



Committees

Prior to 2013, our Bylaws listed the following required standing committees:

1. ACC
2. Homeowner Advisory
3. Covenants & Compliance
4. Bulkheads & Canals
5. Governmental Affairs
6. Elections

When the 2013 Board secretly amended our Bylaws, the line listing the requirements for the committees was removed. It was replaced by the following:

2.06 B. The Board may establish committees including an Architectural Control Committee and such others as it deems necessary.

The 5 committees were removed, likely because, other than ACC, none of them existed in 2013. In board meeting minutes going back to 2010, only the ACC is mentioned.

So now, all responsibility, for all ongoing research and recommendations, falls solely to the Board. This is a lot of work and responsibility assigned only to a few. The result being that little to nothing related to these specific issues were addressed or enacted after 2013.

Members began demanding involvement in their governance. I even wrote a letter to the Board in September 2017 formally requesting the return of the Election Committee (linked below). Other than Marvin Jones, I never even received the courtesy of acknowledging my request from any other Board Member. My request and many others were ignored.

But we refused to be ignored

The demands from the Membership continued. And in February 2017, the Canals & Waterways Committee was created.

Then, in April 2017, the Compliance Committee.

In April 2017, the Bylaw Committee.

And in June 2018, the Finance Committee.

What do we have today?

Unfortunately, little has been actually accomplished by these committees. As of today, the ONLY actionable item that has come out of any of these committees was an August 2018 recommendation for canal marker placement. A contentious situation still being dealt with.

The use of committees in our organization is vital to our long-term success. But, the PIPOA has no procedures or real experience in successfully using committees as part of our governance. I believe recent conflicts arose because of a lack of clearly defined roles and responsibilities.

So, what do we do to fix this?

If we are going to use committees, as I believe we should, we need to start with the basics. Committees need to be given clearly defined roles, responsibilities, authority and deliverables. Here is what I would like to see for EVERY PIPOA committee.

1. A Mission Statement.
2. Clearly defined tasks. These should be in writing as official requests from the Board. And should include deliverables and deadlines.
3. Committee Members should have expertise in or at least subject knowledge of the given task.
4. The Committee Members need to be given the authority to do the necessary research which might include consulting outside experts.
5. There needs to be open communication between the Committee and the Board throughout the duration of the task. This can be done using a Board liaison, written reports or both. Back and forth communication is critical.
6. A final deliverable is presented in writing to the Board and the Membership.

What is the result?

By adhering to these simple guidelines, we gain two important and necessary outcomes.

1. Our Committee Members have a clear understanding of what they are being asked to produce.
2. Our Board can successfully delegate responsibility and expect a useful and professional result.

And our PIPOA is all the stronger for it.

If elected I will ask the Board to implement these simple but important procedures.

This seat belongs to the Members. I ask you to trust me with your vote.

PIPOA Bylaws <http://padreislespoa.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/20180614123037.pdf>

Election Committee Request http://kellyforpipoa.com/assets/2017-09-25_electioncommitteepost.pdf