Amendment to the ONHB Bylaws

Section 19. Quorum at Members Meetings

Section 19 of the ONHB Bylaws entitled “Quorum at Members Meetings”, requires that 10 percent of the members entitled to vote at the meeting be present to establish quorum. A member is defined in the bylaws as “all individuals who have applied and been accepted to participate in any of the eligible bands operated by the Corporation as determined by the board”, plus “all Band leaders who have been approved by the Board as conductors of any band”. The board has decided that any band that plays in the fall or winter session is an “eligible band”. The term of a member is defined to “commence upon an applicant’s acceptance as a member by the board, and shall terminate at the conclusion of the annual general meeting which next follows the conclusion of the band session(s) in which he or she is enrolled, unless previously renewed or revoked”.

According to these provisions and the board’s decisions, the bylaw admits to membership and assigns eligibility to vote at this year’s AGM to all those registered for one or more of the fall 2019, the winter 2019 or the fall 2018 sessions. This makes for a complex calculation to accurately determine the total number of members required to establish a quorum for the AGM. Additionally, as the population of ONHB members continues to fluctuate, the number of required members to establish a quorum will do as well. The board of directors believes that this requirement is excessive and adds unhelpful administrative complexity to the process of holding an AGM.

In its place, and on the advice of the Advisory Committee, the board recommends that the current rule be replaced by one that requires that twenty members be present to establish a quorum. The board considers that this prerequisite would be a sufficient number of members to conduct ONHB business, and would be administratively simple to implement.

The revised wording of section 19 would be as follows:

“A quorum at any meeting of the members (unless a greater number of members is required to be present by the Act) shall be twenty members entitled to vote at the meeting. If a quorum is present at the opening of a meeting of members, the members present may proceed with the business of the meeting even if a quorum is not present throughout the meeting. “

This bylaw amendment was recently approved by the Board and takes effect immediately (per Section 38 of the ONHB bylaws), subject to its confirmation at the next meeting of members which will be the annual general meeting scheduled for Sunday, October 27, 2019.

ONHB board of directors