

COMMUNITY PROBLEM SOLVING METHOD OF DECISION MAKING: SEQUENCE FOR BRINGING A MOTION TO VOTE

The following is a possible way for placing limits on the discussion of a motion. This process is designed to allow approximately 20 minutes per motion. Naturally, some motions will take more or less time and will not necessarily be stopped mid-process if the allotted time per motion runs out before completion. Group conscience and trusting in a Higher Power will help balance the imperfect allocation of time needed for voting on motions. The process is not designed to handle formal amendments, "motions to table", "points of order" or other such traditional business terms and situations. During the period of time at the beginning of the CSC when CSC procedures are put in place, this timeline or a comparative one may be put in place. By group conscience, everything is flexible in this method, especially time and speaker limitations. **ADJUSTED TIMES and Pros and Cons FOR VIRTUAL CONFERENCE**

2 min.	1. Committee Chair puts a preliminary motion on the floor and presents the basic reasoning in favor of passing the preliminary motion. Comments may be made as to why the particular solution reflected in the preliminary motion was the final committee recommendation.
6 min.	2. The Facilitator asks for questions and information pertaining to the preliminary motion
8-12 min (4 pros and 4 cons- If more than may continue w/ time determined by CSC)	3. Statements in favor of and in opposition to the preliminary motion are given: a. Alternating microphones, Up to 3 people can speak 'for' and up to 3 people can speak 'against' the preliminary motion, for 1 minute each. An even number of speakers is not required and either pro or con may start. b. If more than 3 people want to speak pro or con, they may briefly confer among themselves to decide which three people will speak for the group. The speakers will try to include the non-speakers' main points. It is recommended that speakers not repeat the points another speaker has already addressed. <i>(increased to 4 for virtual conference)</i> c. Recorders note main points for and against the preliminary motion. If a Committee feels a motion needs more time for discussion within the Committee's allocated time, by a group conscience of the assembly, more time can be used for questions and answers, and twice as many statements pro and con may be heard. Of course, group conscience can also just put a time limit on this input with as many speakers speaking alternatively as possible within the time limit. Conferring so as points aren't repeated is still advised
6 min.	4. Changes are made to the preliminary motion per group conscience. When finalized, the motion is read back to make certain it is in its final form.
30 seconds	5. The Facilitator calls for "30 seconds of silence" to ask for Higher Power guidance before the vote, followed by the Serenity Prayer.
1 min.	6. The Facilitator calls for a vote: Those in favor; Those opposed; Abstentions. a. Motions that receive 2/3 or more votes are binding on the Board of Trustees unless that motion is later deemed in conflict with the law or the CoDA Bylaws. b. Motions with 2/3 vote for Committee work only require support from the Board; the Board does not do Committee work.
1 min.	7. One additional speaker on the minority opinion may be heard at this time

	<p>8. Any participant may call for "30 seconds of silence" at any time in order to remind the assembly of Higher Power's guiding presence and/or to slow down an escalating debate. Each 30 second period of silence will be followed by the Serenity Prayer.</p>
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