

MUTUAL OPERATIONS

ACCOUNTING AND FISCAL

Capital Accounts – Except Mutual One, Two, Five, Eight, Nine, Ten, Eleven, Twelve, Fourteen Sixteen and Seventeen

Legal opinion from Attorney W. A. Williams in letter dated 28 Oct 70 to the Controller:

"One of the unfortunate aspects of each Mutual at Leisure World is the fact that it was set up as a general corporation in its inception. This, of course, requires it to be controlled by the general corporation laws for the State of California.

With respect first to dividends, it would be unlawful for the declaration of any kind of dividend out of these funds as, in my opinion, they constitute a paid-in surplus. Paid-in surpluses cannot be used for the payment of dividends except to shares entitled to preferential dividends. None of the shares in the Mutual Corporations qualify as shares entitled to preferential dividends. I would disagree with the position that the funds are available for patronage dividends. The only funds that I would view as available for patronage dividends are those funds paid in by the members as payments in excess of the budget and remaining at the end of the year. A liability can attach to the director and the shareholder receiving those payments if they are not authorized by law. California Corporation Code holds a liability of shareholders for receipt of an unauthorized dividend in Corporation Code 1510. Illegal declaration of dividends can constitute a misdemeanor in the State as set forth in the Penal Code for the State of California.

The only source of dividends that can be made is from earned surplus or out of net profits earned during the preceding accounting period which is not to be less than six months or more than one year. In this latter instance, such dividends can be declared despite the fact that the next assets of the corporation may be less than the stated capital unless there are liquidation preferences on some share, a problem which we do not have.

The fact that these funds, however, cannot be used for dividends does not prevent their use for proper corporate purposes, particularly the establishment of reserve accounts, and I see no reason why the funds cannot be used for reserve account needs or as you have indicated, by transfer within the capital accounts. However, these funds must be clearly designated in that the original stated capital must be set forth and the paid-in surplus must be also clearly identified. It cannot be shown as an earned surplus at any time. Actually, an earned surplus could occur if the payments of the resident exceed the budget requirement set forth at the beginning of the year.

The Board of Directors will have the power to take the necessary steps for transfer of capital funds so long as those steps are within the framework of the restrictions I have indicated."

(Jan 18)

MUTUAL OPERATIONS**ACCOUNTING AND FISCAL****Capital Accounts – Except Mutual One, Two, Five, Eight, Nine, Ten, Eleven, Twelve, Fourteen Sixteen and Seventeen**

<u>Mutual</u>	<u>Amend</u>	<u>Rescind</u>
One		09-28-17
Two		07-20-17
Five:		06-21-17
Eight:		08-28-17
Nine		08-14-17
Ten		11-29-17
Eleven		01-18-18
Twelve		07-13-17
Fourteen		06-20-17
Sixteen		07-07-17
Seventeen		11-07-17