

WEST PASCO HERNANDO REALTORS®
SERVING THE NATURE COAST AND BEYOND

Want to get involved, but aren't sure where to start?
Whether you're a brand new agent or a seasoned veteran, everyone has an important perspective to share. Check out the answers to frequently asked questions about our committees.

Committee FAQs

Who serves on committees?
The Chair is appointed by the HCAR President. In making these appointments, the President considers the individual's experience, expertise, and degree of interest in the issues addressed by the committee. The Chair and President, with input from staff, select the committee members based on their special talents and ensuring a diverse committee make-up that represents the entire membership. Most committees are made up of REALTOR® members, but Business Partners may serve on the Education and Events/Community Outreach committees and as Photographer.

When do committee terms start and end?
Most committees have one year terms, but Grievance and Professional Standards serve for two to three years. Generally committees begin in January and finish in December unless they are a short-term project team or task force.

Where are meetings held?
All committee meetings are held at HCAR.

Do I have to attend meetings?
Yes. The success of the committee's work depends on your participation, and your attendance assures continuity of information and tasks. If an absence is unavoidable, you should notify the Chair in advance of the meeting.

How much time is required?
Most committees meet once a month, sometimes less. There may also be special events or projects the committee is working on that will require more of your time. The average committee meeting lasts an hour. If you are not able to attend every meeting, you can also offer to help with specific short-term projects or events.

What do committee members do?
The Board of Directors will come up with a strategic plan that will guide committee work and objectives. The strategic plan will be your roadmap to success.

Do committees make decisions about finances and policies?
Your committee may make recommendations concerning these matters, which your Chair will forward to the appropriate body, whether it be another committee or the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors are the ultimate decision-makers.

How do committees get things done?
The business of your committee is customarily done by working off of an agenda that the Chair guides you through. Committees discuss and assign tasks and keep projects moving forward at their meetings. Sometimes there is conversation between the meetings via email or online. HCAR staff will also assist committees and provide support, so you are not in this alone!

May I observe a committee meeting or bring an interested HCAR member?
Most committee meetings are open to members not serving on the committee and they are welcome to observe the proceedings. Some meetings are closed due to confidentiality. Check with the Committee Chair, in advance, to determine if it is an open meeting.

May I voice my opinion?
Please do! Your opinion is important. When recognized by the Chair, speak up whenever you have a comment, suggestion, constructive criticism or different point of view. If your committee cannot share and explore your ideas, it cannot act to represent the full and best interest of the members.

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Committee requests are done online. If you are interested in serving on any of Hernando County Association of REALTORS® Committees please call the Association and an application link will be sent directly to your email.

STANDING COMMITTEES

BYLAWS
Reviews Association Bylaws as well as the Policy and Procedures and makes appropriate recommendations to the Board of Directors.

EDUCATION*
Recommends and helps plan traditional (CE, designation classes) and non-traditional (webinars, forums, workshops) learning opportunities. Evaluates the effectiveness of current and potential learning opportunities to further the knowledge of the membership. Also oversees the Orientation program for new members and the Association's Honor Society.

EVENTS*
Organizes social/networking events for the Association to allow for a relaxed means of getting to know one another, i.e. annual picnic, mixers, etc.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS
Monitors legislative matters at all levels of government that impact the ability of REALTORS® to conduct their business successfully and ethically, and to promote the preservation of the right to own, use, and transfer real property. Keeps Directors and members informed, acts as a liaison to legislators, responds to Calls for Action, and recommends actions as necessary. Conducts candidate interviews and makes recommendations to the HCAR Board of Directors.

GRIEVANCE
Reviews ethics complaints to ensure that complaints are in proper form, have been filed within the time limit as established by NAR and are otherwise procedurally correct. Similar to a grand jury who decide if a case will go to trial. Reviews arbitration requests and ethics complaints to determine whether they meet the criteria for referring to Professional Standards for a hearing. ***NOTE: Members of this committee must attend required annual training.***

MLS & TECHNOLOGY
Identifies new technologies and tools to enhance the HCAR MLS system. Establishes and enforces policies and procedures for the HCAR MLS system. Recommends revisions to the MLS Rules & Regulations as needed.

PAST PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY
Meets at least quarterly with the current year Association President. Offers advice and recommendations as it relates to accomplishing the objectives of the Association's Strategic Plan, leadership development and the general well-being of the Association. Meets with the President-Elect, at least once each year, sharing best practices when preparing for their presidency. Also, helps identify future Association leaders. ***NOTE: Limited to Association Past Presidents.***

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS
Conducts hearings on possible violations of the REALTOR® Code of Ethics and arbitration requests. Complaints are first screened by Grievance, then heard by Professional Standards if moved forward. *Prior experience on the Grievance Committee is preferred.* ***NOTE: Members of this committee must attend required annual training.***

PUBLIC RELATIONS*
Prepares the advertising programs of the Association. Also promotes the Association activities and real estate information that is of interest and benefit to the public.

NOTE: The Budget/Finance, Candidate Screening and the Elections Validation Standing Committees are structured as outlined in the Policies and Procedures.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

AWARDS
Honors the most outstanding contributors to our Association, the real estate profession, our community and fellow REALTORS®, recommends Life or Honorary Membership. Guides the Association to participate and nominate local winners for State and National awards.

BUSINESS PARTNERS*
Focus on building relationships and supporting the HCAR community through education, events, networking and community investment opportunities. Create a synergy between the REALTORS® and Business Partners that leads to more success for everyone.

GRADUATE ACADEMY
Helps move Association members forward into current and future Association leadership roles. Consists of prior two years Leadership Development Committee members who successfully completed the Leadership Development Training.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
Plans the HCAR Leadership Development program, which identifies and grows future HCAR, state and national leaders. *You should be a graduate of the HCAR Leadership Development Program to serve on this committee.*

PHOTOGRAPHER*
Takes photos (with your phone is perfect!) at HCAR classes and events.

RPAC
RPAC is the most bipartisan PAC in the country today, supporting candidates who support our issues regardless of their political party. Solicit RPAC investments to support pro-REALTOR® political candidates. Educate members on their role in the REALTOR® Party - vote, act invest - to protect and promote home ownership and real estate investment. Find creative ways to recognize RPAC investors.

*** Business Partners are invited to serve on committees marked with an asterisk**