



Hungarian Society of Massachusetts

Massachusettsi Magyar Egyesület

Notice of Biennial General Assembly

The board of directors of the Hungarian Society of Massachusetts (HSM) cordially invites all of its members to our next biennial general assembly, to be held on March 19, 2022.

This year we organize the general assembly according to [the new bylaws](#) that were ratified by the majority of all members on February 5, 2022.

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Important changes since past assemblies

Participation may be in person or online

Members will be able to participate in person or online via Zoom link. Every participant will be able to vote during the assembly and will be counted toward the quorum of the assembly, defined as **20% of active members**.

Voting for new board members

We will use the anonymous and secure online Helios voting service that was used for the bylaw ratification. Voting by proxy is no longer allowed. See more on this below.

Procedural votes during the assembly

Procedural votes, i.e. those not by secret ballot, will be carried out by a show of hands, both in person and via zoom poll for online participants.

Registration is required for all members

We request that everyone intending to participate in the general assembly register using the link below. For in-person participants, we ask for your registration due to the capacity limit in the church, and for online participants, your registration is needed to verify active HSM membership. The registration form will allow you to indicate whether you wish to participate online or in person.

We respectfully ask **everyone (even non-members) to register via this link by March 18: [Registration link](#)**

Time

12:30 PM EST, March 19, 2022

Venue

In person

**Plymouth Congregational Church, 582 Pleasant St, Belmont, MA
02478**

This is the current site of the biweekly Boskola sessions.

Online

Members who decide to attend online, can join via this [Zoom link](#).

(Zoom Password: 443341)

Agenda of the General Assembly

1. Brief remembrance of March 15, 1848
2. Introduction to the new meeting flow according to recently ratified bylaws
3. Nomination and selection of chairperson
4. Roll call / determination of the quorum
5. Secretary's reading of notice and proof of mailing
6. Secretary's reading of 2020 General Assembly minutes
7. President's report
8. Treasurer's report
9. Audit Committee report (none at this time)
10. Vote by General Assembly to accept reports
 - a. Procedural vote (show of hands and Zoom poll)
11. Transaction of other business
 - a. Election of Audit and Nominating/Election Committees for the 2024 biennial assembly
 - i. This is a new practice described in the bylaws. Any member who is not a director can volunteer for one of these committees. We will elect new members by procedural vote.
 - b. Any topics suggested by members present
12. Election of new Board of Directors
 - a. Nominations sought from the floor
 - b. Vote taken by secret ballot using Helios online voting system. See voting process detailed instructions below.
13. Adjournment

Voting process for the board

Online Vote duration

- Voting will begin at 4:00 AM, EST March 19, 2022. and will close during the general assembly after all members present had a chance to cast their ballots.
- You may change your vote any time while the voting is open by simply casting your ballot once more. (Make sure you hold onto your Helios credentials!) No changes will be possible after voting is closed.

Helios Voting instructions

- All active members will receive an auto-generated email by the Helios Voting system.
- Members with family membership will receive two separate emails.
- Please look for this email with the subject line “Your HSM Account” in the morning of March 19. Check your junk/spam folder if you do not see it in your inbox.
- The Helios email will contain **your unique ID and a generated password**.
- The unique ID and the generated password is **required** to cast your vote!
- Cast your vote by clicking on the link in the Helios email.
- Once you select your choices, click on “Submit this Vote” and finalize your vote by clicking on the **“CAST this ballot”** button at the bottom of the final page.
- You will be able to reuse your ID + password combination as many times as you wish before the voting is closed (for example, in case you change your mind about a candidate or you prefer a candidate called from the floor the day of the meeting), so make sure you do not delete these.

Result of the Helios Vote

- Results will be announced immediately after the Election Committee chair closes the voting, during the meeting.

When and how can I cast my ballot?

- You may only cast your ballot online. **No paper ballots will be used.**
- You may cast your ballot any time after you receive the email from Helios and the voting has begun.
- **You must have access to your unique ID and generated password from the Helios email to cast your ballot.**
- You may also modify your ballot while the voting is still open using the same link from the Helios email.
- You must have access to the email sent by Helios and an internet connected device (smartphone, tablet, laptop, etc) to cast your ballot.

What if I want to vote during the assembly but have no computing device?

- We encourage everyone to bring their own smartphone device and use that for voting if you want to vote during the assembly. If it is not at all possible the election committee will provide a tablet where you can enter your unique id and password to cast your vote.
- Please **make sure to bring your unique ID and password** you received in the Helios email if you want to vote.

Appendix

Purpose of General Assembly

(As defined by Article 5 Section 1 of the bylaws)

The General Assembly is the supreme governing body of the Society and decides any matter

concerning the Society. In particular, the General Assembly:

- I. Examines the administrative and financial activities;
- II. Approves, modifies or rejects proposals of other bodies;
- III. Elects through secret ballot the members of the Board of Directors;
- IV. Elects the Audit Committee
- V. Elects the Nominating and Election Committee
- VI. Modifies the Bylaws;
- VII. Removes members of the Board of Directors;
- VIII. Decides on the removal of members, in accordance with the Bylaws;
- IX. Approves the financial reports of the Board of Directors or allocates responsibilities to the various bodies;

[Link to the bylaws](#)

[Board member nominees in Hungarian](#)