

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

4/5/2019

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION CHANGE:

The Membership Committee also recommends changing to the AAEA Constitution for Retired Membership (Article III, Section 1 (F)). We believe this change more accurately reflects the segment of our membership, removes arbitrary qualifications like age, and allows them the same rights as other dues-paying membership categories.

It is common for our members to retire from their long-term career and pick up freelance work in communications. In this case, we would classify under the FREELANCER rate in their membership category (partner, editorial, affiliate). Similarly, members who truly retire from communications work but still want to invest into the association with membership in the Retired category should be allowed to have the same voting rights and privileges as the categories who pay dues.

Note that the current constitutional language states: *Retired membership shall be available to either editorial, associate or partner members who are retiring and are at least 62 years of age. Retired members can attend meetings of the association and participate in discussions, but they have no vote in Association business matters.*

The proposed constitutional change states: *Retired membership shall be available to editorial, associate or partner members who are no longer receiving income for communications work. Retired members who pay dues are eligible to participate and vote on Association matters.*

NOTE: *This recommendation as approved by the AAEA Board of Directors in the April 5 video conference call. There was a quorum present.*