

Chautauqua Property Owners Association

The Chautauqua Property Owners Association (CPOA) represents all owners of property within the Chautauqua Institution. Property ownership provides the opportunity to be a dues paying member of the CPOA. This Association functions as liaison among the homeowner, the administration, and the Board of Trustees. The CPOA provides a means for discussing property owners' concerns and seeks constructive solutions in partnership with the Institution in regard to property ownership issues which arise from time to time.

For the purpose of CPOA representation, the Institution is divided into geographic areas. Each area has an area representative to answer property owner questions and to channel concerns or problems in the appropriate direction. The area representatives, as well as officers of the CPOA, that serve on the Executive Committee. The kiosk in front of the Hultquist Center has a listing of current officers and representatives. The Executive Committee meets 5 times during the season at 8:30 a.m. in the Wendt Board Room of the Colonnade. The CPOA holds two general meetings, one in July and another in August on Saturday mornings in the Hall of Philosophy. The Saturday morning general meeting in August is followed by the meeting of the Corporation. The dates and times of the meetings are pre-announced in the Chautauquan Daily newspaper.

All Chautauqua property owners are members of the Corporation. In 1902 Chautauqua was chartered as a corporation by the State of New York. A law passed by the State Assembly defined the corporation's objectives and purposes, and established its "powers and government." Members of the corporation include all property owners and other persons elected by the trustees. The charter establishes two types of trustees, Class A and Class B. Class A trustees (20) are chosen by the board based on the recommendations of the Nominating Committee of the Board of Trustees. Class B trustees (4) are placed into nomination by the CPOA at the August meeting of the Corporation. At that time, nominations are taken from the floor followed by the vote of the Corporation.

According to the charter, one member of the property may cast a vote.

Both Class A and Class B trustees are nominated based on character, abilities, associations within the Chautauqua community, demonstration of commitment to the vision of Chautauqua and the ability to think strategically. The Class A and Class B distinction is relevant only in terms of the process of selection. Once a Board member, all trustees are equal. Trustees are elected to a four-year term, and may serve two consecutive terms.

The Executive Committee of the CPOA invites all Chautauquans to participate in the organization. If you are interested in active involvement, please contact your area representative.

-The Executive Committee of the CPOA