

Due to posts being made on Next Door that state the MRTNA does not operate under the Democratic process, I would like to share the following with our residents.

-Steve Stahl, Member MRTNA

**Blue copy is added by MRTNA. Black and Red copy are quotes from Robert's Rules of Order.**

There are posts made on NEXT DOOR that claim the **Official, City Recognized MRTNA has not followed the Democratic Process pertaining to election of its officers.** Also, a member has not lived up to the conditions of being a member (Re: B. Responsibilities, Item 5) (The following is a copy from the latest version of Robert's Rules of Order pertaining to the participation of **Members**. Which in MRTNA's case - paid membership as outlined in the MRTNA ByLaws. **A non-member requested that a person be nominated for President of the Association in the last election and the nomination was not allowed. However if the other paid member of the family or any other member had nominated the individual it would have been allowed.**

#### Membership – Privileges and Responsibilities

No organization can exist without members. The qualifications for membership, which are determined by the organization, should be clearly stated in its governing rules (charter, constitution and/or bylaws). Some organizations define in their governing documents different classes of membership, not all of which include full participation in the proceedings of the organization; however, **the term "member" in this handbook refers to a person who has full participating rights.** When one joins an organization, one enters into a "contract of membership" with the organization. Should the member feel that change is necessary, it should be brought about by **working fairly through the proper channels** within the current rules. Membership carries with it responsibilities as well as privileges, and where these are peculiar to the organization, they should be defined in its bylaws. However, it is neither necessary nor advisable to encumber bylaws with a list of privileges and responsibilities that are common to members of all organizations. Such a list of generally accepted privileges and responsibilities of membership should include, but should not be limited necessarily to, the following:

##### A. Privileges

1. To attend meetings.

**(Note: MRTNA requests ALL RESIDENTS of Middle River Terrace to attend meetings, raise concerns and bring forward any topic they wish the Association to consider addressing and enter into debate on issues)**

2. Enter into debate.

3. **To vote.**

4. **To nominate** when appropriate.

Being nominated to office does not within itself put a person in office. Nominees must be elected. To be elected to office involves **member voting**. The usual methods of voting following the closing of nominations are voice and ballot.

5. To be a candidate for office when requested.

6. To insist on the enforcement of the rules of the organization and of parliamentary law based on *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, or other adopted authority.

**(Note: MRTNA ByLaws only specify use of Roberts Rules of Order to guide the Association in matters that are being contested or not covered by the ByLaws.)**

7. To review official records of the organization, including the most recent governing document and the minutes of previous meetings.

**B. Responsibilities**

1. To promote the object and purposes of the organization.
2. To comply with and uphold the organization's governing rules.
3. To attend meetings regularly and punctually.
4. To give one's undivided attention to the business as well as the program of the meeting.
- 5. To abstain from acts or remarks outside the meetings that will in any way interfere with the work of the organization and/or its officers.**
6. To hold office when requested.
7. To perform conscientiously any duty assigned and accepted in the organization.