

## Frequently Asked Questions — BHA's 2024 Annual Meeting Online Voting

### **When is the Annual Meeting?**

The 2024 Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 27, 2024, beginning at 9:00am. The link to join the meeting is posted on BHA's website at [www.BaldHeadAssociation.com/annual-meeting-online-voting](http://www.BaldHeadAssociation.com/annual-meeting-online-voting).

### **How can I vote before the meeting?**

BHA is using the online voting system Vote HOA Now, which is a system specifically built to conduct the online elections for homeowner associations across the country. Online proxy voting for BHA's 2024 Annual Meeting is available beginning on Wednesday, December 27, 2023, at 8:00am EST and will end on Wednesday, January 24, 2024, at :00pm EST. Members who prefer to vote via paper proxy should contact Diane Mesaris at [Diane@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:Diane@BaldHeadAssociation.com). Paper proxies must also be received by :00pm on January 24, 2024, in order to be counted.

### **What about voting on the day of the meeting?**

Voting on the day of the Annual Meeting will be via ballot using the Vote HOA Now online system and unique registration code mailed in the Annual Report package. The election on the day of the meeting will be open from 9:00am until 9:30am EST, so it is important for members to vote prior to the meeting or as soon as the meeting convenes at 9:00am EST on January 27, 2024.

### **Where do I find my unique registration code?**

Unique registration codes were placed at the bottom of the front page of the Annual Report. The Annual Report was mailed to BHA members in late-December 2023. Registration codes may only be used once. If you didn't receive your packet, contact Diane Mesaris ([Diane@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:Diane@BaldHeadAssociation.com)), and she'll email the packet and your unique code.

### **Why must I have a unique email address?**

The makeup of the property owners within BHA's service area are varied. Oftentimes owners are single individuals, spouses or siblings who jointly own their properties. A number of properties are owned by limited liability corporations. Furthermore, several hundred of our property owners own multiple properties — sometimes with the same owners and sometimes with different owners. Since each of the nearly 2,000 member properties is entitled to one vote, these varying scenarios can create difficulties in ensuring the identity of those voting online. Each registration code can only be used once and it is tied to the email address used to register to vote.

### **I own a home and two lots with my spouse. Do I have to vote three times using the online system? Should I use the paper proxy that came with my Annual Report?**

If the properties are all owned by the same owner(s), you only have to vote once. BHA has already "weighted" each of your properties for you. As an example, if Mr. and Mrs. Smith jointly own three properties, they received one unique registration code and BHA has weighted the number of votes

they're entitled to cast as three in the Vote HOA Now online voting system. As a result, Mr. or Mrs. Smith must only vote once, not three times. The confirmation page displayed at the conclusion of their voting will reflect the number of votes cast as three. If the properties are **all owned by the same owners**, they can vote using the online system or by returning the paper proxy, whichever they prefer. If they choose to vote by paper proxy, Mr. or Mrs. Smith must indicate the lot numbers of the properties they're voting on the back of their proxy and return it to BHA by 4:00pm EST on Wednesday, January 24, 2024.

**I am the managing partner of two different homes owned by two different limited liability corporations (LLC). Can I still vote online?**

If you have two different email addresses, you may. Each LLC was given a unique registration code as part of their Annual Report package. (See the front page of the Annual Reports.) When registering to vote online, each of those registration codes must be tied to unique email addresses for identification verification purposes. If you have access to unique email addresses for each of the properties, there should be no problem. However, if you do not have access to two unique email addresses, you cannot use the online voting system. While online voting systems help HOAs eliminate costs and make voting easier for owners, some requirements for ensuring the election's integrity require that owners of this ownership scenario must (at least for the time being) vote via paper proxy or ballot. A paper proxy was included in the Annual Report. If a proxy was misplaced, another can be requested from Diane Mesaris ([Diane@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:Diane@BaldHeadAssociation.com)). It is important for paper proxies to be received by 4:00pm EST on Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> in order to be counted.

**Can I vote on the day of the meeting?**

If you are attending the meeting in-person and prefer to vote that morning, there will be an opportunity as the meeting begins to request a ballot. If you intend to vote on the day of the meeting while participating electronically, you'll need to request a paper ballot from Diane ([Diane@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:Diane@BaldHeadAssociation.com)) as soon as the meeting convenes at 9:00am EST on Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup>. The ballot can be returned to BHA via fax or email. Instructions will be provided at the bottom of the ballot. Ballots must be returned to BHA by 9:30am EST that morning in order to be counted.

**How does cumulative voting work?**

Each year, there are two vacancies for the BHA Board of Directors. Members are entitled to one vote per lot or home. For the vacancies, members may cast one vote for two individual candidates, or they may cast their votes cumulatively for just one candidate. Owners of multiple properties can vote a combination of candidates. The online voting system will show the number of votes cast for each candidate. Once voting is complete, the system will provide a summary of the votes cast for each candidate, as well as the recommended Covenants and Bylaws revisions.

**What's the difference in voting for Board vacancies vs. election issues if I own multiple properties?**

Each year, two Board seats are vacated. The owner of each BHA member property gets to vote for each of those two vacant seats. For example, for a member with three properties, you're entitled to cast 6 votes for the Board vacancies, which is confirmed by the online system-generated email. For the issues, however, it's truly one vote for each property. In this example, there are 3 votes to cast as Yes or No for the three properties.

**Is my Harbour boat slip considered a property in addition to the lot I own, for voting purposes?**

Harbour boat slips are not subject to BHA's Covenants and, therefore, are not eligible for voting in BHA elections.

**Does my commercial property count in BHA elections?**

Commercial properties are not subject to BHA's Covenants and, therefore, are not eligible for voting in BHA elections.

Questions? Contact Carrie Moffett at [Carrie@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:Carrie@BaldHeadAssociation.com).