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Oregon Agenda



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**FROM
THE
DESK
OF
THE
PRESIDENT**



Before I dig into the meat of my first letter as president, I thank Teresa Stone for all of her hard work over the past four years as president of the Oregon Association of Parliamentarians (OAP).

I am honored to be elected to serve as OAP president. For those who don't know me, I've been interested in parliamentary procedure ever since I lived in Farm-House Fraternity at Oregon State University. We used *Robert's Rules of Order* to conduct our meetings. Several years later I got involved with the Libertarian Party of Oregon and have had the assistance of several OAP members with numerous complex parliamentary

problems presented by the Libertarians. I also serve on the board of a charitable foundation founded by my father.

About a month has passed since our 2016 annual meeting. We elected officers, adopted a budget, amended our bylaws to allow for affiliate members to join OAP, and welcomed new affiliate members who joined during our meeting. Amidst all of our usual activity, we received a report from Mary Randolph, our National Association of Parliamentarians president, that membership renewals are down for 2016. We've seen the effects of this in Oregon, as our own membership renewals are down as well. This is the continuation of a trend that has been going on for years.

My objective as president is to expand our horizons. We have organizations all around us who need our help, but don't know that we exist. I want to hold at least one training event per year that offers the help that these organizations need. I have announced a training event that coincides with our 2017 annual meeting: March 18th, 2017. I also want to explore ways of promoting ourselves. I have created a Meetup

(Continued on page 2)

OAP Website: <http://www.oregonap.org/>

OAP on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/OregonAP>

OAP on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OregonAP>

OAP Meetup Group <http://www.meetup.com/Oregon-Association-of-Parliamentarians/>

(From the President, continued from page 1)

group as one way for us to promote our events. The website address can be found at the bottom of the first page of this newsletter.

I am confident that by focusing on our mission of teaching effective meeting management through the use of parliamentary procedure, we will see an increase of our membership. Thank you for the trust you have placed in me by electing me as your president.

Jeff Weston, OAP President

**Oregon Association of
Parliamentarians
2016-2018 Officers**

President Jeffrey Weston
Vice President Alice Bartelt
Secretary Teresa Stone
Treasurer Tad Davis

Incidental Motions

Alice Bartelt, PRP, Education Committee Chair

Incidental motions are numerous, and understanding them can be daunting. But, they are important to keeping meetings on track. They have the following characteristics:

- They relate to the pending business or business otherwise at hand.
- They deal with procedures arising out of
 - 1) commonly, another pending motion; but also
 - 2) sometimes another motion or item of business:
 - a) that it is desired to introduce;
 - b) that has been made but has not yet been stated by the chair; or
 - c) that has been pending.
- Usually are related to the main question in such a way that they must be decided immediately, before business may proceed.
- Most are undebatable.
- Each of the incidental motions is applicable in its own type of special circumstance.

The motions that are in this category are listed below:

- Point of Order: this is made when a member notices that the chair is not enforcing the rules. The effect of such a motion is to require the chair to make a ruling on the question involved.
- Appeal: this occurs when the chair has made a ruling on a question of parliamentary procedure, and two members (the mover and a seconder) make the motion immediately after the chair has made the ruling. This can require the chair to submit the matter to a vote of the assembly.
- Suspend the Rules: permits the accomplishment of a desired purpose by allowing the assembly to

take up a question or do something that would be in violation of a rule that applies.

- Objection to the Consideration of a Question: if an original main motion has been made and a member believes that it would be harmful for the motion to even be discussed in the meeting, the member may make this motion, if the member does so prior to any debate or to any subsidiary motion being made. If two-thirds of the members agree with the mover, the main motion will not be considered.
- Division of Question: this can occur if a pending main motion contains two or more parts capable of standing alone. The assembly can vote to treat each part accordingly in succession.
- Consideration by Paragraph or Seriatim: allows each section of a resolution or document to be amended separately, before a vote upon the entire document or resolution is taken.
- Division of the Assembly: can occur when a member doubts the accuracy of the chair's announcement of a voice vote or a show-of-hands vote. This requires a standing vote, but not a counted vote. Only the chair may order a counted vote.
- Motions Relating to Methods of Voting and the Polls: these are motions to have the vote taken by ballot, by roll call, or by a counted standing vote, especially if the result of another method of voting is inconclusive. These motions also include having the polls closed or reopened in a ballot election.
- Motions Relating to Nominations: these allow a member to move to specify how nominations should be made, if the bylaws do not specify the

(Continued on page 3)

UNIT REPORTS

Rose City Unit

Rose City Unit's next meeting is Friday, April 15th at 7:00 p.m. in the Rose Garden conference room at Lloyd Corporate Plaza, 925 NE 19th Ave., in Portland. Tina Penman will present a program on bylaws and our nominating committee will report on who they are nominating for our officer elections at our annual meeting in May. Guests are welcome to attend our meetings, but note that access to the building is restricted. If you do wish to attend, please let us know so that we can make sure you make it into the building.

We meet once per month (usually on the third Friday of the month, at 7:00 p.m.) from September until May, with the exception of December when we hold a holiday potluck instead of a regular meeting.

Jeff Weston, Rose City Unit President

Tualatin Valley Unit

Having adopted the proposed revision of its bylaws, the TV Unit began a new program series emphasizing preparation and practice in order to pass the registered examination. For the first program members were asked to bring questions, research tips, or other information that would be of assistance in preparing for the registered examination. It was pointed out that this is new territory for the TV Unit; however, history and support from OAP's PRP's will take them to their goal.

Of the many places where words by Jeffrey Weston appear, *The Oregon Agenda* is perhaps the most read. The quality of the publication is enriched by his contributions. His constant presence on these pages is much appreciated. Members of the TV Unit say Thank You!

Lauretta Slaughter, TV Unit President

(Incidental Motions, continued from page 2)

- method. In addition, these motions are used to close and reopen nominations.
- Request to be Excused from a Duty: can occur if a member wishes to be relieved of an obligation imposed upon the member by the bylaws or by virtue of some position or office that the member holds.
 - Requests and Inquiries: a member can make these in relation to business that someone wishes to introduce, or which is pending, or has just been pending, such as:
 - a. Parliamentary Inquiry: a request for the chair's opinion on a matter or parliamentary procedure as it relates to the business at hand.
 - b. Point of Information: an inquiry as to facts affecting the business at hand, which is directed to the chair, or to a member through the chair.
 - c. Request for Permission to Withdraw or Modify a Motion: after it has been stated by the chair.

- d. Request to Read Papers.
- e. Request for Any Other Privilege.

The first types of inquiries are responded to by the chair, or by a member at the direction of the chair. The other requests can be granted only by the assembly.

Finally, the following are conditions under which incidental motions take precedence over, or yield to, other motions:

- An incidental motion is in order only when it is legitimately incidental to another pending motion, or when it is legitimately incidental in some other way to the business at hand; it then takes precedence over any other motions that are pending.
- Usually, but not always, an incidental motion is legitimately incidental to another pending motion only while the other motion is immediately pending.

Yearbook

Peggy Long, PRP, Yearbook Committee Chair

It is time to update the OAP Yearbook. Will each unit please send me a list of its officers, the place, day and time of meetings, a list of regular members, associate members and any provisional members. If any of these members have changed addresses and/or phone numbers since the last publication of the yearbook or are new to the yearbook, please provide that information as well. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.



NAP President Mary Randolph gave the oath of office to the newly elected association officers during the annual meeting on March 19, 2016.

Pictured left to right, top to bottom: President Jeff Weston, Vice President Alice Bartelt, Secretary Teresa Stone and Treasurer Tad Davis. In the picture on the left is incoming OAP President Jeff Weston receiving the president's pin from retiring OAP President Teresa Stone.

Congratulations!!

