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Oregon Agenda



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PRESIDENT

Teresa Stone PRP CP
8855 SW Bridletrail Avenue
Beaverton, OR 97008-7294
503-524-8742

teresastoneRN@frontier.com

EDITOR

Beverly Przybylski, PRP
1412 NW 14th Street
Battle Ground, WA 97604-3227
360-687-1954

beverlyp9@comcast.net

**FROM
THE
DESK
OF
THE
PRESIDENT**



This edition of *The Oregon Agenda* is being published after the gavel has come down on another successful OAP Annual Meeting. Of course any meeting that starts out with a good dinner before hand is already a success! Several OAP members had dinner with our National Association of Parliamentarians' official representative, Vice-President Mary Randolph PRP, and her husband Bill, on Friday evening, and it was just a fun, relaxing get together.

The annual meeting included adopting the 2014-2015 OAP Budget and hearing from our District 7 Director, OAP's own Alice Bartelt PRP, and greetings from VP Randolph, on behalf of NAP. Tad Davis provided an

update on OAP's Strategic Plan development, and OAP VP Jeff Weston gave a presentation titled, *OAP's Electronic Age* – about the OAP web site, Facebook and Twitter – even assisting attendees to use this technology right in the meeting.

OAP, of course, arranged for good weather for VP Randolph and she rewarded us by presenting two great workshops after the business meeting was completed. There was much discussion during both, *What is a Parliamentarian?* and, *The Logistics of Holding a Public Workshop*.

Elections of the 2014-2016 officers and Nominating Committee were completed, and the new officers were installed by VP Randolph.

....and so the next biennium begins – with great plans for OAP's future, including finalizing the Strategic Plan, utilizing cyber space to its optimum advantage and through OAP's new membership in the Non-Profit Association of Oregon, making our presence known. And as your President, I look forward to working with the Board in growing OAP's membership, presenting

(Continued on page 2)

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(Continued from page 1)

workshops and working with the state's youth organizations that have interest in parliamentary procedure – our members of tomorrow!

Teresa Stone BSN RNC PRP CP
OAP President

IS A "SECOND" REQUIRED?

Jeff Weston, Education Committee Chair

A "second" is used to ensure that a motion has a minimal level of interest so that an assembly doesn't waste their time on a motion in which only one person is interested. Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, 11th edition (RONR), page 32, lists seconding a motion as the second step of bringing a motion before an assembly. On page 35, RONR goes into further detail on the process of seconding a motion, going so far as to instruct the presiding officer to ask, when a motion has not been seconded, "Is there a second to the motion?" Obtaining a second is an integral part of bringing a motion before an assembly.

What happens when there is no second to a motion, but the chair allows the motion to proceed anyway? On page 37, RONR states that a member can raise a point of order that the motion was not seconded, and thus force the chair to ask for a second to the motion. If one were to only take a casual glance at the rules for seconding motions, one might conclude that a second is required and a motion cannot be allowed to proceed without one.

A deeper analysis of the rules for seconding motions reveals that seconding a motion is not a strict requirement. On page 37 of RONR, the discussion of raising a point of order regarding the lack of a second continues with, "Such a point of order should not be made only for the sake of form, if it is clear that more than one member wishes to take up the motion." RONR further says that once debate has started on a motion, "the lack of a second has become immaterial and it is too late to make a point of order that the

motion has not been seconded." Even if a motion was adopted without a second, "the absence of a second does not affect the validity of the motion's adoption."

In short, the answer to the title of this article is, no, a "second" is not required. While a second is a useful tool to save assemblies from considering motions that only one member is interested in, it is a formality that does not require strict adherence. Attempting to enforce a strict adherence on seconding motions that the assembly is clearly interested in will only serve to slow down meetings. Focusing on important issues, rather than strict adherence to formalities, will help meetings run more effectively.

OAP BOARD MEETING

Monday, May 12th, 6:00 p.m.
Bartelt's Basement Boardroom
6690 SW Dover St., Portland

UNIT REPORTS

Mt Hood Unit

No Report

Rose City Unit

In addition to monthly lessons on research and the motion to “Suspend the Rules”, we are encouraging each other to fill out NAPs new PEER Award form and to submit them in time for recognition at the National Training Conference in August. At least two of our members are planning to attend the NTC in Oklahoma.

Jim Little has transferred into our unit and Pat Howard has sent in the transfer form.

We elected a Nominating Committee during our meeting in March. The committee will report in April and we will elect in May during our annual meeting. Two years has gone by very quickly.

This past January one of our unit members attended the AIP west coast practicum. The three-day workshop was all about practicing the strategic use of motions.

On a personal note I was excited to learn that my good friend, Leslie Hatcher, passed her membership exam and will be joining the Tualatin Valley Unit. She and I are members of DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution). Another good DAR friend just passed her exam and is now a PRP! She serves as parliamentarian for the California State Society DAR.

We meet at Lloyd Corporate Plaza, 925 NE 19th Ave, Portland on the third Friday of the month. Our next meeting will be April 18th at 7:00 p.m.

Beverly Przybylski, PRP, President

Tualatin Valley Unit

When you spend several hours each month, from September through May, attending a meeting devoted to the study of parliamentary law, primarily as presented in Robert’s Rules of Order, it is a challenge to offer materials that are always exciting and entertaining. I’ve already violated the sentence length rule. Any failure to adhere to the rules creates distress among parliamentarians.

In search of the answer to my question, I discovered Jim Slaughter’s web site: The Parliamentary Procedure Instructional Material Center. The tag line describes this location as the most comprehensive parliamentary procedure web site. Currently, you will find displayed “Parliamentary Procedure E - Bulletin # 53.”

Programs at the Tualatin Valley’s unit meetings are a mixture of membership examination practice and an attempt to assist members in dealing with parliamentary procedure situations that arise in organizations to which they belong. We have two new members; Elizabeth McQueston and Leslie Hatcher. Elizabeth arrived having had to pay the proctor who administered her membership examination. This surprised us; however, after hearing the details of the situation we are appreciative that in the end she has found us. Leslie has been a provisional member for two years and passed the membership examination earlier this month. Our small membership gives us the benefit to play elected officers musical chairs. You are assured that it is likely you will serve the organization and grow as a leader.

Lauretta Slaughter

OFFICERS ELECTED AND APPOINTED AT THE OAP ANNUAL MEETING, MARCH 15, 2014

President	Teresa Stone PRP
Vice President	Jeffrey Weston
Secretary	Shirley Holmes RP
Treasurer	Tad Davis
Parliamentarian	Alice Bartelt PRP

PICTURES FROM THE OAP ANNUAL MEETING HELD MARCH 15, 2014



Left—Officially Calling to Order the annual meeting of the Oregon Association of Parliamentarians by President Teresa Stone, PRP.



Right—Welcome by Peggy Long, PRP, president of Mount Hood Unit, who hosted the annual meeting.



Left—Welcome from District 7 Director Alice Bartelt, PRP.

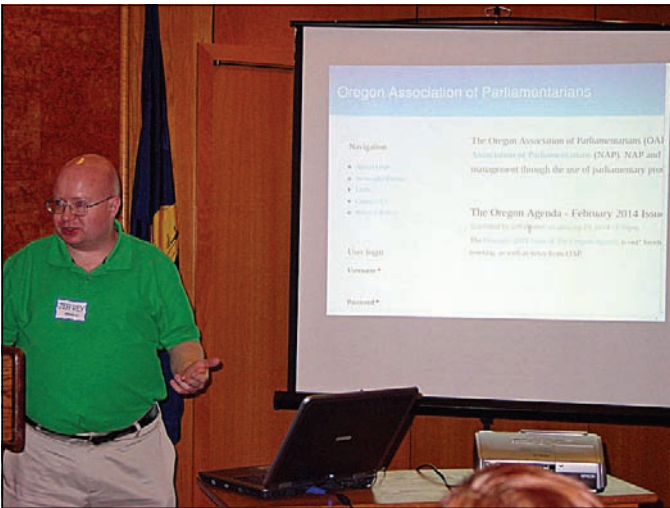


Right—Vice-President Mary Randolph, PRP, presented the assembly with greetings and an update from NAP.



Left—Tad Davis, a member of the Budget and Finance Committee, has been instrumental in developing a strategic plan for the Oregon Association of Parliamentarians. At the annual meeting, Tad presented attendees with an overview of how a strategic plan is developed and the progress that the Board of Directors has made to date.

PICTURES FROM THE OAP ANNUAL MEETING HELD MARCH 15, 2014



Left—OAP Vice-President Jeff Weston, demonstrated our OAP web site and provided an excellent tutorial on Facebook and Twitter. Some of us signed up for our first Twitter account and we’re now “following”.



Right—NAP Vice-President Mary Randolph presented two outstanding workshops.



NAP Vice-President Mary Randolph installed new 2014-2016 OAP officers (pictured from the left), Treasurer Tad Davis, Secretary Shirley Holmes, Vice-President Jeff Weston and President Teresa Stone.