

2018 PA FFA Parliamentary Procedure LDE

Team Problem Solving Activity

Scenario

Member A Mr. President, I move that the chapter host a Teacher Appreciation Breakfast during National FFA week.
(Second)

Chair It is moved and seconded that the chapter host a Teacher Appreciation Breakfast during National FFA week. Are you ready for the question?

Member B (After being recognized) Mr. President, I move to amend the motion by striking “Breakfast” and inserting “Dinner,” so that if adopted, the main motion would read, “I move that the chapter host a Teacher Appreciation Dinner during National FFA week.”
(Second)

Chair It is moved and seconded to amend the motion by striking “Breakfast” and inserting “Dinner,” so that if adopted, the main motion would read, “I move that the chapter host a Teacher Appreciation Dinner during National FFA week.” Are you ready for the question?

Member C (After being recognized) Mr. President, I move the Previous Question.
(Second)

Chair The Previous Question has been moved and seconded.

Member D (Interrupting) Mr. President, I move the Previous Question on all pending questions.
(Second)

Chair Member D, your motion is not in order at this time as we currently have a motion for the Previous Question pending. The question is now on Member C’s motion for the Previous Question. Those in favor of the Previous Question, raise one hand. (Chair counts 22 in favor.) Thank you. Those opposed to the Previous Question, raise one hand. (Chair counts 12 opposed.) Thank you. There are less than 2/3 in the affirmative and the motion for the Previous Question is lost. The question is now

back on Member B's motion to amend the main motion. Are you ready for the question?

Member E (After being recognized) Mr. President, I move to suspend the rules and allow our cafeteria manager to speak to the chapter on the merits of both the main motion and the pending amendment so that we might understand the implications of our decision tonight.
(Second)

Chair It is moved and seconded to suspend the rules and allow our cafeteria manager to speak to the chapter on the merits of both the main motion and the amendment. This motion is not debatable. Those in favor of suspending the rules to allow our cafeteria manager to speak to the chapter on the merits of both the main motion and the amendment, raise one hand. (Chair counts 21 in favor.) Thank you. Those opposed to suspending the rules, raise one hand. (Chair counts 13 opposed.) Thank you. There being a majority in favor, the motion is adopted and the rules are suspended to allow our cafeteria manager to speak to the chapter on the merits of the main motion and the amendment.

The question is back on the amendment to the main motion. Are you ready for the question?

Member F Mr. President!

Chair Member F is recognized. (While Member B was also rising to address the chair.)

Member B Point of Order!

Chair The Member will state her point.

Member B As the maker of the motion to amend, I am entitled to be recognized before Member F because I have not yet been recognized to speak on this question.

Chair The chair saw Member F rise more timely and therefore rules the point of order not well taken.

Member B I appeal the decision of the chair.
(Second)

Chair It is moved and seconded to appeal from the decision of the chair. The chair ruled as he did because he clearly saw Member F rise and address the chair more timely than Member B. Is there any debate on this question? (Pause to allow members to rise. No members sought recognition.) Are you ready for the question? The question is shall the decision of the chair be sustained? Those in favor of sustaining the decision of the chair, say aye. Those opposed to sustaining the decision of the chair, say no. The ayes have it and the decision of the chair is sustained. Member F, you may continue speaking.

Member F (concludes her debate on the amendment)

Chair Are you ready for the question? The question is on the amendment to amend the main motion by striking "Breakfast" and inserting "Dinner," so that if adopted, the main motion would read, "I move that the chapter host a Teacher Appreciation Dinner during National FFA week." Those in favor, say aye. Those opposed, say no. The no's have it and the amendment is lost.

The question is now on the main motion, which is that the chapter host a Teacher Appreciation Breakfast during National FFA week. Are you ready for the question? Those in favor, say aye. Those opposed, say no. The ayes have it and the motion is adopted. We will host a Teacher Appreciation Breakfast during National FFA Week.

Member C Mr. President, I move that we adjourn.
(Second)

Chair It is moved and seconded to adjourn. Those in favor, say aye. Those opposed, say no. The ayes have it and the motion is adopted. The chair declares the meeting adjourned.

Chapter Name: _____ Score: _____ **Team**

Problem Solving Activity

-Answer Sheet

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.

1. Was the Chair correct to rule Member D's motion for the Previous Question out of order?

No. The Chair should have allowed Member D's motion to go forward.

"When a motion for the Previous Question is immediately pending in such a case, it can be made again with more or fewer pending questions included [. . .] before the first motion for the Previous Question is voted on."

See RONR (11th Ed.), p. 200, ll. 4-11.

2. Based on the vote of members, may the cafeteria manager properly address the assembly during this meeting?

No. This motion sought to suspend a rule of parliamentary procedure and therefore required a 2/3 vote for adoption, not a majority, as the chair stated, and the vote threshold did not reach the required 2/3 vote.

"The rules of order of a society, as contained in the manual established by the bylaws as the parliamentary authority, or as included in any special rules of order adopted by the organization, are rules of parliamentary procedure, the suspension of which requires a two-thirds vote."

See RONR (11th Ed.), p. 265, ll. 13-18.

3. Was the Chair correct to call for discussion on the question of whether to sustain the decision of the chair following Member B's appeal?

No. An appeal which relates to the transgression of the order of speaking is not debatable.

"[The motion to appeal] is debatable, unless it (a) relates to indecorum or a transgression of the rules of speaking"

See RONR (11th Ed.), 257, ll. 33-34.