions that property owners can run for in this upcoming 2024 election?

In the 2024 Seabrook Island Property Owners Association election, candidates are needed for four (4) three-year terms on the Board of Directors and two (2) two-year term positions on the Nominating Committee.

Seabrook Island property owners in good standing who have owned property for at least one year, whether full or part-time residents, are eligible to run for these positions. “Property Owner in Good Standing” is defined in the SIPOA Bylaws, Article I as a Property Owner who is not more than thirty (30) days delinquent in the payment of any obligation owed to the SIPOA.

How many people serve on the Board of Directors?

The SIPOA Board of Directors is made up of 12 Directors who serve 3-year terms. (Bylaws §5.1)

What is Policy Based Governance and how does it relate to how the Board conducts its business?

The Board follows an operating model called “Policy Based Governance.” In this model, the focus is on ends, not means. The Board strives to identify desirable outcomes and establish policies to accomplish them, leaving the details of implementation and day-to-day decision making to the Executive Director and her staff.

What are the responsibilities of the Board of Directors?

SIPOA Board Directors represent all Seabrook Island Property Owners. The SIPOA Board of Directors meets monthly. Directors are required to attend a minimum of two-thirds (2/3) of all monthly Board of Directors and special meetings, either in person or via telephone or video conference. The President of the Board assigns responsibility to each Director to Chair or co-Chair one or two standing or special committees. (Bylaws §5.5)

The standing committees include (Bylaws §7.4):

Architectural Review Committee (ARC) (Bylaws §7.4.6)

Elections Committee (Bylaws §7.7)

Environmental Committee (Bylaws §7.4.7)

Finance Committee (Bylaws §7.4.1)

General Operating and Maintenance Committee (GOMC) (Bylaws §7.4.3)

Legal Committee (Bylaws §7.4.4)

Long Range Planning and Development Committee (Bylaws §7.4.5)

Safety and Security Committee (Bylaws §7.4.2)

The current special committees are (Bylaws §7.5 and 7.7):

Activities Committee (Bylaws §7.5)

Communications Committee (Bylaws §7.5)

Nominating Committee (Bylaws §7.6)

In most committees, Board Directors guide volunteers in investigations of various issues and development of proposals for consideration by the entire Board of Directors. Committees play a prominent role on Seabrook Island in developing ideas into policy recommendations for Board consideration.

How much time is expected of Board members?

Board members meet for a regular meeting at 1:00p.m. on the third Monday of each month. Meetings can last as long as three hours. In addition, there are often working sessions on the morning of the Board meeting which may last one to two hours. Each Board member is assigned to at least one committee. *See the Committee descriptions and time commitment information sheet.* Board members are required to attend the Annual Meeting in February and the Organizational meeting that follows the Annual Meeting (approximately 3 hours total). Committee chairs also have a responsibility to create agendas, minutes, and monthly reports for their committee(s).

What is the SIPOA Board of Directors Executive Committee?

In addition to the various committees to which Board Directors are assigned, there is an Executive Committee made up of the Board President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary, in addition to the Chair of the Legal Committee. (Bylaws §5.15) The Executive Committee considers items between regular Board meetings, including personnel issues, contract negotiations and legal advice or matters covered by attorney-client privilege. (Bylaws §5.14)

What criteria will be used in considering candidates for the Board of Directors? Per Bylaws §7.6, potential candidates for the SIPOA Board of Directors should meet several specified requirements. These include but are not limited to, experiences at Seabrook Island such as participation on committees, community involvement and volunteer service, as well as prior relevant professional and career experience. For a complete list of requirements, please see SIPOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE CANDIDATE SELECTION GUIDELINES.

What skill level with computers and mobile devices is adequate for Board Directors?

Essential skills for serving on the Board of Directors include an e-mail account for SIPOA communications only, and the ability to competently use Microsoft Word or a comparable word processing program that can read and export MS Word documents and save documents in Adobe PDF. From time to time, it may be necessary to compose or read Microsoft Excel spreadsheets and Microsoft PowerPoint presentations, so having access to Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, and PowerPoint) is helpful and convenient. The Board and committees also use SharePoint to distribute information.

What are the responsibilities of the Nominating Committee?

The Nominating Committee is responsible for actively recruiting and selecting qualified candidates to run for the SIPOA Board of Directors and the SIPOA Nominating Committee annual election.

How many people serve on the Nominating Committee, and how much time is expected of the Nominating Committee Members?

Five people serve on the SIPOA Nominating Committee: four voting members and one Board Member who votes only in the case of a tie. Nominating Committee members serve two-year terms. The Nominating Committee begins working in April and generally concludes its work in January. This committee starts with monthly meetings, and as the work ramps up, moves to bi-monthly meetings. Interviews of candidates are usually held in October, so it is essential that Nominating Committee members be available during this time.

What criteria will be used in considering candidates for the Nominating Committee?

Per the Bylaws §7.6, potential candidates for the SIPOA Nominating Committee should meet several specified requirements. These include but are not limited to experiences at Seabrook Island such as participation on committees, community involvement and volunteer service, as well as prior relevant professional and career experience.

For a complete list of requirements, please see Combined SIPOA Board of Directors and Nominating Committee Candidate Selection Guidelines.

Where can I find additional information about the Nominating Committee? Additional information can be found in the Bylaws located on the SIPOA Website, at sipoa.org.

How are candidates for the SIPOA Board and Nominating Committee Selected? The Nominating Committee welcomes all applicants for the SIPOA Board and Nominating Committee who are property owners in good standing and are interested in sharing their skills through participation on the SIPOA Board or Nominating Committee. Those interested can apply by submitting a Nominee Form. Nominee forms must be received no later than October 1, 2023.

All candidate Nominee Forms will be reviewed by each member of the Nominating Committee. Applicants who complete the Nominee Form and meet the selection criteria for the Board of Directors or the Nominating Committee will be contacted and asked to participate in an interview with the Nominating Committee. Interviews are held in a structured group interview format, meaning that one candidate will meet with the whole Nominating Committee at the same time. The same list of questions will be used for all candidate interviews. The interviews can take place in person or remotely using videoconferencing technology. Nominee Forms can be found in this Candidate Information Packet or at the SIPOA Office.

Do candidates who are not selected to run on the ballot have other options to run in this election?

Names of nominees for the Board of Directors and Nominating Committee positions will be posted in the SIPOA office and on the SIPOA website at least 60 days before the Annual Meeting of Property Owners. Thereafter, additional nominations for the Board and the Nominating Committee may be made by written petition signed by fifty (50) or more Property Owners in Good Standing. It is important for candidates wishing to run by petition to refer to SIPOA Bylaws §7.6 for additional information.

What financial information will be required to be submitted with the Nominee Form?

No financial information is required when submitting the Nominee Form to be considered for an interview. Candidates who are elected to the SIPOA Board of Directors will be asked to complete a Financial Disclosure Form and a form that is related to the Directors' Code of Conduct at the time they are elected.

What are important dates to know if interested in running for a position on the SIPOA Board of Directors or Nominating Committee?

-Application Forms Due: No later than October 1, 2023.

-Biographical Statement, Position Statement and Conflict of Interest Forms: The Biographical Statement, Position Statement and the signed Conflict of Interest form must be submitted at the time of the interview. Also, the candidate's photo must be submitted (or taken) at the time of the interview.

- Candidate Interviews: Interviews will be scheduled in October 2023. They can be conducted in person, or remotely using video conferencing.
- Nominating Committee Selections: The Nominating Committee will contact all interviewed candidates to advise whether they have been selected for its slate of candidates.
- SIPOA Board Announcement of Slate of Candidates: SIPOA Board Meeting November 13, 2023
- Meet the Candidates Night: Typically during the first week in January.
- Announcement of elected 2024 SIPOA Board and Nominating Committee Members: SIPOA Annual Meeting, February 17, 2024.