

From: Bearden, Joshua
To: [Arcidiacono, Marie](#); [Von Bergen, Julie](#); [Townsend, Janice](#)
Cc: [Hiscocks, Ryan](#); [Haven, Edward](#); [Moultrie, Nikki](#); [Ybarra, Nancy](#); [Pedersen, Ryan](#); [Archuleta, Irsabenda](#); [McGrath, Cindy](#); [Reyes, David](#); [Corlew, C](#)
Subject: RE: Quick Update: Reviewing Robert's Rule on Getting Something Out of Committee
Date: Friday, March 08, 2019 10:39:00 AM

In the spirit of collegiality, I support placing the resolution as a second read item on the March 11th agenda. I am supporting this even though I believe we followed the spirit of Robert's rule of orders when referring to committee. However, I acknowledge that we are all learning and mistakes may be made when using our procedures.

Therefore, both the GE's resolution and Janice and Julie's resolution will appear as second read items at the next meeting. The senate will have the opportunity to deliberate and vote on both proposals.

Marie will follow up at Monday's meeting with another discussion about Robert's rules.

I've copied the GE committee on this email thread so that everyone is on the same page.

Thanks,
Joshua L. Bearden
Assistant Professor of History
Los Medanos College
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From: Arcidiacono, Marie
Sent: Friday, March 08, 2019 10:30 AM
To: Von Bergen, Julie <JVonBergen@losmedanos.edu>; Townsend, Janice <jtownsend@losmedanos.edu>
Cc: Bearden, Joshua <JBearden@losmedanos.edu>; Hiscocks, Ryan <rhiscocks@losmedanos.edu>
Subject: Re: Quick Update: Reviewing Robert's Rule on Getting Something Out of Committee

Hi All,

I have been going through the unabridged Robert's Rule for more clarity. A fun Friday morning for those of you have not had a chance to do so, ha.

Until I am able to listen to the recording personally I am unclear if Robert's Rule was or was not followed properly with the Motion to Refer to Committee. Per my memory a discussion occurred before the vote was called, but was it a debate is the larger question.

This comes from RONR 11 ed., p. 42, II 8-20:

“The Consideration of a Main Motion: Basic Steps

Once a main motion has been brought before the assembly through the three steps described above, there are three further basic steps by which the motion is considered in the ordinary and simplest case (unless it is adopted by unanimous consent, as explained on pp. 54-56). These normal steps are as follows:

1. Members debate the motion (unless no member claims the floor for that purpose).
2. The puts the question (that is, puts it to a vote).
3. The chair announces the result of the vote.”

More from RONR 11th ed. P. 44, II 13-18:

“Putting the Question. When the debate appears to have closed, the chair may ask, ‘Are you ready for the question?’ or ‘Is there any further debate?’ If no one then rises to claim the floor, the chair proceeds to put the question—that is, he puts it to a vote after once more making clear the exact question the assembly is called upon to decide.”

In regards to the Motion to Refer to Committee it appears that there is a question to as whether someone claimed the floor for debate or not.

I believe that given the time frame for the agenda to get published there are three possible options at present:

- 1.) Place the GE Proposals A & B on the agenda for a 2nd read with a short statement to the body letting them know that we are unclear if Robert's Rule was followed properly when Referring it to a Committee and thus, in the spirit of collegiality are placing it for a 2nd read.
- 2.) Place a Motion to Discharge from Committee on the agenda.
- 3.) Place a Motion to Rescind on the agenda if Robert's Rule was not followed properly which I cannot speak to at the time of this email.

As everyone is learning how to implement Robert's Rule there will be hiccups and I believe that so long as we all act in good faith and are willing to remedy possible errors that we can utilize this process effectively.

Happy Friday,

Marie

Marie Arcidiacono Kaufman
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From: Von Bergen, Julie
Sent: Thursday, March 7, 2019 6:23:24 PM
To: Arcidiacono, Marie; Townsend, Janice
Cc: Bearden, Joshua
Subject: Re: Quick Update: Reviewing Robert's Rule on Getting Something Out of Committee

Thank you Marie. Abbey also records meetings, so you can refer to her recording to verify whether time was given for senators to speak for or against the motion.

If the motion does not return to the agenda due to mis-following Robert's Rules, I request that notice for a motion to rescind be published in the agenda.

Julie Von Bergen
Math Professor
Los Medanos College

From: Arcidiacono, Marie
Sent: Thursday, March 7, 2019 6:11 PM
To: Von Bergen, Julie; Townsend, Janice
Cc: Bearden, Joshua
Subject: Re: Quick Update: Reviewing Robert's Rule on Getting Something Out of Committee

Hi Julie,

I'm going to check into this in my unabridged book and can get back to you tomorrow morning!

Marie

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From: Von Bergen, Julie
Sent: Thursday, March 7, 2019 6:01:51 PM
To: Arcidiacono, Marie; Townsend, Janice

Cc: Bearden, Joshua

Subject: Re: Quick Update: Reviewing Robert's Rule on Getting Something Out of Committee

Hi Marie,

My internet research on Robert's Rules for Referring a Motion to Committee says that debate should have been allowed when Janice and my resolution was sent to committee. Janice and I were not given time to speak in favor of keeping our resolution. After the meeting, two senators who abstained told me they did not understand what was happening and would have voted against sending the motion to committee if discussion had been allowed. I believe Robert's Rules were not properly followed and Janice and my resolution should be back on the next agenda for a second read.

<https://www.dummies.com/careers/business-skills/roberts-rules-for-referring-a-motion-to-committee/>



[Robert's Rules for Referring a Motion to Committee - dummies](https://www.dummies.com/careers/business-skills/roberts-rules-for-referring-a-motion-to-committee/)

www.dummies.com

If a motion needs to be discussed much more informally or at greater length than is possible in a regular meeting, Robert's Rules allows you to refer the motion to a committee, or perhaps to the executive board of your group by adopting the subsidiary motion to commit. For all but the most simple and [...]

Julie Von Bergen
Math Professor
Los Medanos College

From: Von Bergen, Julie

Sent: Thursday, March 7, 2019 4:04 PM

To: Arcidiacono, Marie; Townsend, Janice

Cc: Bearden, Joshua

Subject: Re: Quick Update: Reviewing Robert's Rule on Getting Something Out of Committee

Hi Marie,

Can you please share your research about how to get a resolution out of committee with Janice and me?
Thank you.

Julie Von Bergen
Math Professor
Los Medanos College

From: Arcidiacono, Marie

Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 1:24 PM

To: Townsend, Janice; Von Bergen, Julie

Cc: Bearden, Joshua; Goldfarb, Sharon

Subject: Quick Update: Reviewing Robert's Rule on Getting Something Out of Committee

Hi Janice & Julie,

I wanted to quickly touch base with you and let you know that I am doing a deep-dive into the unabridged Robert's Rule to get you the specifics on how to get something out of Committee once it's been Referred to Committee via a **Motion to Discharge**.

We are hosting our Debate Tournament this weekend so I won't be able to get back to you with the concrete specifics until next week, but I wanted to let you know that I will be getting back to you on this important matter.

I also am going to brief the Senate on how to **Motion to Discharge** in the next coming weeks since there appears to be a need from the body to know how to do so.

Always happy to crack open the unabridged version of Robert's Rule of Order,

Marie

P.S. I CC'd Sharon since she was speaking in support of your motion on behalf of Nursing and I wanted to keep her in the loop.

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