

Have you received all the letters and reports listed below that were delivered to your home or sent via your email? They each have been posted at the bottom of the Homepage of the neighborhoods website: <https://www.silverspringscommunity.com/> Do you need a copy?

**The “Homeowners Reclaiming Their Neighborhood Group” wants you to know  
THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A BALLOT AND A PROXY**

The long preferred and used method of voting has been to use a **ballot**. The proper ballot is a document that is used for actually allowing a Member to cast their choices for a specific candidate(s) from the list on the ballot. A ballot can also list “for” and against” checkboxes for other matters that are to be put to a vote. Ballots provide a true representation of what each Member selects.

A **proxy**, also known as a “blank check” is a document, provided by the trustees, then signed by the Member, that gives the third party authorization to cast the Member’s vote and otherwise act on behalf of the absent Member at the HOA meeting, it also facilitates the requisite quorum. There usually are not included given preferences for selection of specific trustees or for acceptance of specific Board business. So a proxy allows a Member’s vote to be cast by a trustee if the Member cannot attend the meeting in person, however, the Members personal choices are not represented with a proxy. The choices of the board will receive the votes. That is how a wholesale give away of Owners rights has been achieved by the HOA.

There are also proxies that do provide the Member a choice of candidates and business they prefer. The completed proxy can then be given to another Member to simply deliver it to the HOA meeting. This kind of proxy can be written out, dated and signed by the Member.

You may have noticed that the SSSFHOA trustees are using online proxies with a drop-down box list allowing Members to select which trustee is to represent the Member’s vote. You may have noticed that the HOA board has become increasingly keen in contacting Members in the weeks before a meeting to solicit proxies to ensure that a computer-generated quorum is assimilated and that the proposed candidates and documents advanced by the Trustees receive the adequate number of votes to pass the Trustees agenda items and choice of candidates.

**THIS TRANSFER OF YOUR CHOICES BY PROXY TO THE BOARD CAN BE USED TO PASS THE SPECIOUS AND LITIGIOUS DRAFT CCRS WITH THEIR FOCUS ON THE UNDERDRAINS. DO NOT EVER GIVE UP YOUR RIGHTS TO CHOOSE OUR NEIGHBORHOOD’S FUTURE TO THE BOARD OR ANY PERSON IN SYMPATHY WITH THE TRUSTEES OR THEIR AGENDA IF IT IS DIFFERENT FROM YOURS.**

The preferred method of voting is to use a ballot that is truly representative of the choices of the individual Members individually and collectively, and without malice of forethought to pass items you disagree with.

\* \* \* \*

The HOA Bylaws stipulate the **Annual Meeting is to be on the second Tuesday of October. The second Tuesday of October is October 9, 2018 at 7PM at Parleys Park Elementary School.** On this date four of the seven trustee terms in office expire. (Robertshaw, Reynolds, Reddy (for Dittmer), Noland (for Evans)).

The board discussed at the March 2018 meeting that “the board will be electing the new trustees”, likely by means of the proxies they expect to receive from the Members. This year’s

board election first instructions prefer a proxy be delivered from the Homeowners to the trustees, instead of creating actual ballots. These instructions were disputed at the Oct. 2, 2018 meeting. The board may rethink how they conduct the election and proxies.

The board is also playing with their term expiration date by extending the Annual Meeting to October 25<sup>th</sup> and beyond. At the meeting on October 2nd, while discussing how the CCR review process will work there was much talk about reviewing and voting on several occasions in what the attorney called "spring boarding off the October 25th meeting for 30 days, then 60 days or even 90 days." By this process the current board presumes to extend the termination date of their expired terms. Cheeky at best.

As Richard Callahan wrote: "The newest draft CCRs transfers power wholesale from the Association Membership to the sole discretion of the Board of Trustees. No checks and balances are included in this draft."

### **September & October 2018 Letters to SSSF Homeowners:**

[-1 of 3 – WE HAVE A SERIOUS DECISION TO MAKE](#)

<https://www.silverspringscommunity.com/wp-content/uploads/1-of-3-We-have-a-Serious-Decision-2018-09-19-1-.pdf>

[-2 of 3 – HOMEOWNERS HOA OR BOARDS' OR NO HOA](#)

<https://www.silverspringscommunity.com/wp-content/uploads/2of3-HomeownersAssociation-or-theBoardsAssociationorNoAssociation-2018-1.pdf>

[-3 of 3 – OPTING OUT OF OUR HOA](#)

<https://www.silverspringscommunity.com/wp-content/uploads/HOA-dissolution-opt-out-of-HOA-9-2018-.pdf>

[-4 of 4 – CALLAHAN LOOK AT RICHARDS LAW DRAFT CCRs](#)

<https://www.silverspringscommunity.com/wp-content/uploads/RichardCallahan-LA-reject-CCR-10-2018.pdf>

[-5 of 5 – WHAT YOU MISSED AT THE 10/2/2018 TOWN HALL MEETING](#)

<https://www.silverspringscommunity.com/wp-content/uploads/2018-10-02-Town-Hall-JohnRichards-off-the-mark.pdf>

[-6 of 6 – FOLLY OF DISCHARGING GROUND WATER WITH UNDERDRAINS](#)

<https://www.silverspringscommunity.com/wp-content/uploads/SAVE-OUR-NEIGHBORHOOD-GROUND-WATER-10-2018.pdf>

[-7 of 7 – HOW THE HOA DISSOLUTION WILL BE CONDUCTED](#)

<https://www.silverspringscommunity.com/wp-content/uploads/HOW-THE-HOA-DISSOLUTION-WILL-BE-CONDUCTED-2018-10-5.pdf>

[--8 of 8 –THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A BALLOT AND A PROXY](#)

<https://www.silverspringscommunity.com/wp-content/uploads/8of-8-HOA-Ballot-proxy-difference-2.pdf>