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Oregon Agenda



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PRESIDENT

Beverly Przybylski, PRP
820 NE 29th Way
Battle Ground WA 97604-8277
360-687-1954
beverlyp9@comcast.net

EDITOR

Beverly Przybylski, PRP
820 NE 29th Way
Battle Ground WA 97604-8277
360-687-1954
beverlyp9@comcast.net

OFFICIAL CALL

FIFTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

OREGON ASSOCIATION OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

ON THE

THIRTEENTH DAY OF MARCH 2021

BEVERLY PRZYBYLSKI, PRESIDENT

To MEET OR NOT TO MEET—THAT IS THE QUESTION

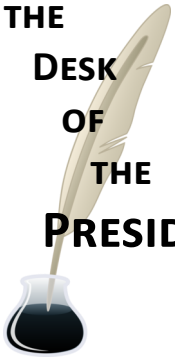
OAP Website: <http://www.oregonap.org/>

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
DESK
OF
THE
PRESIDENT**



It would be at this point that I would normally say, “I’m looking forward to seeing you at the annual meeting” in just a few weeks. Yes, we will have an annual meeting, but just like so many other meetings we’ve been attending this past year it will be different from those OAP meetings of the past.

Our theme is apropos — “To Meet or Not to Meet, That is the Question.” Many organizations opted out of meetings in 2020, some met electronically, and others met, somewhere and somehow, in between. Hybrid was a familiar word in 2020, which sometimes meant some members attended in-person and some members attended the same meeting remotely. Some thought hybrid meant to handle critical business only and put off everything else to next year. We parliamentarians were asked for creative ways to get business done. It was a struggle. I’ve heard it was a banner year for many parliamentarians.

This year, OAP will also be creative. OAP cannot meet in-person due to the restrictions that are still in place. But our bylaws do not authorize electronic meetings. In order to remedy that, there will be a very brief in-person meeting on March 13 at 8:00 a.m. in order to adopt a proposed bylaw amendment to authorize electronic meetings. While no one can be denied the right to attend a meeting of an organization to which they belong, we hope you will stay at home. Trust that your president, secretary, and parliamentarian

will do right for you. We’re not going to do anything underhanded. If you decide to join us at our in-person meeting, please be prepared to properly wear a mask and to distance yourself. The in-person meeting will be followed by an adjourned meeting later that same day. The tentative agenda can be found on page five in this newsletter and all of the proposed bylaws amendments begin on page six.

In other matters, there have been two more District 7 meeting/social events. Sprung from our discussions is the idea of district-wide sponsored educational training for the public. Stay tuned as the group works to identify targets, marketing, and a list of presentations and presenters.

OAP has been growing. We welcome five new members and a transfer: Linda Bassett, CEU; Andrew McKenzie, CEU; Jason Small, CEU; Carol Wagar, CEU; Rebecca Wolfersberger, CEU; and Jasmine White, RCU. Congratulations on passing the membership exam and joining our Oregon units!

Continuing education is a vital part of parliamentary procedure, and especially when serving clients, whether we do it professionally, or pro bono for the organizations in which we belong. In January, five OAP members attended the virtual American Institute of Parliamentarians West Coast Practicum, “What’s New in the Parliamentarians’ World?” Of course, what’s new in 2020 was virtual meetings. As usual, the educational workshops and practice sessions were outstanding.

Education is also an important part of OAP. There will be three workshops coordinated by our Education Committee. While I won’t get to see you in person this year, I truly look forward to seeing you on Zoom during the OAP annual meeting and education on March 13th at 11:00 a.m.

Beverly Przybylski, OAP President

Deadline for articles in the next issue of
The Oregon Agenda is April 4, 2021.

Email articles to [OAP Editor](#)

PARLIAMENTARY LAW & THE DISTRIBUTION OF POWER BY LAWRENCE TAYLOR, PRP, OAP VICE-PRESIDENT

Within the 396 words of the 12th amendment of the U.S. Constitution is the following language regarding the counting of Electoral College votes:

The President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates and the votes shall then be counted;

The President of the Senate is defined in Article I, Section 3 of the U.S. Constitution, which states:

The Vice President of the United States shall be President of the Senate...

Recently, parliamentarians were mentioned in the national news. It was reported that the U.S. Vice President had consulted several parliamentarians to get their opinion on what powers are given to the Vice President in the 12th amendment. He did this because the President had stated, *“The Vice President has the power to reject fraudulently chosen electors.”*

He further stated that the Vice President *“has the option to decertify the results from disputed states or reject”* illegal and corrupt results. This process is further defined in the U.S. Code, Title 3, Chapter 1, § 15 - Counting electoral votes in Congress.

Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised (12th ed) in the chapter entitled “Principles Underlying Parliamentary Law,” states the following:

Parliamentary procedure enables the overall

membership of an organization—expressing its general will through the assembly of its members—both to establish and empower an effective leadership as it wishes, and at the same time to retain exactly the degree of direct control over its affairs that it chooses to reserve to itself.

This means that “control” (or more clearly expressed as “power”) is either reserved for the organization or allocated through the rules adopted by the organization. These governing rules are in the form of a constitution or bylaws, and if power isn’t “allocated,” it is reserved by the membership.

This disagreement between the President and the Vice President arises from not distinguishing the difference between deliberative assemblies (which are governed by parliamentary law) and entities like businesses, where power originates with the owner or the board of directors. The President appears to have assumed that because the Vice President is the presiding officer during the counting of Electoral College Votes, he has the power to make decisions, as a CEO would in a business.

This misunderstanding of how power is allocated in deliberative assemblies is not uncommon. It is not unusual to find the elected leadership exercising more power than has been allocated to them. Because members often do not understand parliamentary law, they are unaware when their powers are being appropriated.

OAP HISTORY

BY TERESA STONE PRP CP-T, OAP HISTORIAN

THE 60’s

In the 1950s, Oregon’s parliamentary units directly affiliated with the National Association of Parliamentarians (NAP). They met informally in the state in the decade of the 1950s, but these units became more serious in their pursuit of a statewide association as the 1960s decade progressed. Fast-forward to 1968 and as quoted directly from the OAP History:

For a number of years there had been some interest in organizing a state association. As the number of units grew and the state membership increased, the interest grew even stronger. With this in mind, the first organizing meeting was called for August 23, 1968, in the Ross Hollywood Funeral Home at 48th and

(Continued on page 4)

(OAP History continued from page 3)

Sandy Blvd. After much discussion, a second meeting was held November 1, 1968, at the same place, and the third meeting November 22, 1968, at which temporary officers were elected.

In September there was a new NAP Seventh District Director, Josephine Kolb of Seattle. Josephine and the NAP First Vice-President, Blanch Wilkinson, of Tacoma, came to Portland to assist with the proper procedures in organizing. At the third organizing meeting on November 22nd, temporary officers were elected with Rita Robedeau, President; Bonnie Sloan, Vice-President; and Bertha Hall O'Shea, Secretary.

Barbara Pennington, of the Lewelling Unit, presented the first OSAP Bylaws, which were approved. The designated name, "the Oregon State Association of Parliamentarians."

There were five units joining the state association: Barlow, Lewelling, Oregon City, Salem, and Spencer Butte, for a state membership of fifty-two members.

By signing the roll on December 1, 1968, the following individuals became charter members of the OSAP: Barlow—15; Lewelling—12; Oregon City—7; Salem—9; and Spencer Butte—9. [The members' names can be viewed in the OAP History Scrapbook.]

Over the past several years all of these five organizing units have been dissolved. Yet, as we take note of the names of the units represented here today, we must not overlook the fact only one of the early units is still in existence. Although not a charter unit of OSAP, the Rose City Unit, organized in 1961, has stood like a rock in the ever-changing time and membership of the Oregon Association.



HELP NEEDED

OAP Secretary—Attend four board meetings a year and one annual meeting. Board meetings will likely

continue on Zoom during the rest of this term. Take the minutes, prepare in final form, get them approved by the approval committee, file away until the next meeting. Work done.

Publicity/Public Relations Committee—Promote OAP activities, including the annual meeting and educational offerings to the public. Work closely with the Education Committee and board. Prepare information and publicity releases to the public through the press, trade journals, radio, television, the District 7 newsletter, and the OAP and NAP web pages.

Website Committee—Maintain the OAP website with up-to-date information. Ensure that the OAP domain name is renewed yearly. Provide estimated website costs to the Budget/Finance Committee. Ensure that the NAP website correctly links to the OAP website. Maintain a list of parliamentarians working in Oregon.

Contact the President at beverlyp9@comcast.net.

UNIT REPORT

The **Cascadia eUnit** enters the new year with 14 members. The unit is pleased to announce that it has received its Letter of Determination establishing its status as a 501(c)(3). NAP Secretary Kevin Connelly taught the January class on *Recording Minutes*.

Larry Taylor, President

OAP LAUNCHES 2021 EDUCATION SERIES BY LARRY TAYLOR, PRP, EDUCATION COMMITTEE CHAIR

Classes will be of two types: introductory intended to intrigue people to study parliamentary procedure, and the other will be on specific topics. Introductory classes will be free, and the topical classes will have a fee.

Topics and dates through April are:

Parliamentary Overview	2/28/2021	6:00 p.m.
Recording Minutes	3/14/2021	6:00 p.m.
Parliamentary Overview	3/29/2021	6:30 p.m.
Electronic Meetings	4/10/2021	10:00 a.m.
Parliamentary Overview	4/27/2021	5:30 p.m.

A monthly educational newsletter will also debut, to which all OAP members will be initially subscribed. Members may opt out. Registration for the classes will be on a soon-to-be-released Education web page on the OAP web site or through the newsletter.

TENTATIVE ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE

In-Person Meeting

8:00 a.m.	Call to Order	11:00 a.m.	Credentials Committee Report
	Set Adjourned Meeting	(cont.)	Standing Rules Committee Report
	Adopt Motion to Postpone		Program Committee Report
	Organizing Reports		Approve 8:00 a.m. Meeting Minutes
	Adopt Bylaw to Authorize		Appoint Minutes Approval Committee
	Electronic Meetings		Adopt Amended 2021 Annual Budget
	Adjourn		Adopt 2022 Annual Budget
			Elect NAP Delegates
			Present Proposed Bylaws Amendments

Electronic Meeting

11:00 a.m.	Call Adjourned Meeting to Order	12:00 p.m.	Recess
	Invocation	12:30 p.m.	Workshop (45 minutes)
	Pledge of Allegiance	1:30 p.m.	Workshop (45 minutes)
	Introductions	2:30 p.m.	Workshop (45 minutes)
	Greetings from NAP	3:15 p.m.	Reconvene
	Business		Announcements
			Adjourn Sine Die

Oregon Association of Parliamentarians 2021 Annual Meeting—Registration Form

In-person, ten-minute meeting, limited to members-only, **properly** wearing masks, and social distancing.
Saturday, March 13th, 2021, 8:00 a.m., Lloyd Corporate Plaza, 919 NE 19th Ave., Portland.

Pre-registration is required for the electronic meeting as the room will only be available to those who have registered. Saturday, March 13th, 2021, 11:00 a.m. ***You may pre-register up to the day of the meeting.***

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYsd-usqjMpHtb7rhKf0MGB8UkkzME-Msst>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. This confirmation is unique to you. Do not share.

Patty Getchell, PRP-R, OAP Credentials Chair, will record your eligibility to vote, which is limited only to OAP members and OAP-affiliate members.

Who to Contact:

Questions about Credentials:

Patty Getchell, PRP-R, OAP Credentials Chair pagetchell@centurylink.net

Registration Issues:

Jeff Weston, Website Committee Chair jjweston@gmail.com

Workshops:

Larry Taylor, PRP, Education Committee Chair lawrence.d.taylor@gmail.com

All Other Questions:

Beverly Przybylski, PRP, OAP President beverlyp9@comcast.net

Oregon Association of Parliamentarians

Proposed Bylaw Amendments for 2021 Annual meeting
March 13th, 2021

Authorize Electronic Association Meetings

Current Wording	Proposed Change	Wording, if Adopted
Article VII: Meetings [...]	Article VII: Meetings [...] Section 3. Electronic Meetings. <u>OAP annual and special meetings are authorized to meet by telephone conference call or through other electronic communications media so long as all members can simultaneously hear each other and participate during the meeting.</u>	Article VII: Meetings [...] Section 3. Electronic Meetings. OAP annual and special meetings are authorized to meet by telephone conference call or through other electronic communications media so long as all members can simultaneously hear each other and participate during the meeting.

Proposed amendment:

Amend Oregon Association of Parliamentarians bylaws by adding a new section to the end of **Article VII: Meetings**, with the following:

Section 3. Electronic Meetings. OAP annual and special meetings are authorized to meet by telephone conference call or through other electronic communications media so long as all members can simultaneously hear each other and participate during the meeting.

Rationale: The pandemic has demonstrated the need for us to be able to meet electronically.

Authorize Electronic Executive Committee Meetings

Current Wording	Proposed Change	Wording, if Adopted
Article IX: Executive Committee [...]	Article IX: Executive Committee [...] Section 6. Electronic Meetings. <u>The executive committee is authorized to meet by telephone conference call or through other electronic communications media so long as all members can simultaneously hear each other and participate during the meeting.</u>	Article IX: Executive Committee [...] Section 6. Electronic Meetings. The executive committee is authorized to meet by telephone conference call or through other electronic communications media so long as all members can simultaneously hear each other and participate during the meeting.

Proposed amendment:

Amend Oregon Association of Parliamentarians bylaws by adding a new section to the end of **Article IX: Executive Committee**, with the following:

Section 6. Electronic Meetings. The executive committee is authorized to meet by telephone conference call or through other electronic communications media so long as all members can simultaneously hear each other and participate during the meeting.

Rationale: The pandemic has demonstrated the need for us to be able to meet electronically.

Fix Affiliate Members

Current Wording	Proposed Change	Wording, if Adopted
Article III: Divisions/Members [...] Section 2. Members. There shall be the following classes of members: A. Unit Members 1. Regular Members. A unit regular member is one who has met the qualifications for NAP and OAP membership. A unit regular member is qualified to serve as a delegate to the NAP	Article III: Divisions/Members [...] Section 2. Members. There shall be the following classes of members: A. Unit Members 1. Regular Members: A unit regular member is one who has met the qualifications for NAP and OAP membership. A unit regular member is qualified to serve as a delegate to the NAP	Article III: Divisions/Members [...] Section 2. Members. There shall be the following classes of members: A. Unit Members. A unit member is one who has met the qualifications for NAP and OAP membership. A unit member is qualified to serve as a delegate to the NAP Conventions, according to

<p>Conventions, according to Article VII, Section 1. H. 2. Affiliate Members. Affiliate Members shall be NAP members whose primary membership is in another association, but who chooses to also be members of OAP. Such members shall have all the right and privileges of membership in OAP. [...]</p>	<p>Conventions, according to Article VII, Section 1. H. 2. Affiliate Members. Affiliate Members shall be NAP members whose primary membership is in another association, but who chooses to also be members of OAP. Such members shall have all the right and privileges of membership in OAP. [...] <u>C. Affiliate Members. Affiliate Members shall be NAP members whose primary membership is in another association, but who choose to also be members of OAP. Such members shall have all the rights and privileges of membership in OAP.</u> [...]</p>	<p>Article VII, Section 1. H. [...] C. Affiliate Members. Affiliate Members shall be NAP members whose primary membership is in another association, but who choose to also be members of OAP. Such members shall have all the rights and privileges of membership in OAP. [...]</p>
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Proposed conforming amendment #1:

Amend Oregon Association of Parliamentarians bylaws by striking A. **Unit Members** in **Article III: Divisions/Members, Section 2. Members**, and replacing it with the following:

A. **Unit Members.** A unit member is one who has met the qualifications for NAP and OAP membership. A unit member is qualified to serve as a delegate to the NAP Conventions, according to Article VII, Section 1. H.

Proposed conforming amendment #2:

Amend Oregon Association of Parliamentarians bylaws by inserting the following between B. **Members-at-Large** and C. **Full-Time Students** in **Article III: Divisions/Members, Section 2. Members**, and renumbering subsequent paragraphs:

C. **Affiliate Members.** Affiliate Members shall be NAP members whose primary membership is in another association, but who choose to also be members of OAP. Such members shall have all the rights and privileges of membership in OAP.

Rationale: Currently OAP affiliate members are categorized as unit members, but really should be categorized independently.

Authorize Technical and Conforming Changes

Current Wording	Proposed Change	Wording, if Adopted
<p>Article X: Committees [...] Section 3. Duties of Standing Committees. [...] B. The Bylaws/Procedure Manual Committee [...] 2. May: [...]</p>	<p>Article X: Committees [...] Section 3. Duties of Standing Committees. [...] B. The Bylaws/Procedure Manual Committee [...] 2. May: [...] e. <u>Correct article and section designations, punctuation, and cross-references and to make such other technical and conforming changes as may be necessary to reflect the intent of the Association in connection with amendments made to OAP bylaws, the procedure manual, OAP standing rules, and board of directors standing rules.</u></p>	<p>Article X: Committees [...] Section 3. Duties of Standing Committees. [...] B. The Bylaws/Procedure Manual Committee [...] 2. May: [...] e. Correct article and section designations, punctuation, and cross-references and to make such other technical and conforming changes as may be necessary to reflect the intent of the Association in connection with amendments made to OAP bylaws, the procedure manual, OAP standing rules, and board of directors standing rules.</p>

Proposed amendment:

Amend Oregon Association of Parliamentarians bylaws by adding a new section to the end of **Article X: Committees, Section 3. Duties of Standing Committees, B. The Bylaws/Procedure Manual Committee, 2. May**, with the following:

- e. Correct article and section designations, punctuation, and cross-references and to make such other technical and conforming changes as may be necessary to reflect the intent of the Association in connection with amendments made to OAP bylaws, the procedure manual, OAP standing rules, and board of directors standing rules.

Rationale: Authorize the Bylaws/Procedure Manual committee to make technical and conforming changes to OAP bylaws and other rules. Such changes can only be made when authorized by the members.

Remove Mention of For-Profit Activities

Current Wording	Proposed Change	Wording, if Adopted
<p>Article IV: Dues, Fees, and Finances [...] Section 2. Fees. Fees for the annual meeting, education events and other for-profit activities shall be determined by the Board of Directors.</p>	<p>Article IV: Dues, Fees, and Finances [...] Section 2. Fees. Fees for the annual meeting, education events and other for-profit activities shall be determined by the Board of Directors.</p>	<p>Article IV: Dues, Fees, and Finances [...] Section 2. Fees. Fees for the annual meeting, education events and other activities shall be determined by the Board of Directors.</p>

Proposed amendment:

Amend Oregon Association of Parliamentarians bylaws by striking “for-profit” from **Article IV: Dues, Fees, and Finances, Section 2. Fees.**

Rationale: OAP is a non-profit association. Our bylaws should not mention for-profit activities.

Allow Annual Meeting to be Run at a Loss

Current Wording	Proposed Change	Wording, if Adopted
<p>Article VII: Meetings Section 1. Annual Meetings. [...] F. Registration Fees/Other. The registration fee shall be determined by the Board of Directors. Fees shall be calculated so that income exceeds expenses.</p>	<p>Article VII: Meetings Section 1. Annual Meetings. [...] F. Registration Fees/Other. The registration fee shall be determined by the Board of Directors. Fees shall be calculated so that income exceeds expenses.</p>	<p>Article VII: Meetings Section 1. Annual Meetings. [...] F. Registration Fees/Other. The registration fee shall be determined by the Board of Directors.</p>

Proposed amendment:

Amend Oregon Association of Parliamentarians bylaws by striking, “Fees shall be calculated so that income exceeds expenses,” from **Article VII: Meetings, Section 1. Annual Meetings, F. Registration Fees/Other.**

Rationale: During most years we bring in more money than we spend. Allowing us to run our annual meetings at a loss gives us another option for balancing our budget to ensure we don’t accumulate a large amount of money.

Remove Mention of Member Resignation

Current Wording	Proposed Change	Wording, if Adopted
<p>Article III: Divisions/Members [...] Section 5. Resignation. Resignation of a member in good standing shall be submitted by letter sent to the secretary before March 1 of the year in which the resignation shall become effective. [...]</p>	<p>Article III: Divisions/Members [...] Section 5. Resignation. Resignation of a member in good standing shall be submitted by letter sent to the secretary before March 1 of the year in which the resignation shall become effective. [...]</p>	<p>Article III: Divisions/Members [...]</p>

Proposed amendment:

Amend Oregon Association of Parliamentarians bylaws by striking Section 5. Resignation, from Article III: Divisions/Members, and renumbering the subsequent section.

Rationale: We can't enforce this resignation process for members so we feel it doesn't belong in our bylaws.

Update “Chairman” to “Chair” and “Chairmen” to “Chairs”

Proposed amendment:

Amend Oregon Association of Parliamentarians bylaws by striking all occurrences of the word “chairman” and inserting “chair” in its place, and by striking all occurrences of the word “chairmen” and inserting “chairs” in its place.

Rationale: We suggest using the gender-neutral terms instead of the current terms.

Authorize Bylaws Revision

Proposed motion:

That the Bylaws/Procedure Manual committee be authorized to prepare a proposed revision to OAP bylaws for consideration at our 2022 annual meeting.