

From: Ernesto Cuesta/CIV/CSC
To: CPSA Members
Date: 03/08/2010 11:37 PM
Subject: CPSA Elections and Other Matters

Dear CPSA Members:

You will notice that in the CPSA election ballot that has been distributed for the next attempt at holding CPSA elections, my name has been withheld from the list of candidates for Society Directors, in spite of my request to be included as a candidate. **The reason for that omission is that the current Board of Directors has summarily expelled me from the Society without specific cause for doing so and without following the expulsion process stipulated in the Society Bylaws.**

They incorrectly figured that expelling me from the Society was an expeditious way of silencing my multiple complaints about Society operations, including the undemocratic way of conducting Society elections which I protested when they were held over three years ago--to no avail--and protested again when the same approach was taken to conduct the elections this past year. That last complaint resulted in the cancellation of last year's election and the concoction of the current new scheme to conduct equally undemocratic elections geared to restrict control of the Society to Florida Dade County resident members in perpetuity. It seems that the current Board of Directors has not yet realized that current membership from the Miami-Dade County area is less than 30% of the total Society membership and totally out of line with the more than 54% representation they are demanding on the Board.

Moreover, there is absolutely no stipulation in the Society Bylaws restricting the residency of **Society Directors** to Miami-Dade County in Florida or to any other specific location whatsoever. The only residency requirement in the current Bylaws applies to five office holders, elected by the Board of Directors **after** the Board itself is elected. The only five office holders for which the current Bylaws specify residency requirements are the Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary and a Vice-Treasurer and Vice-Secretary. The residency restriction on the Vice-President is a remnant from the initial Bylaws that also called for the President to be a resident of Dade County. That residency restriction on the Presidency was lifted when the Bylaws were modified several years ago. At that time the residency requirement on the position of Vice-President should also have been logically lifted to match the lifting of the residency requirement on the President. The offices of Vice-Secretary and Vice-Treasurer are positions that the Society has never appointed in almost 40 years of existence. Therefore, the only residency requirements from our current Bylaws that really apply correspond to the Treasurer and Secretary--any other restrictions imposed on the current elections are the result of manipulation of the Society's Bylaws to retain control of the Society in the Miami-Dade County area by the current Board without the approval of the Society membership at large.

You will also note that in both the President's message regarding the new elections included on page 4 of the last issue of the Cuban Philatelist, and in the current election ballot there are references to the Society Bylaws. I bring to your attention the fact that since the Society's Website was taken away from me in October 2009 by the current Board, the Society Bylaws were never reposted in the new Society Website and conveniently remain unposted. Additionally, on March 5, the Society membership list in the Society Website, previously accessible to all Society members, was also removed from the Website to thwart communications between members about the impending elections.

Attached is the letter I received from the President of the Society, Fernando Iglesias, informing me that the Board of Directors of the Society had voted to expel me from the Society based on some charges fabricated at a local Miami meeting of the Society.

[2010-01-18--Letter-of-Expulsion-from-the-CPSA](#)

Also attached is an e-mail message sent by Society member, Robert Littrell, to Mr. Iglesias, indicating that my expulsion was not valid because the Society's Board of Directors had not followed the expulsion procedure set forth in the Society Bylaws. Mr. Littrell is a retired lawyer. To date, he has received no response whatsoever to his message dated 11 February 2010.

[2010-02-11--Re-Expulsion-of-Ernesto-Cuesta](#)

In view of the incompetence of the current Society Officers and Board, as manifested in their two bungled election attempts, their failure to answer my repeated complaints and those of other members, and my illegal expulsion from the Society, I have decided to form a new Society, the **International Cuban Philatelic Society (ICPS)**, that will be efficiently managed, be more responsive to its membership, and treat all members equally regardless of their place of residence.

Thus, instead of voting in the proposed rigged CPSA elections, **I urge you to vote with your feet**, leaving the old provincial CPSA to the designs of the Miami group that has basically hijacked the Society, to join a more open and democratic Society operating for the benefit of all of its members: the **International Cuban Philatelic Society**.

You can view the new Society's Bylaws and find a membership application form at the new Society's Website (<http://www.philat.com/ICPS>).

I am looking forward to welcoming you into the **ICPS** where we can all work together to promote Cuban philately in a more friendly environment.

Sincerely,
Ernesto Cuesta

P.S. I also invite you to review an additional list of my complaints against the CPSA (<http://www.philat.com/FILACUBA/blacklist.html>)

P.D. Si usted desea recibir un resumen de este mensaje en español, déjemelo saber.