



HCBR Newsletter

January 2020

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Board Annual Meeting Set for January 29

The Hillsdale County Board of REALTORS® Annual Business Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 29 at 1:30 p.m. at the Board office.

A number of important issues will be on the afternoon's agenda, including upcoming changes in MichRIC

services and clarification of sale contingency statuses in the MLS.

2019 committee chairs will report on committee activities during the previous year and delegates to the Michigan REALTORS Convention will report on the event.

The board has 43 Board Dollars gift certificates to hand out to members who have served on committees or participates in community service activities for the Board.

Agent professionalism will be a topic of discussion

as will scheduling for Lunch N Learn programs.

There will be a spinner prize drawing so members should be sure to bring a business card to toss in the bowl.

Contact the Board Office if you haven't yet signed up

REALTORS Announce Partnership with Census Bureau to Promote 2020 Census

The United States Census Bureau has designated the National Association of Realtors® as a National Partner for the upcoming 2020 Census. With the Bureau seeking to enlist the support of various national organizations, NAR is asking the 1.4 million Realtors® nationwide to help drive Census participation in their respective communities. "NAR is able to provide tremendous value to our members because of the research we produce examining trends in communities across this country. But the usefulness of that information relies on current, accurate data from the federal government," said NAR President Vince Malta, broker at Malta & Co., Inc., in San Francisco. "Full participation in the Census is in many ways the only way to ensure that data is

correct." In addition to determining appropriate Congressional representation, roughly \$1.5 trillion is allocated to states and localities annually based off of Census



results – delivering funds for roads, hospitals, schools and countless other public services. More specifically, this year's results will influence the allocation of \$93.5 billion to Federal Direct Student Loans, \$19.3 billion to

Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers and \$12 billion to the National School Lunch Program.

With this partnership, the Bureau will provide Realtors® with promotional materials that emphasize the importance of responding to the 2020 Census, which NAR members and partners are being asked to share with clients and neighbors. Last week, the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee reviewed some of the challenges associated with accurately securing this information at its hearing, Reaching Hard-to-Count Communities in the 2020 Census.

Notices about the 2020 Census will be mailed in mid-March, and the Census Bureau will offer a guide in roughly 60 different languages. This year will mark the first time

the questionnaire can be completed online, while options to respond over the phone and through the mail will still be available. In addition, NAR is reminding its members and U.S. residents that the Bureau will never ask for bank account or social security numbers, donations or anything on behalf of a political party, and strict federal law protects the confidentiality of Census responses.

The National Association of Realtors® is America's largest trade association, representing more than 1.4 million members involved in all aspects of the residential and commercial real estate industries.

See page 5 of this newsletter for more information about the Census.

The HCBR Newsletter is published periodically by the Hillsdale County Board of REALTORS®.

Editorial Office
32 E. Bacon Street
Hillsdale, MI 49242
(517) 439-1770
hcboard@yahoo.com

Board Hours:
Mon-Wed-Fri: 9-5
Tues-Thur: 9-2
Closed 12-1 for Lunch

Newsletter Editor
Shirley Smith
Executive Officer

2020 HCBR Officers
President: Dan Satow
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Brian Coe

2020 Committee Chairs

- Awards**
Alicia Galloway..... 398-3400
- Bylaws**
Tim Groves..... 439-1511
- Education**
Christie Plemmons..... 398-0268
- Executive**
Dan Satow..... 617-1104
- Finance**
Sherri Groves..... 425-2759
- Grievance**
Cathy Galloway..... 849-0043
- Membership**
Joe Sanford..... 398-1610
- MichRIC Managers**
Joe Sanford..... 398-1610
- Nomination**
Scott Phillips..... 320-7917
- Political Affairs**
Brian Coe..... 315-8045
- Professional Standards**
Tim Groves..... 398-1514
- Public Relations**
Lori Rubley..... 607-1713
- Specifications**
Gretchen Oberdick..... 439-5000

Board Seeks Input on Educational Program Scheduling for 2020

The Board of Directors is seeking member input on timing and dates for educational programming offered by the Board for 2020.

In an effort to bring more members to the programs offered the Board would like input on what days of the week or times of day members would like to see programs offered.

Board programs are usu-

ally offered Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m. to coincide with lunch breaks during a regular work week. However, to increase participation, breakfast or dinner meetings could be considered, as well as changing the usual meeting days to different days of the week.

Members who would make an effort to attend Lunch N Learns or other pro-

grams if they were scheduled differently are asked to contact the Board Office to offer their input on this issue.

The Education Committee has a number of interesting programs lined up, for 2020, however most can be shifted if necessary to more convenient times.

(Continued on page 3)

Board Welcomes Newest Members

The Board welcomes its new members for 2020:

Craig McLain with Coldwell Banker Denny

Groves & Associates; **Marin Page** and **Laura Tomasello** with Hillsdale Real Estate, **Demetria Thomas** with Key

Realty and **Jessica Hall** with Ruoff Home Mortgage.

Code of Ethics Change Now In Effect

The NAR has mandated Code of Ethics requirement change that begins immediately. Members now have until December 31, 2021 to complete their COE training for this interval, which will end at that time. Previously, members had to complete COE training by the end of 2020, but with the new rule in effect, there is an extra year to complete this requirement.

The Board will be offering COE training as part of Continuing Education to help ensure everyone has met the requirement.

Members may also take their COE class directly from the NAR at www.nar.realtor.



HCBR Calendar 2020

Board of Directors Meetings

February 5	March 4	April 1
May 6	June 3	July 1
August 5	September 2	November 4

Lunch-N-Learn & REALTOR Skills (Dates and Programs are Tentative)

February 19

Program: "9 Easy Steps: How a Seller Should Prepare for a Home Inspection"-Journey Property Inspections
Sponsor: Southern Michigan Bank

Special Events

Wednesday, January 29
Board Annual Meeting-1:30 p.m.



2020 RPAC Donors Recognized

The Hillsdale County Board of REALTORS® reached its 2019 goal of \$3982.37, with the help of 74 members who invested. The Board is off to a good start with 40 members having invested so far this year. Many members invest the \$50 included on the annual dues billing and others choose to invest in smaller increments throughout the year. (Members who donate \$100 or more for the year are recognized on the NAR website.)

The Board thanks the members listed below who have already invested in RPAC for 2020. See Page 4 to find out where your investment dollars go.

<p>Platinum Level Donors (\$100 or more)</p> <p>Lori Rubley Shirley Smith</p> <p>Gold Level Donors (\$75-\$99)</p> <p>Silver Level Donors (\$50-\$74)</p> <p>Jill Barrett Ray Baxter Loretta Blank Mary Brandeberry Diana Carson Tom Dunn Karen Foust Alicia Galloway</p>	<p>Cathy Galloway Julie Games Barb Groves Sherri Groves Tim Groves Claire Halliwill Fred Halliwill James Hartman Blake Jenkins Davis Liscombe Risa Mains Stephen Moore Trevor Morin Gretchen Oberdick Mary Playford Christie Plemmons Mike Plemmons</p>	<p>Brandon Podolak Pat Rising Lori Rubley Joe Sanford Dan Satow Jerry Slade Christopher Smith Rene' Spahr Darin Spieth Becky Spratt Mark Williams Joe Wollet</p> <p>Bronze Level Donors (\$15-\$49)</p> <p>Beverly Bradstreet Scott Phillips</p>
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Educational Programming

(Continued from page 2)

Some of the programs being planned for this year include:

- * Title Evidence and Commitment
- * Business Dress and Etiquette
- * REALTOR Safety and Awareness

- * Professional Standards, Arbitration and Ethics
- * Tax and Accounting for REALTORS
- * Behind the Scenes of a Loan Approval

The Education Committee is open to suggestions for additional programming to meet member needs.

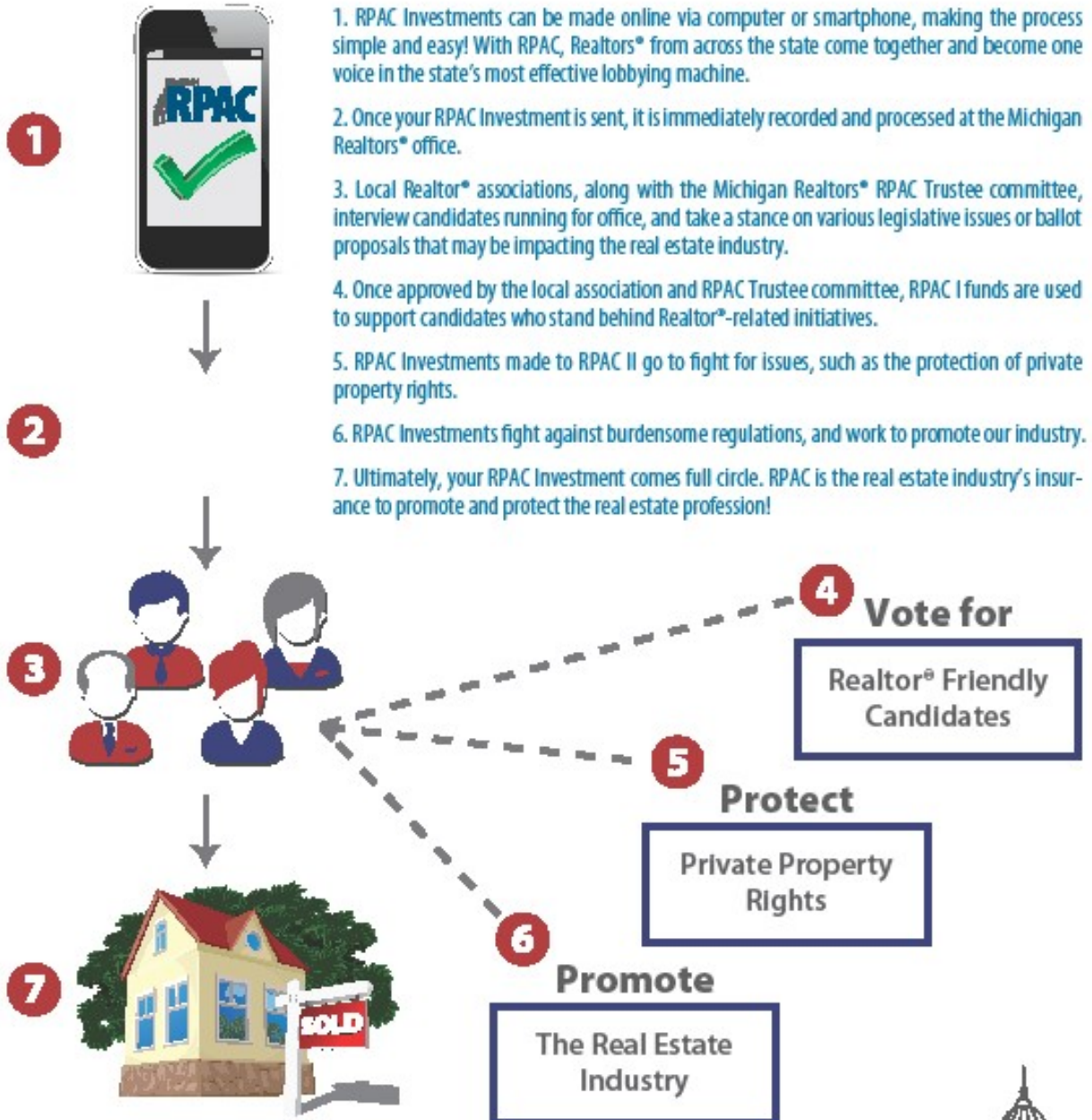
The Board of Directors has budgeted funds to bring in speaker who are recognized at state and national venues if there is an interest in providing such programs. Participation is key in this endeavor as such programs cannot normally be cancelled once they're scheduled if there are not enough who sign up.

The local Board is limited in membership but would be willing to open programs up to members in neighboring counties to increase attendance.

Let your voice be heard and contact the Board Office to discuss the types of programs and times you would like to see added to the schedule.



Protecting Your Industry: THE JOURNEY OF YOUR RPAC INVESTMENT



* Contributions are not deductible for Federal income tax purposes. RPAC contributions are voluntary and used for political purposes. You may refuse to contribute without reprisal or otherwise affecting your membership rights. Seventy percent of your contribution goes to your State Association to support state and local political candidates. Thirty percent is sent to National RPAC to support Federal candidates against your limits under 2 U.S.C. 441a.



2020 PARTICIPATE IN THE CENSUS

It's about **FAIR** Representation

What to Know about the Census and Why It Matters

\$1.5 trillion

in federal funds are allocated to states, communities and local governments to spend on vital programs



Schools



Hospitals



Roads



Public Works



Participation is constitutionally mandated



The results determine how many seats states are allocated in the **House of Representatives**

The Census begins in **March 2020**

Every household will have the option of responding



Online



By mail



By phone

The Census Bureau will **NEVER** ask for



Social security numbers



Political party information



Bank/credit card account numbers



Donations

2020census.gov

 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of REALTORS®