VOLUME XLVII NO. 3 October 2017

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I hope that everyone has enjoyed their summer. Several of us went to the National Association of Parliamentarians (NAP) biennial convention in Lombard near Chicago, Illinois, and have our heads filled with new parliamentary information to share with everyone. NAP held elections at this convention and these are our new NAP board of directors:

James N. Jones, PRP, President; Darlene T. Allen, PRP, Vice President; Kevin R. Connelly, PRP, Secretary; Wanda M. Sims, PRP, Treasurer; Directors-at-Large: Joyce Brown-Watkins, PRP; Ann Rempel, PRP; Alison Wallis, PRP; Roger Hanshaw, PRP, District Director; Larry Martin, PRP, District Director.

In other news, I am sorry to have to report that NAP is increasing their dues. NAP bylaws allow the NAP board to raise dues in line with inflation. NAP dues have remained at their current level for several years, but the board felt it necessary to increase dues this year to deal with increasing costs. You will see this increase on your renewal notice.

Now that summer is over we are resuming our own unit and association meetings. We also continue to host our monthly social event on the first Tuesday of each month at the Elmer's at 10001 NE Sandy Blvd., in Portland. Our next social event is on Tuesday, November 6th.

Finally, we are preparing for our own annual meeting in March. Be sure to save the date; our 2018 annual meeting is on March 17th! Look for the official call to our annual meeting in the next issue of *The Oregon Agenda*. In the meantime, our nominating committee is looking for those interested in running for office in the Oregon Association of Parliamentarians (OAP). Look for their article and get in touch with them if you are interested in running.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our upcoming events!

Jeff Weston, OAP President

OAP Website: <a href="http://www.oregonap.org/">http://www.oregonap.org/</a>

OAP on Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/OregonAP">https://twitter.com/OregonAP</a>

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

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

#### **UNIT REPORTS**

#### **Rose City Unit**

Rose City Unit congratulates Lawrence Taylor on passing the National Association of Parliamentarians (NAP) membership exam at the NAP biennial convention!

Rose City Unit met in September and has adopted a program schedule oriented towards getting our provisional members to pass the NAP membership exam and getting those interested in doing so to pass the NAP registration exam. In October, our program will prepare our provisional members to take the membership exam. In November, our program will prepare our members to take one section of the registration exam. In January, we will administer the membership exam and one section of the registration exam. The remainder of our programs will alternate between preparing members to take a section of the registration exam in one month and then administering that section of the exam the next month.

We meet once per month, usually at 7:00 p.m. on the third Friday, from September until May, with the exception of December. We meet in the Rose Garden conference room at Lloyd Corporate Plaza, 919 NE 19th Ave., in Portland. Guests are welcome to attend our meetings, but note that access to the building is restricted. If you wish to attend, please let us know so that we can make sure you make it into the building.

Our next meeting is Friday, October 20th.

Jeff Weston, President

# THE SECRETARY'S TABLE TERESA STONE PRP, NAP SECRETARY (RET.)

It's Over.....

My two-year term as NAP Secretary began upon my election back in September of 2015 – and ended just last month. I ran to be of support to NAP President Mary Randolph during her term – and I truly did not expect to win the election. It was a quick learning curve – I became chair of the NAP Operational Policies and Procedures Committee, served on the PRP Referral Committee, attended two-hour conference calls every Friday morning and was responsible for drafting the minutes of all the

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#### **Tualatin Valley Unit**

Visiting <a href="www.parliamentarians.org">www.parliamentarians.org</a> is something I seldom do. How about you? In a recent conversation, when it was mentioned that the NAP membership examination is available on the website, I had to rapidly search for the address. Why was I not able to quickly recite the location? After this experience, I began to examine, as a member of NAP, how often do I, by my behavior, engender interest in parliamentary procedure?

During 2017-2018, the unit will focus on examinations. An individual who has been a visitor at our meetings, off and on, for several years will join the unit as a provisional member. A regular member who last year gave the entire unit the opportunity to become more familiar with RONR will continue to follow the path to pass the registered examination.

When the occasion arises, do we share with others the dates, times, and locations of our unit's meetings? The TV Unit continues to meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month at Elmer's Restaurant located at 1250 NW Waterhouse, Avenue, Beaverton, at 7:00 p.m.

Lauretta Slaughter, President

### **Next OAP Board Meeting**

Saturday, October 16th, 7:00 p.m.

Alice Bartelt's Home

The next issue of The Oregon Agenda will be in February.

Deadline for articles is February 3, 2018.

Email articles to **OAP Editor** 

## WITHOUT OBJECTION ALICE BARTELT, PRP, OAP VICE PRESIDENT

For those of us who have watched the United States Senate in action, the term "without objection" is often used. This is the Senate's version of "unanimous consent" as used in *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* (11th Edition, 2011).

Unanimous consent is a very practical way to take care of routine business. As Robert explains: In cases where there seems to be no opposition in routine business or on questions of little importance, time can often be saved by the procedure of unanimous consent, or as it was formerly also called, general consent. Action in this manner is in accord with the principle that rules are designed for the protection of the minority and generally need not be strictly enforced when there is no minority to protect. Under these conditions, the method of unanimous consent can be used either to adopt a motion without the steps of stating the question and putting the motion to a formal vote, or it can be used to take action without even the formality of a motion. To obtain unanimous consent in either case, the chair states that "If there is no objection... [or, "Without objection..."]," the action that he mentions will be taken; or he may ask, "Is there any objection to ... ?" He then pauses, and if no member calls out, "I object," the chair announces that, "Since there is no objection...," the action is decided upon. If any member objects, the chair must state the question on the motion, allow any desired debate and put the question in the regular manner. Or—if no motion has been made—the chair must

first ask, "Is there a motion to... [stating the proposed action]"; or he must at least put the question, assuming such a motion. If an objection is made with reasonable promptness, even though the chair may have already announced the result as one of "no objection," he must disregard such an announcement and proceed to state the question in the usual manner. (RONR, p. 54-55).

Unanimous consent may be used for such routine matters as approving minutes or adopting the agenda. If a person objects, they are objecting to doing business without a normal motion, debate and vote. Unanimous consent does not mean that everyone is in favor of the action, but there is no opposition. But, objections should not be made for dilatory reasons. In addition, unanimous consent may be used when a two-thirds vote is required. Such an example would be when the chair senses that the assembly would like more time to debate an issue, even though the time for that item has expired. The Chair would say, "If there is no objection, the time to debate this issue will be extended for five minutes." If there is no objection raised, the extra time will be allowed.

Another example would be when an order of business is contained in an organization's standing rules, any change to the agenda would take a motion to suspend the rules and adopt the changes to the agenda. But, this can normally be done by adopting the proposed agenda by unanimous consent. Otherwise, it would take a motion and a 2/3 vote to pass.

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monthly meetings – regular and executive sessions, and of my own accord I kept a motions log.

I loved every minute of it! I learned so much about the inner workings of NAP, became close to the staff, enjoyed the time spent with the other board members and became an expert in drafting minutes! But I didn't just write them and submit to HQ – they first had to go to the Minutes Approval Committee, the MAC (attack...). At the 2017 convention, prior to and in conjunction with business sessions the Board held three meetings and those minutes were also drafted and submitted to the MAC. In addition, I drafted the

convention minutes, and not miss a credentials report, a motion, an amendment, or a vote tally – for a convention of parliamentarians that pulls out all the stops??? Not for the weak-hearted. But within the week of the end of the convention the draft minutes were sent off to the convention MAC. I also wrote the NAP 2015-2017 Biennial History. So I did not just hand over all the documents and stick drives and walk away.

You may rest assured, the NAP secretary position is in good hands – Kevin Connelly (our own) District 7 Director – ran unopposed and is now your NAP Secretary. Congratulations to Kevin and all the new NAP Officers!