



Summary of the 2021 Virtual Special Meeting of the ANA Membership Assembly

The American Nurses Association (ANA) Membership Assembly held a Special Meeting virtually on Tuesday, March 23, 2021. ANA President, Ernest J. Grant, PhD, RN, FAAN, presided.

CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

ANA President Grant called the Virtual Special Meeting of the ANA Membership Assembly to order at 5:33pm ET on Tuesday, March 23, 2021. The sole purpose of this meeting was to consider proposed amendments to the ANA Bylaws noticed in the Call for Special Meeting, issued on January 20, 2021.

The proposed Standing Rules for the Conduct of the Business and the Agenda for this Special Meeting were disseminated on February 9, 2021 and were not open to alteration or expansion. Without objection, the Standing Rules and the Agenda for the Special Meeting were approved.

A quorum¹ for the transaction of business was established through the tally of 149 voting C/SNA and IMD representatives and 9 members of the ANA Board of Directors in attendance at the Special Meeting.

REPORT FROM THE ANA COMMITTEE ON BYLAWS

Patricia Travis, PhD, RN, CCRP, Chair of the ANA Committee on Bylaws (COB) reported that the proposed amendments to the ANA Bylaws, which were submitted by the ANA Board of Directors, were approved by the COB for consideration at this Special Meeting. Discussion time was allotted for each of the proposed amendments listed below.

- The first proposed amendment to Article III, Section 8. Meetings which would make it possible to hold any Membership Assembly meeting by virtual means. Special meetings will continue to be convened virtually at the discretion of the Board; however, to convene an Annual Meeting virtually, the Board must first consult with the Leadership Council. This will ensure that C/SNAs and the IMD are given an avenue to weigh in. **If this amendment is adopted, the Annual Meeting of the ANA Membership Assembly would be held by means other than a face-to-face meeting and the ANA annual elections would be held by remote voting going forward.**
- The second proposed amendment to Article VII, Section 2 (a-f) addresses the election procedures for elected officials and would allow annual elections to be held via the

¹ A quorum for transaction of business by the Membership Assembly shall consist of 50 percent of the total C/SNA and IMD representatives and three members of ANA's Board of Directors, one of whom is the ANA President or Vice President (ANA Bylaws Article III, Section 8.b).

Internet, not necessarily at the same time as the annual meeting of the Membership Assembly. Since the election will occur online and not necessarily at the same time of the Membership Assembly, and online voting might occur throughout an extended period, voters will not be necessarily present at the same time to cast their votes. Removing the term “those present” will allow to align the Bylaws with the online nature of the voting, but it raises the need to define who is eligible to vote. **If this proviso is adopted, the 2021 Annual Meeting of the ANA Membership Assembly would be held by means other than a face-to-face meeting and the ANA annual elections would be held by remote voting;** and

- The third and final proposed amendment to Article III, Section 8. Meetings which would allow for the Annual Meeting to be held virtually, and the ANA national elections to be held via Internet, in **2021** only. **If this proviso is adopted, effectiveness of Article XII, Section 1.a, would be suspended until January 1, 2022.**

VOTING PROCEDURES

ANA Chief General Counsel, Angelo Somaschini presented the instructions for voting, which is scheduled to commence immediately following the Special Meeting and run through 11:59pm ET, Sunday, March 28, 2021. Participants were reminded that only C/SNA and IMD voting representatives who registered for the Special Meeting would receive the link to vote. Organizational Affiliates Representatives would not receive the link to vote as they do not vote on matters related to the amendment of bylaws (Article II, Section 2 (d)(1), ANA Bylaws).

REMARKS FROM THE ANA PRESIDENT

ANA President Grant reminded participants to adhere to deadlines for voting and those official results would be disseminated via C/SNA Essentials and the Membership Assembly page on NursingWorld.org.

ADJOURN

President Grant adjourned the Virtual Special Meeting of the ANA Membership Assembly at 6:35pm ET on Tuesday, March 23, 2021.

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