

Port Ludlow Village Council now seated

Elections final for North Bay, South Bay

By Patrick J. Sullivan
Leader Staff Writer

Ballots were counted Tuesday that named 10 people to the new Port Ludlow Village Council. By Oct. 1, the Village Council will officially replace the Council of Ludlow Owners Association (CLOA) as the "united voice" of Port Ludlow.

"We're going ahead with the positive idea that [the Village Council] is going to be a success," said Sally Smith, who has been CLOA chairwoman for three years, and previously served as a board member for two years. She believes the Village Council is the best move for Port Ludlow's future.

"In a year we hope to go to a community-wide election, and then it really becomes democratic representation," Smith said. "Hopefully by then we can heal a lot of the wounds that have been created, and we can be one community."

North Bay had nine registered candidates plus one write-in, for six positions. Elected to one-year terms were: Gene Carmody, David Graham, Frank Siler, Dick Swindler, Dick Ullmann, and Della Witt.

South Bay had 10 candidates

for the four slots. Elected were Bob Force, Carol Saber, Sally Smith and Connie Wilkinson.

Village Council membership is intended to represent the composition of the community's population, which is why the more populous North Bay has two more council seats than South Bay.

All Port Ludlow home and lot owners were mailed a Village Council ballot. Of the 1,412 ballots mailed Aug. 4, 613 were returned by the Aug. 20 deadline, including one from Germany, one from Japan and several from out of state.

Six people were elected to represent North Bay and four to represent South Bay. All have one-year terms, with new elections next year. Smith reminds people who may not have voted that they can activate their Village Council membership and voting privilege anytime during the year.

All these candidates were clear-cut winners, according to the ballot count.

While CLOA has been an effective community voice for years, Smith said in recent years the organization became weighted with South Bay representatives. The Village Council is an effort to make representation more equitable.

A transition team is in place to help the CLOA board and executive committee relinquish the necessary functions to the Village Council. The next step is a Sept. 11 meeting with an attorney to review the bylaws and articles of incorporation, followed by the Sept. 14 CLOA meeting. County Commissioner Glen Huntingford is scheduled to meet with the Village Council Sept. 23.

"By then we're hoping the county will have the Port Ludlow zoning ordinance passed," Smith said. "We're trying to run these tracks parallel."

On Oct. 1, CLOA will cease to exist, and the Village Council will become Port Ludlow's official "voice" in talks with county and state agencies.

For more information on the Village Council, contact Sally Smith at 437-0610.