

Whitneyville Civic Association  
2015 proposed bylaws changes

This brief explanation of the bylaw changes proposed by the executive board serves only to summarize and justify the major proposed changes. Only the bylaws themselves are binding on the Association, this summary is not part of the proposed changes in any way.

**Classes of membership:**

In an effort to increase participation in the Association, the executive board wants to include more residents and business owners in the work of the association. We feel that one way to accomplish this goal is to make all those in the Whitneyville community actual members of the Association. Voting rights will be reserved to those who demonstrate a small commitment to the Association by payment of the modest annual dues and (necessarily) attendance at the meetings where votes may be taken. The requirement that officers be 21 years old was removed so that any Voting Member may serve (i.e., anyone 18 or older who has paid dues).

**Combination of two Secretary positions:**

The work of the two secretary positions has been consolidated into one secretary, reflecting the efficiencies of modern communication and data management. This also simplifies the work of the executive board and the ability to keep positions filled. There remain opportunities for others to join the executive committee as Chairs of standing committees that may be created.

**Change in quorum:**

The absolute number of Voting Members required for a quorum has been reduced from thirty to twenty. The 10% option is unchanged. As there are currently fewer than 200 members and the bylaws specify a quorum of either 10% or 30 - proposed 20 - members, this is not a change that will have current effect. The quorum will remain 10% of current member or about 15 people.

**Conforming and boundary changes:**

The remainder of the changes represent conforming changes (e.g., “members” changed to “Voting Members”), clarification of the boundary description, and removal of gendered language. Note that the board discussed defining a southern boundary but decided against it as it was deemed too substantive a change.

**Timeline:**

The board is sharing these draft changes to the Association bylaws at the January meeting; they will not be formally “read”. Discussion and input from members will be solicited and incorporated to the draft after the meeting. It is our intention to discuss and “read” the changes formally at the March meeting. They will then be tabled until the following meeting, per Article XII governing bylaws amendments. At the May meeting - the next meeting following the March meeting and the “Annual Meeting” - there will be a vote of all members (under the current bylaws - that is all eligible persons who have paid their dues).

**Resources:**

The current bylaws are posted at the Association web site, [whitneyville.org](http://whitneyville.org) in the “about” section. You will also find there a “redline” copy with each proposed change called out and an interactive map of the proposed new boundaries of the Association.

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