

2013 National FFA Parliamentary Procedure CDE

Semi-Finals

Team Problem Solving Activity

Scenario

At the September meeting of the Maple Valley FFA chapter, the following scenario took place:

John Smith “I move to organize an SAE project tour to showcase our members’ SAE projects.”

Member A “Second”

Chair: “It has been moved and seconded to organize an SAE project tour to showcase our members’ SAE projects.” Is there any discussion?

Bill Davis Mr.Chairman

Chair: Bill

Bill Davis: “I move to refer the motion to a committee to report back at the October meeting.”

Member B “Second”

Chair: “It has been moved and seconded to refer the motion to a committee to report back at the October meeting. Is there any discussion? Seeing none, all those in favor of referring the motion to a committee say “Aye,” All those opposed say “No.” Motion is carried.

The committee members will include John Smith, Anna Williams, and Becky Evans.

Bill Davis “I rise to a point of order”

Chair: “State your point”

Bill Davis “I made the motion to refer to committee so I should be named Chair of the committee.”

Directions

Review the above scenario and answer the questions on the following page. Please provide clear answers to the questions and support your answer with specific quotes from Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised (11th ed., 2011) including page and line numbers.

Questions

1. What type of committee was appointed?

Special Committee

“If the main motion is to go to a special (select, or ad hoc) committee.” (p. 171, l. 30-31)

“A special (select, or ad hoc) committee is a committee appointed, as the need arises, to carry out a special task, at the completion of which - that is, on presentation of its final report to the assembly - it automatically ceases to exist.” (p. 492, l. 3-9)

2. What details should have been included in the subsidiary motion to Commit?

“The motion should specify the number of committee members, and the method of their selection...” (p. 171, l. 31-33)

“Instructions to the committee can also be included in the motion to Commit, whether the committee is to be a standing or special one, or a committee of the whole. These instructions, which are binding on the committee, may involve such matters as when the committee should meet, how it should consider the question, whether it should employ an expert consultant, and when it should report.” (p. 172, l. 5-12)

3. Does the committee have authority to make final decisions about the SAE tour proposed in the original main motion?

No, the motion to refer indicated that the committee should report back at the October meeting. The motion did not give the committee “full power” to act.

“The committee can be given ‘full power’ to act for the society in a specific case...” (p. 172, l. 12-13)

4. How should the Chair rule on Bill Davis’ point of order that he should have been named Chair of the committee?

The chairman should have ruled the point of order was not well taken

“Although it is not necessary to place on a special committee the member who made the motion to Commit, it is usual to do so when such a person is interested and qualified.” (p. 175, l. 18-20)

5. When will the committee report appear on the agenda for the October chapter meeting?

Reports of Special Committees

“The special committees (50) that are to report are called in the order in which they were appointed. Only those special committees that are prepared, or were instructed, to report on matters referred to them should be called on.” (p. 356, l. 24-28)

6. When the committee reports it can make one of three different recommendations. What are the three options that the committee can report?

A Report on a Resolution Previously Referred to a Committee

Recommending adoption, or rejection, or (when a majority of the committee fail to agree) making no recommendation. (p. 516, l. 31-32)

7. After the committee reports, what happens to the main motion originally referred to them?

It becomes the immediate pending motion

“When the presentation of the report is concluded in each of the above cases, the resolution or main question becomes pending automatically and the chair states the question accordingly, no motion being necessary.” (p. 517, l. 22-25)