

NATURAL ALTERNATIVES INTERNATIONAL INC
Form DEF 14A
October 21, 2016

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

(RULE 14a-101)

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

**Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

Confidential, for use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

NATURAL ALTERNATIVES INTERNATIONAL, INC.

(Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

No fee required.

Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i) (1) and 0-11.

Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

1.

Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

2.

Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

3.

Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

4.

5. Total fee paid:

Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

Amount Previously Paid:

1.

Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

2.

Filing Party:

3.

4. Date Filed:

NATURAL ALTERNATIVES INTERNATIONAL, INC.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

Date: Friday, December 2, 2016

Time: 11:00 a.m., Pacific time
Natural Alternatives International, Inc.

Place: 1535 Faraday Avenue

Carlsbad, California 92008

To our Stockholders:

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Natural Alternatives International, Inc. to consider and act upon the following matters:

1. To elect two Class II directors to serve until the next meeting of stockholders held to elect Class II directors and until their respective successors are elected and qualified;
2. To ratify the selection of Haskell & White LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017;
3. To approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Company's named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement; and
4. To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournments thereof.

The foregoing matters are more fully described in the proxy statement accompanying this notice.

Stockholders of record at the close of business on October 10, 2016, the record date fixed by the Board of Directors, are entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting and at any adjournments thereof.

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS FOR THE STOCKHOLDER MEETING TO BE HELD ON DECEMBER 2, 2016: Our proxy statement and annual report to stockholders are both available on-line at <http://www.nai-online.com/proxy.php>.

Your vote is important. Whether or not you plan to attend the meeting, we urge you to vote your shares at your earliest convenience. This will help ensure the presence of a quorum at the meeting. Promptly voting your shares by telephone, by Internet, or by signing, dating, and returning the enclosed proxy card will save us the expense and extra work of additional solicitation. Voting your shares by telephone or by Internet will further help us reduce the costs of solicitation. A pre-addressed envelope for which no postage is required if mailed in the United States is enclosed if you wish to vote by mail. Voting your shares now will not prevent you from attending or voting your shares at the meeting if you desire to do so. Please see “What is the effect of not casting my vote?” under “Voting Information” in the accompanying proxy statement.

Only stockholders and persons holding proxies from stockholders may attend the meeting. If you plan to attend, please bring a photo ID. If your shares are held in the name of a broker, trust, bank or other nominee, you will need to bring a recent brokerage statement, proxy or letter from that broker, trust, bank or other nominee that confirms you are the beneficial owner of those shares.

By Order of the Board of Directors

Mark A. LeDoux
Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer

1535 Faraday Avenue

Carlsbad, California 92008

(760) 744-7340

October 21, 2016

NATURAL ALTERNATIVES INTERNATIONAL, INC.

1535 Faraday Avenue
Carlsbad, California 92008

PROXY STATEMENT

We are providing this proxy statement in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors of Natural Alternatives International, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the “Company” or “we,” “our,” or “us”), for use at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on Friday, December 2, 2016, at 11:00 a.m. Pacific time, at Natural Alternatives International, Inc., 1535 Faraday Avenue, Carlsbad, California 92008 and at any adjournment or postponement thereof (the “Annual Meeting”). We expect to mail this proxy statement and the enclosed proxy card on or about October 21, 2016 to all stockholders entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting.

VOTING INFORMATION

Who can vote?

You may vote if you were a stockholder of record as of the close of business on October 10, 2016. This date is known as the record date. You are entitled to one vote for each share of common stock you held on that date on each matter presented at the Annual Meeting. As of October 10, 2016, 6,872,591 shares of our common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, were issued and outstanding, net of 964,086 treasury shares.

How many votes are needed to hold the Annual Meeting?

To take any action at the Annual Meeting, a majority of our outstanding shares of common stock entitled to vote as of October 10, 2016, must be represented, in person or by proxy, at the Annual Meeting. This is called a quorum.

What is a proxy?

A “proxy” allows someone else to vote your shares on your behalf. Our Board of Directors is asking you to allow Mark A. LeDoux, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, and Kenneth E. Wolf, our President and Chief Operating Officer, to vote your shares at the Annual Meeting.

How do I vote by proxy?

Whether you hold shares directly as a stockholder of record or beneficially in street name, you may vote without attending the Annual Meeting. You may vote by granting a proxy or, for shares held in street name, by submitting voting instructions to your broker or nominee. To vote by proxy, please follow the instructions on the enclosed proxy card. You may vote by telephone, by Internet or by mail. Shares held in street name may be voted by telephone or by Internet only if your broker or nominee makes those methods available. Your broker or nominee will enclose instructions for voting shares held in street name by telephone or by Internet with this proxy statement if your broker or nominee has chosen to make those methods available.

If you vote by proxy, your shares will be voted at the Annual Meeting in the manner you indicate. If you vote by mail and return a signed proxy card with no specific instructions, your shares will be voted as the Board of Directors recommends.

Can I change my vote after I submit my proxy?

Yes. You can change or revoke your proxy at any time before it is voted by submitting another proxy with a later date. You may also send a written notice of revocation to Natural Alternatives International, Inc., 1535 Faraday Avenue, Carlsbad, California 92008, Attention: Mr. Kenneth Wolf, Secretary.

Can I vote in person at the Annual Meeting instead of voting by proxy?

Yes. However, we encourage you to vote your shares at your earliest convenience to ensure that your shares are represented and voted. If you vote your shares by proxy and later decide you would like to attend the meeting and vote your shares in person, you will need to provide a written notice of revocation to the secretary of the meeting before your proxy is voted.

How are votes counted?

Except as noted, all proxies received will be counted in determining whether a quorum exists and whether we have obtained the necessary number of votes on each proposal. Abstentions and broker non-votes are counted as present or represented for purposes of determining the presence or absence of a quorum for the Annual Meeting, but broker non-votes are not counted for purposes of determining the number of shares entitled to vote with respect to any proposal. Accordingly, broker non-votes will have no effect on the outcome of the vote for the election of directors or any other proposed matter. Generally, broker non-votes occur when shares held by a broker for a beneficial owner are not voted with respect to a particular proposal because (i) the broker has not received voting instructions from the beneficial owner and (ii) the broker lacks discretionary voting power to vote such shares.

Stockholders of record who are present in person or by proxy and who abstain, including brokers holding customers' shares of record who cause abstentions to be recorded at the meeting, are considered stockholders who are present and entitled to vote on the proposals. Accordingly, a properly executed proxy marked "ABSTAIN" or "WITHHOLD" with respect to any matter will not be voted, will have no effect on the outcome of the election of directors, and will have the same effect as a vote "AGAINST" any other proposed matter.

What is the effect of not casting my vote?

If you hold your shares in street name, it is critical that you cast your vote if you want it to count in the election of directors. In the past, if you held your shares in street name and you did not indicate how you wanted your shares voted in the election of directors, your bank or broker was allowed to vote those shares on your behalf in the election of directors as they felt appropriate.

Recent changes in regulations were made to take away the ability of your bank or broker to vote your uninstructed shares in the election of directors on a discretionary basis. Thus, if you hold your shares in street name and you do not instruct your bank or broker how to vote in the election of directors, no votes will be cast on your behalf. Your bank or broker will, however, continue to have discretion to vote any uninstructed shares on the ratification of the appointment of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm.

How many votes are required to approve each of the proposals?

For the election of the Class I directors, a plurality of the votes is required for the election of each director. This means that the candidates who receive the most votes will be elected to the available Class I positions on the Board of

Directors. The affirmative vote of a majority of the shares present in person or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting is required to approve all of the other proposals.

As of October 10, 2016, our executive officers and directors were entitled to vote 1,585,730 shares, or approximately 23.1%, of our issued and outstanding common stock. Our executive officers and directors have indicated their intention to vote “for” the election of the nominee for Class II directors, and “for” Proposals 2 and 3.

You will not have any rights of appraisal or similar dissenter’s rights with respect to any matters to be acted upon at the Annual Meeting.

Who pays for this proxy solicitation?

We will pay the cost of soliciting proxies for the Annual Meeting, including the costs of preparing, assembling and mailing the proxy materials. We will provide copies of proxy materials to fiduciaries, custodians and brokerage houses to forward to the beneficial owners of shares held in their name. We may reimburse such fiduciaries, custodians and brokers for their costs in forwarding the proxy materials.

In addition to the solicitation of proxies by mail, certain of our officers and other employees may also solicit proxies personally or by telephone, facsimile, or other means. No additional compensation will be paid to these individuals for any such services.

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board Members

Our Board of Directors is responsible for the overall management of the Company. The Board of Directors is divided into three classes, designated Class I, Class II and Class III. The Board of Directors currently includes two Class I directors, two Class II directors, and one Class III director. Members of each class of our Board of Directors are elected to serve for a three-year term. The three-year terms of the members of each class are staggered, so that each year the members of a different class are due to be elected at the annual meeting. The Class II directors currently are serving a term that is due to expire at the Annual Meeting. The Class III director is currently serving a term that is due to expire at our 2017 annual meeting, and the Class I directors are serving a term that is due to expire at the next annual meeting thereafter. The name, age, positions held with the Company, and term of office of each of our directors are shown below.

| Name | Age | Positions Held | Class | Director Since |
|----------------|-----|--|-------|----------------|
| Joe E. Davis | 82 | Director | I | 2000 |
| Alan G. Dunn | 61 | Director | II | 2004 |
| Alan J. Lane | 54 | Director | III | 2004 |
| Mark A. LeDoux | 62 | Director, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer | I | 1986 |
| Lee G. Weldon | 77 | Director | II | 1992 |

The business experience and principal occupations of each of our directors are described below.

[Note to draft each of the directors has been sent the information below and at present only waiting on LeDoux to provide his requested changes. All other changes requested and approved have been incorporated.]

Joe E. Davis

Mr. Davis has been a member of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors since 2000 and the Chairman of the Audit Committee since 2004, a member of the Human Resources Committee of the Board of Directors since 2003, and a member of the Nominating Committee of the Board of Directors since 2004. He has been a private investor for more than fifteen years. He currently serves as a director (since 1997), the Chairman of the Audit Committee and a

member of the Compensation and Nominating Committees of Anworth Mortgage Securities, Inc., a publicly traded real estate investment trust. Previously, Mr. Davis served as a trustee (since 1991) and a member of the Audit and Nominating Committees of American Funds Insurance Series, and as a director (since 2007) and a member of the Audit and Nominating Committees of American Funds Target Date Retirement Series, Inc. until retiring in December 2009; as Chairman of the Board of Linear Corporation (1987-1988); President and Chief Executive Officer of BMC Industries, Inc. (1985); and President and Chief Executive Officer of National Health Enterprises, Inc. (1974-1982). Formerly, Mr. Davis was a director and a member of the Audit Committee of BMC Industries, Inc. and Wilshire Technologies, Inc., and a director of Freymiller Trucking, Inc. Mr. Davis graduated from the University of Texas with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry. He holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree from the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration.

We believe that Mr. Davis' qualifications to continue to serve on our Board of Directors include his prior service on our Board of Directors, his more than 30 years of practical experience and knowledge as a director as a result of his service on multiple boards and committees of public companies, and his prior experience as a Chief Executive Officer. In addition, his degree in chemistry enables him to understand much of the science involved in the products manufactured by the Company and his MBA from Harvard provides an understanding of and education in matters ranging from internal control to long range business strategy.

Alan G. Dunn

Mr. Dunn has been a member of both the Human Resources and Audit Committees of the Board of Directors since December 2005. Mr. Dunn has been the President of GDI Consulting & Training Company (a manufacturing industry consulting firm focusing on cost and process improvement, productivity improvement and operational transformations) and the Chairman of its parent company, Gerald E. Dunn, Inc., since 1980. He currently serves as a director (since 2000) and the Chairman of the Compensation Committee (since 2003) and the Chairman of the Audit Committee (since July 2010) of Idaho Asphalt Supply Company, a privately held company. Formerly, he served as a director of TMI Products (2006-2008), a director and a member of the Compensation Committee of Tools & Metals, Inc. (2000-2004), a director of Air Logistics Corporation (1998-2003), a director of Bystrom Bros., Inc. (2004-2006), and a director of R.W. Lyall Company (1997-2000), each a privately held company, and a director of Tomorrow's Morning, Inc. (1995-1998), a company that went public in 1998. Mr. Dunn a former Chairman of the Board currently serves as Chair of the Nominating and Compensation Committees of the Board of APICS, a 501(c) (6) professional association for global supply chain professionals. Mr. Dunn received a Bachelor's degree from California State University at Fullerton.

We believe Mr. Dunn's qualifications to continue to serve on our Board of Directors include his substantial prior service on our Board of Directors and his extensive knowledge of manufacturing processes and manufacturing operations as a manufacturing industry consultant.

Alan J. Lane

Mr. Lane has been a member of both the Audit and Nominating Committees of the Board of Directors since 2004. Previously, he was a member of the Human Resources Committee of the Board of Directors (August 2004-December 2005). Mr. Lane has been a director, and Chief Executive Officer of Silvergate Bank (since December 2008) and a director and President of Silvergate Capital Corporation (since December 2008). Mr. Lane formerly served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of John Paul the Great Catholic University, Executive Chairman of Professional Business Bank, a director, President and Chief Operating Officer of Southwest Community Bancorp; Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Financial Data Solutions, Inc., a subsidiary of Southwest Community Bancorp; and a director and Chief Administrative Officer of Southwest Community Bank. Before joining Southwest Community Bancorp, Mr. Lane was a director and the Chief Executive Officer and President of Business Bank of California. Mr. Lane graduated from San Diego State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics in 1984.

We believe that Mr. Lane's qualifications to continue to serve on our Board of Directors include his substantial prior service on our Board of Directors and his knowledge of banking practices and leadership skills as a current and former Chief Executive Officer of several banks.

Mark A. LeDoux

Mr. LeDoux has been a director and the Chief Executive Officer of the Company since 1986, the Chairman of the Board since 2001, and the Assistant Treasurer since 1998. Mr. LeDoux also has served as a director and the Chairman of the Board of Natural Alternatives International Europe S.A. (NAIE) a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company since its inception in 1999. Previously, he served as President of the Company (1986-1996, 1999-2001, 2009-2015). Mr. LeDoux also served as a director, President and Chief Executive Officer of Natural Alternatives, Inc., a predecessor corporation that merged into the Company in 1986 (1980-1986); and as a director of CellLife Pharmaceuticals International, Inc., director and President of Transformative Health Products, Inc., and as a director and Chief Executive Officer of Disposition Company, Inc. (formerly known as Real Health Laboratories, Inc.), each a former wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company; and Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Kovac Laboratories, a manufacturer of nutritional supplements (1976-1980). Mr. LeDoux graduated Cum Laude from the University of Oklahoma with a Bachelor of Arts and Letters in 1975. He earned his Juris Doctor degree in 1979 from Western State University College of Law, which is now known as the Thomas Jefferson School of Law. He is a member of the YPO Graduates, the Founding Chairman of the International Council for Responsible Nutrition based in Switzerland, a member and past Chairman of the Board of the Council for Responsible Nutrition based in Washington, D.C., a member of the Board of the Nutrition Industry Association—West, and a participant of the *Codex Alimentarius Commission*, the United Nations' food and dietary supplement standard-setting body under joint supervision of its Food and Agriculture Organization and World Health Organization. Mr. LeDoux has been a member of the Natural Products Association since 1980 and currently serves as its President, a member of its Board of Directors and as the Chairman of its Committee for Product and Label Integrity (ComPLI).

We believe that Mr. LeDoux's qualifications to continue to serve on our Board of Directors include his extensive industry, technical and Company knowledge, his experience as one of the founders of the Company and his long service as a director and executive officer of the Company.

Lee G. Weldon

Mr. Weldon has been a member of the Board of Directors since 1992, a member of the Human Resources Committee of the Board of Directors since 1993, and a member of the Nominating Committee of the Board of Directors since 2004. Previously, he was a member of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors (1993—December 2005). He has been the Chairman of both the Human Resources and the Nominating Committees since 2004. Mr. Weldon was the President of Natures Apothecary (1997-2000) and the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Kal Healthway, Inc., a food supplement distributor (1978-1995). He graduated from the University of California at Los Angeles with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in 1963. He became a member of the Young Presidents' Organization in 1982, and became a graduate member in 1990.

We believe that Mr. Weldon's qualifications to continue to serve on our Board of Directors include his substantial prior service on our Board of Directors and his in-depth knowledge of our industry. He has more than 40 years of management experience in the nutritional supplement business, including all aspects of operations, sales, marketing, finance and strategic planning, having led several companies within the industry, including a former customer of the Company.

Board Meetings

The Board of Directors held four meetings during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016, all members of the Board of Directors attended all of the meetings held by the Board of Directors and with only one exception all of the meetings of each of the committees of the Board of Directors on which they served.

Board Leadership Structure and Role in Risk Oversight

Our Board of Directors is comprised of five members, four of whom are independent. The remaining member, Mr. LeDoux, is the Company's founder, Chief Executive Officer and largest stockholder. Mr. LeDoux also serves as the Chairman of the Board. We do not have a lead independent director. The Chairman of the Board is not an officer position. The Chairman presides over meetings of the Board of Directors but in his capacity as a director Mr. LeDoux does not possess any other rights or responsibilities as a result of being the Chairman of the Board that differ from the other members of the Board of Directors. We believe a five-member board, 80% of which is comprised of independent members, is appropriate for the size and operations of our Company. The Board of Directors has Audit, Human Resources and Nominating Committees as described in more detail below. The Board of Directors is principally responsible for providing risk oversight of the Company.

Independence

Nasdaq rules require listed companies to have a board of directors with at least a majority of independent directors. Our Board of Directors has determined that four of our five directors are independent under the listing standards of the Nasdaq Stock Market. The members determined to be independent are Messrs. Davis, Dunn, Lane and Weldon.

Board Committees

The Board of Directors has an Audit Committee, a Human Resources Committee, which includes the functions of a compensation committee, and a Nominating Committee. Membership on each committee is limited to independent directors as defined under the listing standards of the Nasdaq Stock Market. In addition, members of the Audit Committee must also meet the independence standards for audit committee members adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”). The members of the committees of our Board of Directors are as follows:

| Audit Committee | Human Resources Committee | Nominating Committee |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Joe E. Davis (Chairman)* | Lee G. Weldon (Chairman) | Lee G. Weldon (Chairman) |
| Alan G. Dunn | Joe E. Davis | Joe E. Davis |
| Alan J. Lane* | Alan G. Dunn | Alan J. Lane |

*The Board of Directors has determined that Messrs. Davis and Lane are each an “audit committee financial expert” as defined by applicable rules adopted by the SEC.

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016, the Audit Committee held four meetings, the Human Resources Committee held two meetings, and the Nominating Committee held one meeting.

Audit Committee. The Audit Committee operates under a charter originally adopted by the Board of Directors in 2000, amended and restated in April 2004, and further amended in August 2007 and September 2009. While the Audit Committee charter is not currently available on our website, a copy of the charter, as amended, was included as Attachment A to the Company's proxy statement for fiscal year 2011-2012. The general function of the Audit Committee is to oversee the accounting and financial reporting processes of the Company and the audits of our financial statements. The Audit Committee assists the Board of Directors in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities relating to the accounting, reporting and financial practices of the Company, including the integrity of our financial statements and disclosures; the surveillance of administration and financial controls and our compliance with legal and regulatory requirements; the qualification, independence and performance of our independent registered public accounting firm; and the performance of our internal audit function and control procedures. The Audit Committee is responsible for reviewing and recommending matters to the Board of Directors, but has no authority to make final decisions except as set forth in the Audit Committee's charter. The Audit Committee has the sole authority to appoint, determine funding for, and oversee our independent registered public accounting firm.

Human Resources Committee. The Human Resources Committee operates under a charter adopted by the Board of Directors in January 2006, and amended in August 2007, September 2009 and September 2015. While the Human Resources Committee charter is not currently available on our website, a copy of the charter, as amended, is included as Attachment A to this proxy statement. The primary purpose of the Human Resources Committee is to oversee the Company's overall compensation and incentive programs for the Company's executive officers and certain other key personnel. The Human Resources Committee is responsible for reviewing and recommending matters to the Board of Directors, which may be based on recommendations from the Company's management, but has no authority to make final decisions except with respect to the Company's incentive plans as described below or as otherwise set forth in the committee's charter. Among other things, the Human Resources Committee recommends to the Board of Directors the amount of compensation to be paid or awarded to our officers and certain other personnel including salary, bonuses, other cash or stock awards under our incentive compensation plans as in effect from time to time, retirement and other compensation, and is responsible for evaluating the performance of the Company's Chief Executive Officer and making recommendations to the Board of Directors concerning the compensation for such officer. In addition, the Human Resources Committee has delegated to its Chairman the authority to administer the Company's 2009 Omnibus Incentive Plan with respect to employees who are not officers or directors of the Company, to the sole extent of approving stock option grants under the plan to such employees, within the limitations of such plan, and only for grants proposed by the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer not exceeding 5,000 shares, and with a term not exceeding five years, an exercise price equal to at least 110% of the last reported sale price of the Company's common stock on the Nasdaq Stock Market on the date of grant, and vesting over a period of not less than three years. The Human Resources Committee may engage the services of an independent compensation and benefits consulting company to conduct a survey and review of the Company's compensation programs as compared to other similarly situated companies taking into account, among others, industry, size and location when the committee deems appropriate.

Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee operates under a charter adopted by the Board of Directors in August 2004, and amended in August 2007 and September 2009. While the Nominating Committee charter is not currently available on our website, a copy of the charter, as amended, was included as Attachment C to the Company's proxy statement for fiscal year 2011-2012. The purpose of the Nominating Committee is to assist the Board of Directors in identifying qualified individuals to become members of the Board of Directors and in determining the composition of the Board of Directors and its various committees. The Nominating Committee periodically reviews

the qualifications and independence of directors, selects candidates as nominees for election as directors, recommends directors to serve on the various committees of the Board of Directors, reviews director compensation and benefits, and oversees the self-assessment process of each of the committees of the Board of Directors.

The Nominating Committee considers nominee recommendations from a variety of sources, including nominees recommended by stockholders. Persons recommended by stockholders are evaluated on the same basis as persons suggested by others. Stockholder recommendations may be made in accordance with our Stockholder Communications Policy. See “Stockholder Communications with Directors” below. The Nominating Committee has the authority to retain a search firm to assist in the process of identifying and evaluating candidates.

The Nominating Committee has not established any specific minimum requirements for potential members of our Board of Directors. Instead, the Nominating Committee’s evaluation process includes many factors and considerations including, but not limited to, a determination of whether a candidate meets Nasdaq and/or SEC requirements relating to independence and/or financial expertise, as applicable, and whether the candidate meets the Company’s desired qualifications in the context of the current make-up of the Board of Directors with respect to factors such as business experience, education, intelligence, leadership capabilities, integrity, competence, dedication, diversity, skills, and the overall ability to contribute in a meaningful way to the deliberations of the Board of Directors respecting the Company’s business strategies, financial and operational performance and corporate governance practices. The Nominating Committee will generally select those nominees whose attributes it believes would be most beneficial to the Company in light of all the circumstances.

Stockholder Communications with Directors

Our Board of Directors has adopted a Stockholder Communications Policy to provide a process by which our stockholders may communicate with the Board of Directors. Under the policy, stockholders may communicate with the Board of Directors as a whole, with the independent directors, with a committee of the Board, or with a particular director. Stockholders wishing to communicate directly with our Board of Directors may do so by mail addressed to Natural Alternatives International, Inc., 1535 Faraday Avenue, Carlsbad, California, 92008, Attn: Corporate Secretary. The envelope must contain a clear notation indicating that the enclosed letter is a “Stockholder-Board Communication” or “Stockholder-Director Communication.” All such letters must identify the author as a stockholder of the Company and clearly state whether the intended recipients are all members of the Board of Directors, all independent directors, all members of a committee of the Board, or certain specified individual directors. The Corporate Secretary will review the communications received from stockholders at the above designated address on a regular basis and if they are relevant to the Company’s operations and policies, they will be copied and forwarded to the appropriate director or directors as expeditiously as reasonably practicable. By way of example, communications that are unduly hostile, threatening, obscene, illegal or similarly inappropriate will not be forwarded to any director. Matters deemed to be trivial in the sole discretion of the Corporate Secretary will be delivered to the appropriate director or directors at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors. The Corporate Secretary will periodically provide the Board of Directors with a summary of all communications received that were not forwarded and will make those communications available to any director upon request. The Board of Directors will determine whether any communications sent to the Board of Directors should be properly addressed by the entire Board or a committee thereof and whether a response to the communication is warranted.

Attendance at Annual Meetings