

Presenting and Passing a Motion

BETHEL MEMBER: (Rises)

After being recognized by the Honored Queen: Honored Queen, I move that ... (state the motion)

ANOTHER BETHEL MEMBER: (Rises)

Honored Queen, I second the motion.

HONORED QUEEN:

It has been moved by ... (name) ... and seconded that ... (repeat the motion)

Is there any discussion?

Any member of the Bethel is privileged to take part in the discussion. Only adults who are members of the Exec BGC or who are Majority Members of the Bethel may participate in the discussion

The Honored Queen does not take part in the discussion or vote (except in the case of a tie) while presiding. The Honored Queen and the Bethel Guardian should see that the discussion is confined to the point in question.

HONORED QUEEN:

Are you ready for the question? If there is no further discussion, the members remain silent.

HONORED QUEEN:

All those in favor ... (repeat the motion) ... will vote by the voting sign of the Order. Pause for vote.

Those opposed, same sign. Pause for vote.

HONORED QUEEN:

The motion is carried (or The motion is lost.) One rap of the gavel (*).

Overview

Parliamentary procedure helps the group make decisions. When you follow parliamentary procedure, you consider one item at a time and let the majority make the decision.

If you want to present an idea for consideration, you make a motion by saying: "I move to . . ." or "I move that . . ." The motion must be seconded by someone who says, "I second the motion." This shows that at least two people are interested in the idea. The presiding officer then asks if there is any discussion.

If you decide the motion needs to be changed in some way, you amend the motion by saying: "I move to amend the motion by . . ." The motion must be seconded. At this point, the amendment is discussed and voted on BEFORE returning to discussion of the main motion.

If you want to postpone discussion of a motion so that you can consider something more urgent, you table the motion by saying: "I move to table the motion." The motion must be seconded but is not discussed. If the members vote to table the motion, it remains on the table until someone says: "I move to take the question of . . . from the table." The motion must be seconded but is not discussed. If members vote to remove from the table, the question can then be discussed and voted on. A motion to remove from the table may be made later during the same meeting or at a subsequent meeting.

If you think that a question has been discussed enough and want to force a vote, you say: "I move the previous question." The motion must be seconded but is not discussed. If members vote to end the discussion, a vote is then taken on the main motion.

If you voted on the winning side of a motion and then learn new information that you think will change the vote, you say: "I move we reconsider" After the motion is seconded, it may be discussed as long as the motion being reconsidered was debatable.

Robert's Rule of Order allow voting by voice vote, show of hand, roll call, or secret ballot. At regular Job's Daughters meetings, voting on motions is done by show of hand (voting sign).