



Mike Hughes – NABOR President 2015

After serving eight years on NABOR'S Board of Directors, in 2015, Mike became President of NABOR. In the first month, Mike and the Board were tested. Board Executive Officer, Mike Richardson, announced his retirement at the first Board meeting of President Mike's term. Shortly thereafter, tragedy hit the Naples Board when Director Bob Hewes passed away. Bob Hewes had served on as many as forty-one NABOR, FAR and NAR committees and project teams since joining the board in 1992. It was his absolute resolve and dedicated efforts in seeing the MLS System 4 provide its technological promise to the membership.

"I always felt that the passing of Bob might have been my toughest moment as President. Bob was a close friend of mine and he worked for me at Downing-Frye Realty, Inc." said Mike. "His desk at the office was right next to mine ". Many attended his funeral and NABOR threw a tremendous reception for Bob's family after the funeral. This reception was attended by hundreds of members.

"Another huge challenge we had in 2015 was selecting a task force to look for Mike Richardson's replacement. Every person wanted to be on this task force. I knew that I had to get it right because some would be hurt if they were not selected. After giving it a lot of thought, I selected the NABOR Executive Board members (Mike Hughes, Rick Fioretti, Harley Conrad and Jeff Jones). I also knew that we had to have an odd number on this task force in case we needed a tie breaker. I selected 1986 past president, Phil Wood. Phil was an interesting pick as he was part of the original group that selected Mike Richardson 30 years prior!"

"We had assistance from NAR in accumulating resumes from candidates. All total, we looked at over 160 candidates. We quickly narrowed the list down to about six potential candidates. One of these six was hired by another Board before we could interview him. At every round of interviewing, Marty Manion stood out. We narrowed the list to two candidates and flew both into Naples to have dinner with the NABOR Task Force and meet the NABOR Board of Directors. We also had our wives attend these dinners to get their perspective. It was obvious that Marty Manion had done his homework and was a clear front runner. Marty was selected and after negotiation with Marty, we had a new CEO!"

In Mike's term as President, the Board voted to upgrade the President's Room in the NABOR building.

Another noteworthy vote was to have the Past President stay on the Board following their term as President. This practice started a year later. The rationale was that with Mike Richardson stepping down,

the Board needed to preserve some of the knowledge with respect to matters that came before the Board.

At the end of the year, NABOR threw a going away party for Mike Richardson at the Hilton. This party was attended by several hundred members including 25 NABOR Presidents that had worked with Mike Richardson through the years. There were numerous speakers and videos shown at this party. This going away party was truly a historic moment. Most important, Mike Richardson and his wife Lisa had a great time.

“The 2015 Board of Directors were extremely talented. We didn’t always agree with each other, but we respected each other’s opinions. We accomplished a lot in 2015.”