

Opinion

The Value of a Board Member's Vote

In 2003:

Candidates for the mutual boards would combine their efforts, since the cost of printing flyers and then hand delivering them could exceed \$1,000 for one flyer. As a result, candidates with like ideas would combine their efforts, and 2-4 candidates could cut their costs in half.

It was not unusual to include a 1/4 page ad in "The Globe" with this combined money to help get exposure within the community.

Contributions to cover election costs were either from the candidates themselves or a few members who felt the need to support the ideas of those candidates.

Being elected provided the candidate with the opportunity to put in a 40 hour week of volunteer effort, and the self gratification that the mutual would be provided with the "**Oversight and Control**" that is expected of a conscientious candidate.

In 2011:

Times changed! Would it surprise anyone if \$40,000 was an estimated cost spent by a group of candidates vying for 4 seats on the Third Mutual Board?

Would you believe that being elected would provide that great a sense of com-

munity to an elected director to justify such an outrageous expense?

How do a few flyers equate to a \$40,000 expense? Technology has provided that opportunity in areas such as:

Globe full page ad; Weekly Globe ad; Direct Postal Mailing; TV Production spots on Media 55 cable network; Candidate Parties; etc.

It appears that **SOMEONE** must value the vote of a Director over and above what was expected in the past. "**Oversight and control**" seem to have gone by the way side and something else has overtaken that priority expecting something in return. What could that something be?

Who else has a vested interest in the Mutuals other than the Managing Agent? Certainly there are Real Estate companies who have interests, Agent Owners (Associa), and many 3rd party vendors who are recipients of work that is contracted out by our managing agent.

The possibility that a Directors vote can be readily influenced by any money is a scary thought. Is this the new ethics for an HOA Director?

Those Directors involved in that campaign must provide full exposure of the source of these funds and expenses.

Residents Voice
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