

Annual Report of Chevy Chase Village Elections Supervisors – 2014-15

1. Since our last Annual Meeting, the Elections Committee carried out formal elections in May 2014, in which three board members were elected.
2. A number of formal changes to the Chevy Chase Village elections process were proposed this past year, as a result of review of the existing Board elections procedures and the Charter by the Village Counsel, Manager and Elections Committee. Last fall's formal amendment to the Charter included introduction of the Certificate of Candidacy to formalize an individual's declaration, while maintaining the financial disclosure requirements, and also laid out procedures for contested elections (where the number of candidates exceeds the number of available seats), ended nominations from the floor at the Annual Meeting and changed the Elections Committee to the Election Supervisors. By reestablishing the committee as the Election Supervisors, the Board delegated full authority and final decision-making pertaining to elections.
3. The re-chartered Elections Supervisors were: Charlotte Jones Carroll, Norm Asher, Robert Broeksmit, Minh Le and Mary Sheehan.
4. This January, as was traditionally done, we confirmed the number of Board terms that were expiring – this year there were four -- and, during February and March, notified Village residents of the vacancies and the requirements to become candidates. Working with the Village Manager, we reminded incumbents and new candidates of the steps needed to declare candidacy and the deadlines for those steps.
5. As of the deadline of April 2, there were four candidates for the four vacancies: Gary Crockett, Richard Ruda and David Winstead, all incumbents who propose to run again, and Minh Le, a new candidate. Pat Baptiste has decided to step down after several terms of service. All submitted their required certificates of candidacy and financial disclosure statements by the April 2 deadline, which were subsequently reviewed by the Village Ethics Commissioners. Because the number of candidates and vacancies are equal, there will be no need for elections in May.
6. Minh Le, one of the candidates, had been serving as an Elections Supervisor. Upon seeing that no other candidate stepped forward to run for the fourth vacancy, Minh formally submitted her resignation as an Elections Supervisor and declared her candidacy for the Board. We will thus be requesting that the Board name a new Elections Supervisor to replace her, and we thank her for her four years of service. We also thank Irwin Pernick, who served from the founding of the Elections Committee until last fall.
7. In line with the new procedures approved last fall in the Charter amendment, given that there are four candidates for four available positions on the Board of Managers, the Elections Supervisors hereby declare these four candidates elected: Gary Crockett, Minh Le, Richard Ruda and David Winstead.