Proposed amendments to the OPEIU Local 407 Constitution and By-Laws

In order to better serve our membership, I am proposing the following amendments to our Constitution and By-Laws. Given that we are a very diverse group, with members working various schedules and locations, it is impossible for all of our members to have access to an “in-person” meeting at any given time. With this said, the changes listed will allow us to include electronic means of balloting for important matters, which will increase member participation in these important decisions.

- Change to Article IX – Elections Section 3
- Change to Article XII – Finances Section 4
- Change to ARTICLE XXV – Amendments Section 3

I would like to present these proposals at our next meeting to provide for a vote at the following meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ George Evans

George Evans
President
OPEIU Local 407
Article IX – Elections

Current Language:

Section 3. The nominations shall be declared open at the special membership meeting to be held in the month of July 2014, and every three (3) year(s) thereafter. Such Nominations may be conducted electronically. All persons nominated shall indicate their acceptance or declination:

1. Verbally if present at the meeting, otherwise
2. In writing within five (5) days after such nomination. Notice of Nominations shall be given to all members in good standing not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the date of such meeting.
3. Nominees can only run for one position. Persons nominated for more than one office must declare the position they wish to hold.

Proposed Language:

Section 3. The nominations shall be declared at a special membership meeting to be held in the month of July 2014, and every three (3) year(s) thereafter. Nominations may be either at this meeting or be made in writing as instructed in the Notice of Nominations within the (15) fifteen days prior to this special meeting, and must specify the office for which the individual is being nominated. In order for a nomination for a particular office to be valid, an individual must be nominated by at least two active members (as defined in the Local 407 Constitution and Bylaws) other than themselves for a particular office. Individuals cannot nominate themselves for any position. Nominations must be returned by the time and/or date specified in the notice of nominations in order to be considered.

- All persons validly nominated shall indicate their acceptance or declination verbally, if present at the meeting, or in writing within (5) five days after such meeting.
- If no response is received within this time frame, the nomination will be considered declined.
- No member may accept the nomination for more than one office in an election. If an individual accepts his or her nomination for more than one office, said individual shall be deemed to have declined all nominations.

Notice of Nominations shall be given to all members in good standing not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the date of such meeting to their last known address.
ARTICLE XII – Finances

Current Language:

Section 4. DUES INCREASES

All proposals for changes in dues must be presented to the Executive Board. If the Executive Board approves such a change of dues, the motion shall be incorporated in its minutes to be read to the next membership meeting. There can be no vote or discussion on the subject of dues change at that meeting, but the motion shall be held over until the succeeding membership meeting. The meeting notice, which shall be sent to all members in good standing within fifteen (15) days of the succeeding meeting, shall contain a statement informing the members of the nature of the proposal and that a vote will be taken at that membership meeting. A majority vote, by secret ballot, shall be required to adopt the dues change.

Proposed Language:

Section 4. DUES INCREASES

All proposals for increases of dues must be presented to the Executive Board. If the Executive Board approves of such increase of dues, the motion shall be incorporated in its minutes to be read to the next membership meeting. There can be no vote or discussion on the subject of the dues increase at that meeting, but the motion shall be held over until the succeeding membership meeting. The meeting notice for the succeeding meeting shall be sent to all members in good standing within fifteen (15) days of the succeeding meeting and shall contain a statement informing the members of the nature of the proposal and that a vote will be taken by secret ballot following that meeting. A plurality of voting members shall be required to adopt the dues change.
ARTICLE XXV – Amendments

Current Language:

Section 3. The meeting notice for the succeeding meeting shall contain a statement informing the members of the nature of the proposed amendment and that a vote will be taken at said meeting. A vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the eligible members voting on such matters under the Local Union's Constitution shall be required to constitute acceptance of the proposed amendment to this Constitution except as provided in Article XII, Section 4 (a), supra

Proposed Language:

Section 3. The proposed amendments shall be submitted to the membership for a vote. Prior to the vote, the text of the amendment(s) and a statement informing the members of the nature of the proposed amendment(s) shall be sent to all members in good standing. A vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the eligible members voting on such matters under the Local Union's Constitution shall be required to constitute acceptance of the proposed amendment to this Constitution and Bylaws except as provided in Article XII, Section 4 (a), supra