



APV Board Brief

Village Board of Directors Elections

Several of the Association of Poinciana Villages Board members have been approached with questions about the Village Board of Directors Elections. We hope this APV Board Brief will provide answers on this issue.

Are the 2016 APV Board Elections proceeding as planned?

Despite stories to the contrary, the 2016 APV Village Board Elections are proceeding as planned. Though reports about a lawsuit being filed against APV regarding the elections have emerged, APV has not been served with a lawsuit to date.

When/How was the APV Village Board of Directors Election procedures established?

The APV Village Board of Directors election procedures were established, approved and recorded by the APV Board of Directors through Resolution 1-13, which was recorded in both Polk and Osceola Counties on February 25, 2013.

How many directors serve on each Village Board?

There are five (5) Directors serving on each Village Board. They consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and a Director. Immediately upon election, the Village Board appoints its officers.

How is the APV Board representative for each Village determined?

Traditionally, the President of the Village Board represents their Village on the APV Master Board. However, the Village Board does have the option to appoint a different representative from its Board members, though that option has rarely been exercised.

Why does Village 9 hold elections in January?

Most Villages have their election on the 2nd Tuesday in February pursuant to the APV Village documents. Village 9 is the exception as they have their election the 2nd Tuesday in January. In 1977, the APV Board approved the Village elections be held on the 2nd Tuesday in February, however, Village 9's elections were not revised and remained the 2nd Tuesday in January.

How are potential candidates notified of openings to consider running for a seat on their Village Board?

Notifications are sent out in the Annual APV Community Report, printed in the Poinciana Pioneer, distributed through email blasts and posted on the APV Website (www.apvcommunity.com) with promotions on Facebook and the APV Mobile App.

Who is eligible to run for an open seat on an APV Village Board?

A potential candidate must own property and be in good standing in a Village to be eligible to run for an open seat. They must be current on their APV Assessment payment(s) and other monetary obligations against their property. In addition, candidates may not have been convicted of a felony.



How did potential candidates notify APV of their intent to run?

Eligible and interested candidates are encouraged to complete an Intent to Run form and submit that to the APV Registrar no sooner than the second Friday of September and no later than the second Friday of December along with a copy of a valid driver license or a photo ID. Once candidates have submitted this information, the vetting process begins to verify good standing in the Association of Poinciana Villages.

What could make a potential candidate ineligible to be on the ballot?

The following instances might prevent a potential candidate from appearing on the final ballot: the candidate does not own property in Poinciana, is delinquent in the payment of any fee, fine, assessment or other monetary obligation to the APV for more than (90) days, or who has been convicted of a felony.

How are potential candidates notified if they are ineligible to be on the ballot?

An ineligible candidate would receive a letter notifying him or her of their ineligible status from either the APV Registrar or the APV attorney.

Are candidates given every opportunity to update his or her record to become eligible?

Potential candidates have every opportunity to bring their account current up until the deadline for candidacy.

When was the list of APV Village Board candidates published?

The slate for the APV Village Board candidates was published in the January 2016 *Poinciana Pioneer*.

When will the final slate of candidates be published?

The final slate of APV Village Board candidates will be published the first week of February - printed in the *Poinciana Pioneer*, distributed through email blasts and posted on the APV Website, APV Facebook Page and the APV Mobile App.

Who is eligible to vote in the APV Village Board elections?

Any owner of property in Poinciana whether it's a house or a vacant lot is eligible to vote.

A property owner will get one vote per property in each Village that he or she owns property. For example, though there may be more than one individual's name on a deed, that property owner(s) will only get one vote per property. One property = one vote. If you own 10 properties, you get 10 votes, one vote per property owned. If a land or homeowner owns more than one property, he/she is eligible to vote multiple times. For example, a person that owns a home and a piece of property in Poinciana will get one vote per the home and one vote per lot for a total of two votes. If you own property in more than one Village, you are eligible to vote for a board member in each Village you own property. For example, if a person owns one piece of property in Village 1 and three properties in Village 3 and also owns two homes in Village 5, he or she gets six total votes – one vote in Village 1, three votes in Village 3 and two votes in Village 5.



What can I expect on Election Day?

Polls are open at the APV Community Center on Tuesday, February 9 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. There will be one ballot box for each Village and each Village will have its own color-coded ballot. Voters are required to bring a photo ID – either a driver’s license, passport or state ID to verify your identity, your address and the number of votes you are entitled to for each Village. Once your identity and eligibility to vote have been verified, you will receive a ballot to cast your vote.

May I give my designated vote to a proxy to vote in my place?

No. Proxy voting is prohibited per the APV Bylaws.

How will the integrity of the election process and results be ensured?

To be as transparent as possible, poll workers will go through a dry run prior to Election Day to review the process and check lists, computers and laptops will be tested to ensure accuracy and a copy of the Florida statutes will be on hand. The APV Attorney, Registrar and Community Manager will be there the entire time monitoring the process and fielding questions as needed.

The Polk and Osceola County Supervisors of Elections were invited to observe the entire process, but are unable to attend due to obligations with the national elections. In addition, invitations have also been extended to Senator Darren Soto and Representative John Cortes to observe the proceedings.

If someone makes a mistake marking their ballot and wants to change it, poll workers will have a “void” stamp so as not to appear to mark the ballot themselves with a pen.

The proceedings will be videotaped and the media will be invited to cover the APV Village Board elections.

Who counts the ballots?

Designated APV staff members count the ballots with the APV Attorney, Registrar and Community Manager observing the process. Members are welcome to observe this process. The Registrar oversees screening of the final count before certifying election results.

How will results be announced?

Results will be announced on February 9 after the polls close and ballots are counted and verified.

What if a candidate is unable to attend to hear the results on the spot?

Every candidate provided his/her phone number so they could be contacted with the results if they aren’t in attendance. The APV Community Manager and APV staff will notify all candidates of the results by telephone and they will also be notified that they must meet with their Village Board the next day to appoint officers.

Who do I contact if I have questions about the Village Board Election process?

If you have a question about facts of the Village Board Election process, contact APV Registrar, Rockell Brown at 863-427-0900, ext. #8. If you have a legal question about the Village Board Elections, contact Tom Slaten with Larsen and Associates at 863-427-0900.