



KINNEY MANAGEMENT SERVICES

January 31, 2017

TO: Cottonwood Square and Commons Members

RE: 2017 Election of Directors

The Association held its Annual Meeting of the Members on January 18th. This year's election of Directors presented six candidates vying for two available Board positions. In a contested election—meaning that the number of candidates exceeds the number of open Board positions—there is a process that must be followed after the Annual Meeting has concluded in order to authenticate and verify the results of the election. Although votes are counted at the meeting and preliminary results may be announced, that is just the first step in the process which involves both verifying that the persons who voted had the right to do so and verification of the vote itself.

As many of you know, especially resident Owners, this year's election was very spirited and an unusually high number of Members participated in the election process and attended the meeting. Fifty-three absentee ballots were received by the Association in advance of the meeting and an additional seventeen ballots were voted by meeting ballots by Members who had not previously voted by absentee ballot. All materials used for the meeting and election were preserved, reviewed and examined at our offices by multiple persons, multiple times, to ensure the accuracy of the vote count. Each of these several vote counts resulted in the identical result, which did not correlate with the preliminary outcome announced at the meeting.

So we can now announce with certainty the results of the election. Elected to the Board of Directors, based on the final tally, each for a two-year term, are Paula White and Tony Bianco.

It is not uncommon for a post-meeting election audit to reveal a different outcome than what was announced at the end of the meeting, particularly when the ballot count is close. It can be difficult in the meeting environment to reliably count ballots, often with the assistance of homeowner volunteers, when the members are waiting and there is pressure to quickly come out with a result. That is why the post-meeting election certification, which has now been concluded, is so important and necessary.