ALL PORTS BULLETIN



To: All Members

From: Marshall Ainley, President

Date: May 18, 2020

Subject: Election Information

The District-wide nomination period for elected officials' positions and National M.E.B.A. Delegates begins on June 8, 2020. All nomination forms and required materials must be received at District Headquarters addressed to the Credentials Committee c/o the District President no later than the close of business on July 10, 2020.

At the July 2020 membership meetings, Credentials Committee members will be elected. No officer or candidate for office is eligible for election to this Committee. The Committee is tentatively set to meet on July 13, 2020 to review and decide on the qualifications of each nomination received and will also review all statements submitted for the special election edition of the *Marine Officer*.

For your convenience, a nomination form is available in all ports. Use of the form is not required. You may use your own form provided you meet all the requirements of the National Constitution and District No. 1-PCD, M.E.B.A. By-Laws.

A nominee must also provide sufficient employment evidence to satisfy Constitution and By-Law requirements. Unless you are or were a direct employee of the Union, the Union does not maintain your employment record. The nominee must provide copies of proof of employment. The Credentials Committee will also accept pay vouchers, U.S. Coast Guard discharge certificates, verification letters from employers and vacation vouchers to prove sufficient covered employment. The Credentials Committee will determine the adequacy and validity of your submission. Your attention is directed to Article 10, Section 8(a), as amended, of the National Constitution which states on the subject of eligibility:

"Any member shall be eligible for nomination to and election as a full-time and paid elective official of a District, provided he is at the time of nomination and election a member in good standing and (1) has been a member of the National Association or of an organization which has duly affiliated with the National Association and the District for one year immediately preceding the date of closing of nominations; (2) has either 180 days of employment, including days of vacation, employed with a company in a job covered by a collective bargaining agreement with the Union during each of any two full calendar years of the three calendar years immediately preceding the closing date of nomination or equal time served as a full-time and paid elected or appointed official of the National Association or of a District or of any organization which has duly affiliated with the National Association or equal time served in the employ or on behalf of one or more of any District's Plans."

A special election edition of the *Marine Officer* will be prepared and mailed to all members in August 2020. Nominees may submit a passport-style photograph along with a campaign statement of up to 400 words. The statement should be designed to promote, educate and inform M.E.B.A. members about a candidate's qualifications and background. In order to be printed in the *Marine Officer* election issue, each candidate's statement and/or photograph must be submitted with the nomination. Statements and/or photographs are not a requirement for nomination. Policies and platforms may be included but profanity or personal attacks on candidates for any office will not be accepted for publication.

Each port and the School will set-up an area for candidates' literature. Use of the Union's and/or the Calhoon M.E.B.A. Engineering School's photocopier and other equipment for reproduction of campaign material is prohibited. Indeed, Union, Plans and employer assets, including funds, equipment and property may not be used to promote the candidacy of any candidate.

The information presented in this communication is not intended to be a complete, all inclusive memorandum on the issue of nominations and elections to District offices and jobs. All members interested in running for a position are urged to review the National Constitution and District By-Laws. All ports should have a copy of these documents, but both are available on M.E.B.A.'s website located at www.mebaunion.org

The impartial election administrator will mail out ballots on September 1, 2020. The Union urges all members to make sure Headquarters, not just Plans, has your correct address so that you receive your ballot. Address corrections should be in writing and can be sent to Headquarters by mail or faxed to (202) 638-5369. If you prefer to send them in electronically, please address your information to membership@mebaunion.org or fill out the Change of Address form on the M.E.B.A. website. Members should know that the M.E.B.A. Plans office in Baltimore and the Headquarters databases are NOT linked and information updated with Plans will not be represented on the Headquarters mailing list if HQ hasn't been informed of the address change.

The balloting period closes on November 30, 2020 – and ballots must be returned to the designated depository by that day. The ballot tabulation will take place on December 7, 2020.

In order for your ballot to count, you must be in good standing by November 15, 2020, with dues paid in accordance with the M.E.B.A. By-Laws, through the end of the quarter where applicable. All members and potential nominees are urged to pay their dues to the end of 2020 (or beyond) as soon as possible.