

Second Revision to AQG Bylaws

In February the Guild membership approved a number of changes to the Bylaws to ensure consistent language and to reflect current practice. Following that approval, the Bylaws Committee – Wilma Hamlin, Jean Karpen, Elaine Zinn, Nancy Mathewson and Betty Fauerbach, ex officio – proposed additional changes to address several substantive issues. Specifically, the changes proposed for the Bylaws will

1. Increase the number of elected members of the Board,
2. Decrease the total number of positions on the Board from 23 to 15,
3. Remove details from the Bylaws that more appropriately belong in the Guidelines, and
4. Add Budget, Audit and Nominating as standing committees.
5. Change the quorum for conducting the business of the Board of Directors from seven members of the Board to a majority.

These changes are proposed for several reasons:

Presently, the Board comprises five elected officers – President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer and immediate Past President – plus 18 members appointed by the President – the Parliamentarian and the 17 committee chairs. Revisions to the Bylaws call for the same five elected officers plus five directors elected at-large from the general membership. This proposal addresses the concern that electing just five Board members is insufficient to represent a group as large and diverse as the Guild. Also, there are likely members who would welcome the opportunity to serve on the Board, but who are not interested in chairing a Guild committee. Establishing five at-large Board positions with no committee responsibility should result in an increase in the number of members who are interested in serving on the Board. These five positions may serve for a two-year term to provide continuity to the Board.

The revisions reduce the number of Board members from 23 to 15 and should create a Board that will continue the trend of good attendance at Board meetings as well as promote more streamlined Board meetings. This proposal is consistent with other non-profit organizations that have a smaller number of Board members. The revisions propose just five committee chairs (who are appointed by the President) as members of the Board – Ways and Means, Program, Guild Projects, Community Quilts and Quilt Show. The remaining committee chairs would be required to attend Board meetings only as necessary to present reports to the Board.

Recognizing that specifics of committee responsibilities may change over time, descriptions of the 17 committees were removed. Bylaws are the framework under which the Guild operates, and details are better addressed in the Guidelines.

Three committees previously listed as Special Committees are now included in the list of

standing committees: Budget, Audit and Nominating. This recommendation reflects that these committees function annually and not on as-needed basis.

Comparison of Board and committee members, current and proposed:

Position	Current Bylaws		Proposed Revision	
	Board	Elected	Board	Elected
President	X	X	X	X
President-Elect	X	X	X	X
Secretary	X	X	X	X
Treasurer	X	X	X	X
Past President	X	X	X	X
Parliamentarian	X		X	
Ways and Means Chair	X		X	
Program Chair	X		X	
Guild Projects Chair	X		X	
Community Quilts Chair	X		X	
Quilt Show Chair	X		X	
At-large Member			X	X
At-large Member			X	X
At-large Member			X	X
At-large Member			X	X
At-large Member			X	X
Membership Chair	X			
Publicity Chair	X			
Hospitality Chair	X			
Newsletter Chair	X			
Historian Chair	X			
Library Chair	X			
Equipment Chair	X			
Member Bees Chair	X			
Mentor Chair	X			
Website Chair	X			
Workshop Chair	X			
Member News Chair	X			
Budget Chair				
Audit Chair				
Nominating Chair				
Totals	23	5	15	10