

The Ballot Prep Committee Report

Section XX of the OPPM lays out the authority and responsibilities of the Ballot Preparation Committee.

Committee Members:

Mary Jo L., Co-Chair, Illinois
Bonnie K-M, Co-Chair, Texas
Jim R., New York

The BPC began our work this year by troubleshooting the process, looking at process issues not yet addressed, and brainstorming possible solutions. Next we drafted a Call for Proposals to be sent to the fellowship. As the responses came in we set about verifying, clarifying, and evaluating the submissions. We submitted each proposal to the relevant committees for input.

Where an issue was already being addressed by a committee we contacted the submitting group to update them on this progress. None of them chose to amend or withdraw their proposals.

Collaborating with appropriate committees and the Board, the WSO evaluation was written for each proposal.

After creating a format and instructions, information and links to the ballots were distributed to all groups through their listed contact. This information was also published on the WSO website.

After the deadline for voting the results were tabulated and then submitted to the Board and the ABC committee for inclusion here.

Those proposals that received at least 2/3 majority affirmative votes are on the agenda for this ABC.

This year two of the 12 proposals qualified.

If either or both become a motion that is subsequently passed by a majority of delegates, the matter will be referred to the Board and the appropriate Committee for action.

Recommendations to the Fellowship:

The ABC Proposal process is especially appropriate for matters that truly benefit from fellowship-wide consensus and potential discussion, which helps make the ABC more relevant and effective. However, the OPPM lists a number of other ways for issues to be brought up that allow for faster consideration. One of those is through a WSO committee.

With a resurgence of willing workers giving service on WSO committees, a much more immediate, vital and responsive committee network is developing. For urgent matters, we encourage groups to bring their ideas directly to the appropriate committee. This would promote collaboration, and hasten consideration, with attendant actions. A chart of committees and their contacts may be found on our website. Each committee may be heard monthly, at the Board Teleconference, open to all.

We close with a thank you to everyone who has participated throughout this past year in the proposal and Ballot process.