

-OPtHA Minutes of November 4, 2014


The meeting was held at Ebner's Meats, Canby, OR and called to order at 7pm by President Tina Bell. Members present were Kathy Thomas, Tina Bell, Ann Ebner, Ken Waite, Debbie Waite, Anne Monteith, Jessica Kimball, Kathy Howe Drysdale, Debbie Bohannon, Alison Foster, Theresa Peltier, Maridi Pletcher, Celie Anderson, Maureen Wiese, Noel; Nelson, and Kerry McCarthy. Guests present were: Robin Binkerd, Lisa McCarthy, Michael McCarthy, Pat Berger and Rose Berger.

The minutes were read. Jessica Kimball moved to accept them as read, Celie Anderson seconded, motion passed

Communications: Tina Bell read a letter which is printed here as written:

To the OPtHA board of directors:

I intend to resign the position of past president director immediately, effective as I am sworn in as the 2015 first vice president.

  
Tina Bell

Teresa Peltier read a letter which is printed here as written:

OPtHA General Meeting November 2014

Hello, my name is Theresa Peltier, I currently serve on the 2014 OPtHA board of directors. Recently I noticed a possible error that was made during the election of our 2015 officers. Given the history of the OPtHA as being unapproachable on most subjects that present any sort of dispute, I decided to research the possible error before presenting it to the outgoing and incoming presidents. I researched and found that the possibility of an error should be brought up for discussion. This was not only my conclusion, but also the conclusion of many other members and officers of the OPtHA who had begun to contact me in regards to the same issue. I immediately contacted the current President at the time who was still Tina Bell, as well as the incoming president Kathy Thomas. The discussion that took place with Tina Bell was (with all due respect) not fruitful. I requested that she call a special meeting to order for us to have discussion surrounding the proposed error. She declined to do such and indicated she had no intention to seek discussion on this because "she had no intent to attempt to correct the proposed error". At this time I contacted PtHA President Wendy Davidson to seek guidance on this; she said she would talk with Tina Bell in an attempt to have her correct the proposed error. After I was informed that the contact had been made, I again tried to talk to Tina, and

again was not able to get her to agree to call a special meeting to order. I then with the support of other members attempted to call a special meeting to order. The intent of the meeting was solely to bring the proposed error to the attention of the officers and board of the OPtHA in an attempt to seek resolution prior to the installation of the new 2015 OPtHA President in November. The attempt to bring the meeting to order was drawn back due to lack of participation by the Officers, and or board. Some of which we hadn't even had a chance to notify by the time we drew back the attempt of holding the meeting. It would make no sense to have discussion where both opinions would not be involved. The meeting was also withdrawn due to the fact that we did not want to upset Kathy Thomas and have her feel as though we were stepping on her toes. At that time we were not looking at her as the current president, since they bylaws state she is not installed until November. It was merely an attempt to gain organized discussion of an issue of importance so that it could be addressed in a timely fashion.

\*\*\* Personally, I would like to publicly state that I "have no ill will towards Kathy Thomas. Nor do I have any underlying intent to "de throne her". I feel she will make a wonderful president and look forward to her taking office. I also was not even on the ballot as a candidate for any position, nor do I want to be, and I am not seeking any sort of personal gain out of this. "The only thing I am seeking is a standard of fairness and equality to the OPtHA membership.

I hope this has cleared the air a little on some of the questions that you may have.

#### Now I would like to address the proposed error.

\*Tina Bell has served as the OPtHA president for the past 2 years

\*Tina Bell will now hold the EXECUTIVE OFFICE position of the OUTGOING PRESIDENT FOR 1 YEAR. No one else can hold this office during this time except for her. She will still retain her vote.

\* Tina Bell was also elected as our new 1<sup>st</sup> VICE PRESIDENT which puts her in a position holding 2 OFFICES and 2 VOTES at the same time.

\* This also could possibly put Tina into serving a 3<sup>rd</sup> term as president if the president had to step down for some reason. Serving the 3<sup>rd</sup> term would be a violation of our clubs bylaws.

\* Having 1 person hold 2 offices seems unjust especially when there were other candidates on the ballot willing to fulfill the position.

\* Having 1 person hold 2 offices hinders the use of a quorum because of one person holding 2 votes.

\*I have presented the copies of Roberts Rules that aides in discussion pertaining to the topic of 1 person being elected into 2 offices. My question to the Outgoing President is this:

Do you plan on maintaining both positions, or are you going to step down as the vice president?

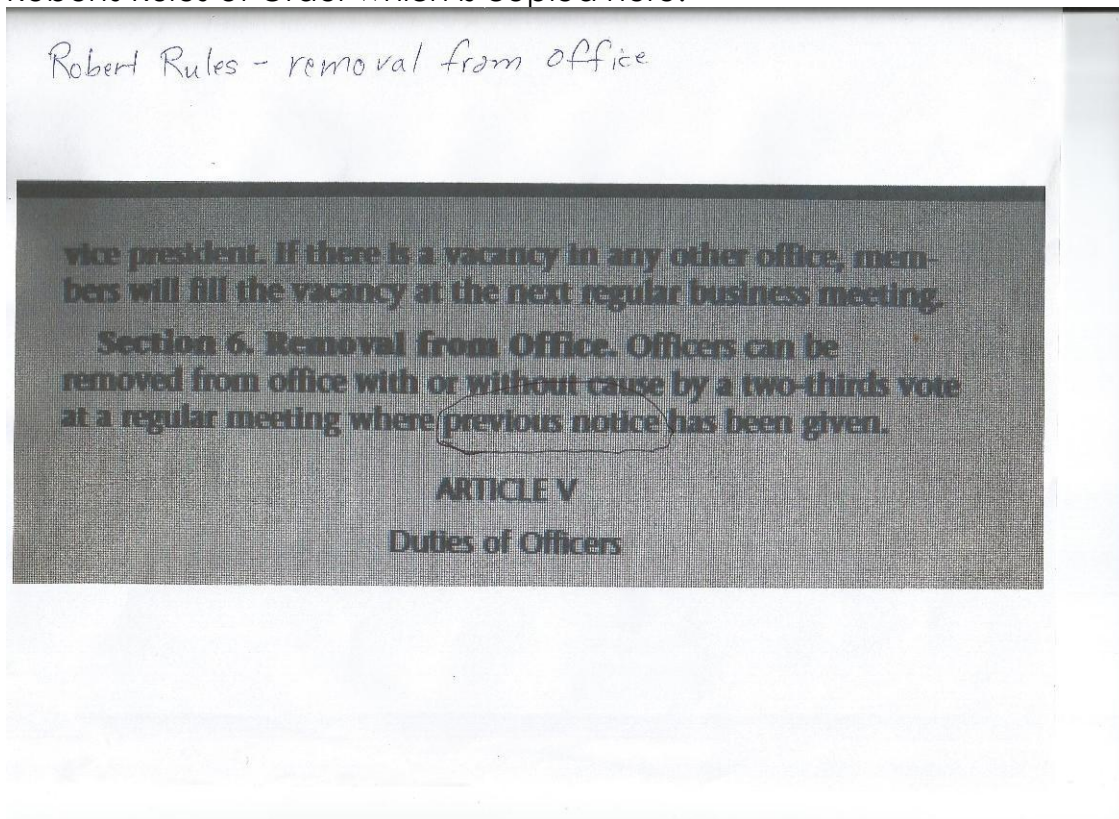
If you choose to step down and offer the position to another member willing to fulfill the position, then I thank you. I feel you have the best interest of the club and it's equality to the membership at hand.

If you choose not to step down, then I would like to ask for what purpose do you feel it would be better for the club for you to maintain two offices instead of including another member.

- It should be noted that having Tina step down from the position of the outgoing president and maintaining the 1<sup>st</sup> vice president position is not an option.
- A person cannot step down from an appointed position, especially one that is unavailable to any other person to hold.

In the discussion that followed, Maureen Wiese made the point that both Tina and Kathy Thomas had been elected by a large majority of the members, most of whom were not at the meeting to defend their choices.

Theresa Peltier made a motion to remove Tina Bell as first VP, Ann Ebner seconded. In the discussion that followed Ann Ebner read a portion of Roberts Rules of Order which is copied here:



In the discussion it was pointed out that the OPtHA bylaws do not have a procedure for removal of officers other than for dereliction of duty, copied here from the bylaws as seen on the website:

The membership may, by two-thirds vote of members at a regular meeting, declare vacant the position of any elected officer who has been absent from three consecutive meetings without a legitimate excuse, providing the officer has been notified seven days in advance of the proposed action.

Members felt that the Roberts Rules of Order would be our guide as this specific instance not covered in the OPtHA bylaws.

Theresa Pelier's motion to remove Tina Bell was set aside to be acted upon when proper notice has been given. It was pointed out that notice could be given at the January meeting to be followed by a vote taken at the banquet in February as the most members would be in attendance.

Treasurer's report: \$29,430 in Checking with an outstanding check for \$9,300 for the fairgrounds pending. Savings has \$4626 in the account. There is an nfs check from the October show in the amount of \$100. The maker has been contacted and will make the check good. Motion to accept treasurer's report by Ann Ebner, seconded by Celie Anderson. Motion passed.

Committee reports:

By-laws: Nothing to discuss

Royalty: Kathy Thomas reported that Klair Thomas is willing to continue as Princess and that the sweetheart Princesses will be Brooklyn and Marissa Ervin. Celie motioned to accept and Jessica seconded. Motion passed.

Show Committee: Discussion of monies available tabled until December meeting.

Banquet: Theresa Peltier presented several dates the best of which puts us on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at her Golf facility in Albany.

Old Business: The 2015 officers were sworn in by Maridi Pletcher.

New Business: Mandy Lopes asked for a PO Box to be established in Molalla, Celie motioned to do so and Theresa Peltier seconded.

There being no suggestions for the good of the order, the meeting adjourned at 9:11

Respectfully submitted, Maridi Pletcher, Secretary