

ABC/CBM Committee Report May 30, 2026

ABC Postmortem/Retrospective Meeting

Summary

The meeting was a retrospective review of the recent ABC conference, focused on identifying successes, challenges, and priority improvements before the next conference. The strongest themes were improving floor motion management, increasing delegate engagement, strengthening communication, and enhancing conference support resources.

What Went Well

Several conference practices were viewed positively:

- Presenters were well prepared before the conference.
- Conference chairs provided structured leadership.
- Immediate online voting was considered successful.
- New submission forms for points of order and floor motions showed promise, although participants suggested refinements.
- Strong support emerged for creating training resources and concise meeting summaries to help delegates better understand conference processes.

Major Challenges Identified

The group highlighted several areas needing attention:

- Floor motions and proposal management created significant disruptions and consumed substantial conference time.
- Procedures for handling emergency and time-sensitive proposals were unclear or insufficient.
- Similar motions were not always combined efficiently before reaching the conference agenda.
- Delegate engagement and participation were declining and were considered among the most urgent concerns.
- Communication and information access for delegates needed improvement, including better visibility of forms, resources, and conference information.
- Concerns were raised about appropriate use of Slack channels, confidentiality, and communication practices.

Highest-Priority Issues

Participants informally ranked issues by urgency and identified the following as top concerns:

- Floor motion management and procedural improvements.
- Delegate and fellowship engagement.

- Better handling of time-sensitive and emergency proposals.
- Improving collaboration between committees and delegates before conferences to reduce last-minute motions.

Key Improvement Ideas

The meeting generated many practical recommendations, including:

- Create short training videos explaining motions, revisions, conference procedures, and portal use.
- Build a centralized “one-stop” resource area for committees and presenters.
- Add clearer timelines, checklists, and submission guidance.
- Improve portal content and distribute portal-management responsibilities across more volunteers.
- Provide delegates with post-conference summaries.
- Hold town halls, open forums, and engagement-focused meetings between conferences.
- Improve accessibility of forms and important links during meetings.
- Explore software solutions for agenda prioritization voting.

Important Next Steps

The committee outlined several actions before the next conference:

- Develop and distribute a summary of lessons learned.
- Recruit and prepare new servant leaders as current chairs rotate out.
- Review and update emergency floor motion procedures.
- Refine motions addressing emergency and time-sensitive proposals for the September agenda.
- Monitor declining delegate participation and identify solutions.
- Improve forms, training materials, and conference documentation.
- Review governance and procedural documents to ensure they reflect current practices.

Overall Conclusion

The retrospective discussion concluded that the conference was generally well-organized, but procedural issues surrounding floor motions and a decline in delegate engagement were the most significant concerns. The committee's primary focus moving forward is to streamline motion handling, improve delegate participation, strengthen communication and training resources, and establish clearer conference procedures before the next conference.