Parliamentary Procedures MOTIONS

David J. Cullen, PRP cullenasea@aol.com
Review of the agenda

- Parliamentary Procedure in practice
  - Making a motion
  - Amending a motion
  - Reconsidering a motion
- A useful shortcut – Unanimous consent
- Questions and Answers
Review of the agenda

Parliamentary procedure in practice

• Brief discussion of what a motion is
• 3 scripts – Making a Motion, Amendments, and Reconsideration.
  – Introduce the subjects in the script
  – “Perform” the script
  – Comment on/Analyze the script
Parliamentary procedure in practice

- What Is A Motion?
- “A motion is a formal proposal by a member, in a meeting, that the assembly take a certain action.”

[RONR (11th ed.), p. 27, l. 18-19]
Making motions

- Obtaining the floor – recognition by the Chair
  - All remarks through the chair
  - One thing at a time
Handling Motions

• First 3 steps
  – Bringing a motion before the assembly
    • A member makes a motion
    • Another member seconds the motion
    • The chair states the motion
Handling Motions

• Last 3 steps
  – Consideration of the motion
    • Debate (unless no member claims the floor for that purpose)
    • The chair puts the question to a vote
    • The chair announces the result of the vote
Debate

• The maker of a motion is recognized first
• Members may speak twice on any motion
• No one may speak a second time if someone who hasn’t spoken yet wants to speak
• Pros and cons alternate
Putting the Question

• Majority
• Two-thirds
• Ballots
Chair announces result of vote

- The "Ayes" have it and the motion is adopted, or
- The "Noes" have it and the motion is lost, and
- We will do X, Y, or Z. (if the Ayes have it.)
Handling Motions

• Bringing a motion before the assembly
  – Member makes a motion
  – Second
  – Chair states the question on the motion

• Consideration of the motion
  – Debate
  – Chair puts the question to a vote
  – Chair announces the result of the vote
Script 1 - Making and Considering a Motion

MEMBER A: MR. /MADAM CHAIR.
CHAIR: THE CHAIR RECOGNIZES MEMBER A.
MEMBER A: I MOVE TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR.
MEMBER B: I SECOND THE MOTION.
CHAIR: IT IS MOVED AND SECONDED TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR. MEMBER A, DO YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO YOUR MOTION?
MEMBER A: THANK YOU, MR./MADAM CHAIR. JOE ROCKSTAR HAS BEEN A STRONG SUPPORTER OF OUR COUNCIL AND DESERVES THIS HONOR. WE HAVE THE FUNDS TO DO IT.
MEMBER C: MR./MADAM CHAIR.
CHAIR: (THE CHAIR RECOGNIZES) MEMBER C.
MEMBER C: I RISE IN SUPPORT OF THIS MOTION. MR. ROCKSTAR HAS BEEN A FRIEND TO OUR ISSUES FOR YEARS.
CHAIR: IS THERE ANY FURTHER DEBATE? [PAUSE TO GIVE MEMBERS A CHANCE TO SEEK RECOGNITION. NO ONE ASKS TO BE HEARD.]
THE QUESTION IS ON THE MOTION TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR.
ALL THOSE IN FAVOR, SAY “AYE.”
ALL MEMBERS: AYE!
CHAIR: ALL OPPOSED SAY “NO.” [PAUSE – (NO “NOES”)]
THE AYES HAVE IT AND THE MOTION IS ADOPTED. WE WILL HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR.
Motion Script – Comments/Analysis

A member obtains the floor/ seeks recognition

MEMBER A: MR. / MADAM CHAIR.
CHAIR: THE CHAIR RECOGNIZES MEMBER A.
A member makes a motion.
MEMBER A:  I MOVE TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR.

A member seconds the motion.
MEMBER B:  I SECOND THE MOTION.

The chair states the question on the motion.
CHAIR:  IT IS MOVED AND SECONDED TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR. MEMBER A, DO YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO YOUR MOTION?
MEMBER A: THANK YOU, MR./MADAM CHAIR. JOE ROCKSTAR HAS BEEN A STRONG SUPPORTER OF OUR COUNCIL AND DESERVES THIS HONOR. WE HAVE THE FUNDS TO DO IT.

MEMBER C: MR./MADAM CHAIR.

CHAIR: (THE CHAIR RECOGNIZES) MEMBER C.

MEMBER C: I RISE IN SUPPORT OF THIS MOTION. MR. ROCKSTAR HAS BEEN A FRIEND TO OUR ISSUES FOR YEARS.

CHAIR: IS THERE ANY FURTHER DEBATE?

[PAUSE TO GIVE MEMBERS A CHANCE TO SEEK RECOGNITION. NO ONE ASKS TO BE HEARD.]
Motion Script - *Consideration of the motion* - Putting motion to a vote

CHAIR:  THE QUESTION IS ON THE MOTION TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR.

ALL THOSE IN FAVOR, SAY “AYE.”

ALL MEMBERS:  AYE!

CHAIR:  ALL OPPOSED SAY “NO.”

[PAUSE – (NO “NOES”)]
Motion Script - Consideration of the motion - Announcing the result

CHAIR: THE AYES HAVE IT AND THE MOTION IS ADOPTED. WE WILL HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR.
Amending a Motion

- Methods of amendment
- Primary and secondary amendments
Methods of Amendment

- Insert or add a word or words
- Insert or add a paragraph or paragraphs
- Strike out a word or words
- Strike out a paragraph or paragraphs
- Strike out and insert a word or words
- Substitute (Strike out and insert a paragraph or paragraphs)
Primary and secondary amendments

• First and second degree amendments
• No third degree amendments
• Amend can also be applied to other parliamentary motions
MEMBER A: MR. /MADAM CHAIR.
CHAIR: (THE CHAIR RECOGNIZES) MEMBER A.
MEMBER A: I MOVE TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR.
MEMBER B: I SECOND THE MOTION.
CHAIR: IT IS MOVED AND SECONDED TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR. MEMBER A, DO YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO YOUR MOTION?
MEMBER A: THANK YOU, MR./MADAM CHAIR. JOE ROCKSTAR HAS BEEN A STRONG SUPPORTER OF OUR COUNCIL AND DESERVES THIS HONOR. WE HAVE THE FUNDS TO DO IT.
MEMBER C: MR./MADAM CHAIR.
CHAIR: (THE CHAIR RECOGNIZES) MEMBER C.
MEMBER C: I MOVE TO AMEND THE MOTION BY STRIKING THE WORDS “AN EVENT” AND INSERTING THE WORDS “A CHICKEN DINNER”.
MEMBER D: I SECOND THE MOTION.
CHAIR: IT IS MOVED AND SECONDED TO AMEND THE MOTION BY STRIKING THE WORDS “AN EVENT” AND INSERTING THE WORDS “A CHICKEN DINNER”. IF THE AMENDMENT IS ADOPTED THE MOTION WILL BE TO HOLD A CHICKEN DINNER IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR.
[TO MEMBER C] DO YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO YOUR MOTION?
MEMBER C: THANK YOU MADAM CHAIR. PLANNING THE EVENT WILL BE EASIER IF WE KNOW WHAT WE WANT TO DO. WE’VE HAD CHICKEN DINNERS BEFORE AND THEY’VE BEEN SUCCESSFUL.
MEMBER E: MR./MADAM CHAIR.
CHAIR: (THE CHAIR RECOGNIZES) MEMBER E.
MEMBER E: THANK YOU. I MOVE TO AMEND THE AMENDMENT BY STRIKING THE WORD “CHICKEN” AND INSERTING THE WORD “FISH”.
MEMBER B: SECOND.
CHAIR: IT IS MOVED AND SECONDED TO STRIKE THE WORD “CHICKEN” AND INSERT THE WORD “FISH”.
[TO MEMBER E] DO YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO YOUR MOTION?
MEMBER E: CHICKEN DINNERS ARE MESSY WITH PEOPLE PICKING UP DRUMSTICKS AND DIPPING THEM IN SAUCE. FISH IS MUCH NICER.
CHAIR: IS THERE ANY DEBATE?
[AFTER A PAUSE DURING WHICH NO MEMBER SEEKS TO SPEAK]
THE QUESTION IS ON AMENDING THE AMENDMENT BY STRIKING THE WORD “CHICKEN” AND INSERTING THE WORD “FISH.” IF THE MOTION IS ADOPTED, THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR WILL BE TO HOLD A FISH DINNER IN HIS HONOR.
ALL THOSE IN FAVOR OF STRIKING THE WORD “CHICKEN” AND INSERTING THE WORD “FISH”, SAY “AYE.”
MEMBER E: AYE.
CHAIR: ALL OPPOSED, SAY “NO.”
MEMBERS A, B, C, and D: NO.
CHAIR: THE NOES HAVE IT AND THE MOTION FAILS.
THE QUESTION IS ON AMENDING THE MOTION TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR BY STRIKING THE WORDS “AN EVENT” AND INSERTING THE WORDS “A CHICKEN DINNER”.
ARE YOU READY FOR THE QUESTION?
[PAUSE DURING WHICH NO ONE SEEKS TO SPEAK]
ALL THOSE IN FAVOR OF STRIKING THE WORDS “AN EVENT” AND INSERTING THE WORDS “A CHICKEN DINNER”, SAY “AYE.”
MEMBERS A, B, and C: AYE.
CHAIR: ALL THOSE OPPOSED SAY NO.
MEMBERS D and E: NO.
CHAIR: THE AYES HAVE IT AND THE AMENDMENT IS ADOPTED. THE QUESTION IS NOW ON THE MOTION AS ADOPTED: TO HOLD A CHICKEN DINNER IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR.
IS THERE ANY FURTHER DEBATE?
[NO ONE SEEKS RECOGNITION]
ALL THOSE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION TO HOLD A CHICKEN DINNER IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR, SAY “AYE.”
ALL MEMBERS: AYE.
CHAIR: THOSE OPPOSED, SAY “NO.”
[NO “NOES”]
CHAIR: THE AYES HAVE IT AND THE MOTION PASSES. WE WILL HOLD A CHICKEN DINNER IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR.
A member obtains the floor and brings a motion before the assembly

MEMBER A: MR. /MADAM CHAIR.
CHAIR: (THE CHAIR RECOGNIZES) MEMBER A.
MEMBER A: I MOVE TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR.
MEMBER B: I SECOND THE MOTION.
CHAIR: IS MOVED AND SECONDED TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR. MEMBER A, DO YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO YOUR MOTION?
MEMBER A: THANK YOU, MR./MADAM CHAIR. JOE ROCKSTAR HAS BEEN A STRONG SUPPORTER OF OUR COUNCIL AND DESERVES THIS HONOR. WE HAVE THE FUNDS TO DO IT.
A member, having obtained the floor, makes a motion to amend the main motion.

MEMBER C: MR./MADAM CHAIR.
CHAIR: (THE CHAIR RECOGNIZES) MEMBER C.
MEMBER C: I MOVE TO/amend the motion BY STRIKING the words “AN EVENT” AND INSERTING the words “A CHICKEN DINNER”.
MEMBER D: I SECONd THE MOTION.
CHAIR: IT IS MOVED and SECONDED TO/amend the motion BY STRIKING the words “AN EVENT” AND INSERTING the words “A CHICKEN DINNER”.
IF THE AMENDMENT IS ADOPTED THE MOTION WILL BE TO HOLD A CHICKEN DINNER IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR.
Amend – Comments/Analysis

The chair opens the primary amendment to debate, recognizing the maker of the motion.

CHAIR:  \[TO MEMBER C] DO YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO YOUR MOTION?

MEMBER C:  THANK YOU MADAM CHAIR. PLANNING THE EVENT WILL BE EASIER IF WE KNOW WHAT WE WANT TO DO. WE’VE HAD CHICKEN DINNERS BEFORE AND THEY’VE BEEN SUCCESSFUL.
MEMBER E: MR./MADAM CHAIR.
CHAIR: (THE CHAIR RECOGNIZES) MEMBER E.

A member obtains the floor and offers a secondary amendment.

MEMBER E: THANK YOU. I MOVE TO AMEND THE AMENDMENT BY STRIKING THE WORD “CHICKEN” AND INSERTING THE WORD “FISH”.

MEMBER B: SECOND.
CHAIR: IT IS MOVED AND SECONDED TO STRIKE THE WORD “CHICKEN” AND INSERT THE WORD “FISH”.

The chair states the question on the motion for a secondary amendment and opens it to debate.

[TO MEMBER E] DO YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO YOUR MOTION?

MEMBER E: CHICKEN DINNERS ARE MESSY WITH PEOPLE PICKING UP DRUMSTICKS AND DIPPING THEM IN SAUCE. FISH IS MUCH NICER.

CHAIR: IS THERE ANY DEBATE?

[AFTER A PAUSE DURING WHICH NO MEMBER SEEKS TO SPEAK]
The chair puts the secondary amendment to a vote and it fails.

CHAIR: THE QUESTION IS ON AMENDING THE AMENDMENT BY STRIKING THE WORD “CHICKEN” AND INSERTING THE WORD “FISH.” IF THE MOTION IS ADOPTED, THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR WILL BE TO HOLD A FISH DINNER IN HIS HONOR.

ALL THOSE IN FAVOR OF STRIKING THE WORD “CHICKEN” AND INSERTING THE WORD “FISH”, SAY “AYE.”

MEMBER E: AYE.

CHAIR: ALL OPPOSED, SAY “NO.”

MEMBERS A, B, C, and D: NO.

CHAIR: THE NOES HAVE IT AND THE MOTION FAILS.
Having disposed of the secondary amendment, the chair immediately takes up the primary amendment where it was interrupted by the secondary amendment. No one wishes to speak so the chair takes the vote on the primary amendment.

CHAIR: THE QUESTION IS ON AMENDING THE MOTION TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR BY STRIKING THE WORDS “AN EVENT” AND INSERTING THE WORDS “A CHICKEN DINNER”.

ARE YOU READY FOR THE QUESTION?

[PAUSE DURING WHICH NO ONE SEEKS TO SPEAK]

ALL THOSE IN FAVOR OF STRIKING THE WORDS “AN EVENT” AND INSERTING THE WORDS “A CHICKEN DINNER”, SAY “AYE.”

MEMBERS A, B, and C: AYE.

CHAIR: ALL THOSE OPPOSED SAY NO.

MEMBERS D and E: NO.

CHAIR: THE AYES HAVE IT AND THE AMENDMENT IS ADOPTED. THE QUESTION IS NOW ON THE MOTION AS ADOPTED: TO HOLD A CHICKEN DINNER IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR.
The primary amendment has been adopted, so the chair now goes back to the main motion exactly where it was interrupted by the primary amendment.

CHAIR: IS THERE ANY FURTHER DEBATE?
[NO ONE SEEKS RECOGNITION]
ALL THOSE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION TO HOLD A CHICKEN DINNER IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR, SAY “AYE.”

ALL MEMBERS: AYE.
CHAIR: THOSE OPPOSED, SAY “NO.”
[NO “NOES”]
THE AYES HAVE IT AND THE MOTION PASSES. WE WILL HOLD A CHICKEN DINNER IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR.

• The main motion as amended is adopted and the chair announces the result of the vote.
AT THIS POINT IN THE MEETING, THE VICE PRESIDENT ARRIVES LATE AND IS TOLD THAT THE COUNCIL ADOPTED THE MOTION TO HOLD A CHICKEN DINNER IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR. SHE IS SURPRISED AND INFORMS THE GROUP THAT HER SISTER KNOWS JOE AND THAT HE IS A VEGETARIAN! HE CAN'T EAT CHICKEN!
Reconsider

- What it is
- How it differs from Rescind or Amend Something Previously Adopted
- How to apply it and process it
To *Reconsider* a motion,

- Move to reconsider the motion
- Second
- If it is in order to take it up at that time, debate the motion to *Reconsider* and put it to a vote.
- A majority vote is needed to *Reconsider*.
- If *Reconsider* is adopted, take up the motion to be reconsidered at the point just before the vote was taken – it is open to debate and amendment (if the motion was open to debate and amendment when it went to a vote.)
- Take a new (and final) vote on the motion.
- If *taking up* the motion to *Reconsider* is not in order when it is made, wait until it is in order and call it up. Calling up the motion does not require a second because the motion was already seconded.
MEMBER B: MR./MADAM CHAIR.

CHAIR: (THE CHAIR RECOGNIZES) MEMBER B.

MEMBER B: THANK YOU. I MOVE THAT WE RECONSIDER THE VOTES ON THE MOTION TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR AND THE AMENDMENT TO STRIKE OUT THE WORDS “AN EVENT” AND INSERTING THE WORDS “A CHICKEN DINNER”.

MEMBER E: I SECOND.

CHAIR: IT IS MOVED AND SECONDED TO RECONSIDER THE VOTES ON THE MOTION TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR AND THE AMENDMENT TO STRIKE OUT THE WORDS “AN EVENT” AND INSERTING THE WORDS “A CHICKEN DINNER”.

[TO MEMBER B] DO YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO YOUR MOTION?

MEMBER B: THANK YOU. HOLDING A DINNER IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR IS A GREAT IDEA, BUT HE WON’T BE COMFORTABLE IF HE’S SERVED CHICKEN. IF THE MOTION TO RECONSIDER IS ADOPTED, I INTEND TO OFFER A SECONDARY AMENDMENT TO STRIKE “CHICKEN” AND INSERT “SPAGHETTI.” THIS WOULD ALLOW JOE TO ENJOY A VEGETARIAN DINNER THAT WE ALL CAN ENJOY AS WELL.

CHAIR: IS THERE ANY DEBATE?

[PAUSE DURING WHICH NO MEMBER ASKS TO SPEAK]

THE QUESTION IS ON RECONSIDERING THE VOTES ON THE MOTION TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR AND THE AMENDMENT TO STRIKE OUT THE WORDS “AN EVENT” AND INSERTING THE WORDS “A CHICKEN DINNER.”

ALL THOSE IN FAVOR OF RECONSIDERING THE VOTE SAY “AYE.”

MEMBERS: AYE!

CHAIR: ALL OPPOSED, SAY “NAY.”

[NO “NOES”]

THE AYES HAVE IT AND WE WILL RECONSIDER THE MOTION.
IT IS IN ORDER TO TAKE UP THE RECONSIDERATION AT THIS TIME. THE QUESTION IS ON AMENDING THE MOTION TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR BY STRIKING THE WORDS "AN EVENT" AND INSERTING THE WORDS "A CHICKEN DINNER".

MEMBER B: THANK YOU MADAM CHAIR. I MOVE TO AMEND THE AMENDMENT BY STRIKING THE WORD "CHICKEN" AND INSERTING THE WORD "SPAGHETTI".

MEMBER B: [TO MEMBER B] DO YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO YOUR MOTION?

MEMBER B: THIS AMENDMENT WILL ALLOW OUR GUEST OF HONOR WHO DOESN'T EAT MEAT TO ENJOY HIS DINNER.

CHAIR: IS THERE ANY DEBATE?

CHAIR: [PAUSE DURING WHICH NO ONE SEEKS TO BE HEARD] THE QUESTION IS ON AMENDING THE AMENDMENT BY STRIKING THE WORD "CHICKEN" AND INSERTING THE WORD "SPAGHETTI". IF THE AMENDMENT IS ADOPTED THE ENTIRE MOTION WOULD BE TO HOLD A SPAGHETTI DINNER IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR.

CHAIR: ALL IN FAVOR, SAY "AYE."

ALL MEMBERS: AYE.

CHAIR: THOSE OPPOSED, SAY "NO."

[NO "NOES"]

CHAIR: [PAUSE DURING WHICH NO ONE SEEKS RECOGNITION] THE AYES HAVE IT AND THE AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IS ADOPTED.

CHAIR: ARE YOU READY FOR THE QUESTION? [PAUSE DURING WHICH NO ONE SEEKS RECOGNITION] ALL THOSE IN FAVOR OF STRIKING THE WORDS "AN EVENT" AND INSERTING THE WORDS "A SPAGHETTI DINNER", SAY "AYE."

MEMBERS: AYE.

CHAIR: THOSE OPPOSED, SAY "NO."

[NO "NOES"]

CHAIR: [PAUSE DURING WHICH NO ONE SEEKS RECOGNITION] THE AYES HAVE IT AND THE MOTION IS AMENDED.

CHAIR: IS THERE ANY DEBATE?

[PAUSE DURING WHICH NO ONE SEEKS RECOGNITION] ALL THOSE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION TO HOLD A SPAGHETTI DINNER IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR, SAY "AYE."

ALL MEMBERS: AYE.

CHAIR: THOSE OPPOSED, SAY "NO."

[NO "NOES"]

CHAIR: [PAUSE DURING WHICH NO ONE SEEKS RECOGNITION] THE AYES HAVE IT AND THE MOTION IS ADOPTED. WE WILL HOLD A SPAGHETTI DINNER IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR.

IS THERE ANY FURTHER NEW BUSINESS?
A member obtains the floor and moves to *Reconsider* the primary amendment and the main motion as amended. The motion is seconded and the chair states the question on the motion to *Reconsider*.

MEMBER B: MR./MADAM CHAIR.

CHAIR: (THE CHAIR RECOGNIZES) MEMBER B.

MEMBER B: THANK YOU. I MOVE THAT WE RECONSIDER THE VOTES ON THE MOTION TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR AND THE AMENDMENT TO STRIKE OUT THE WORDS “AN EVENT” AND INSERTING THE WORDS “A CHICKEN DINNER”.

MEMBER E: I SECOND.

CHAIR: IT IS MOVED AND SECONDED TO RECONSIDER THE VOTES ON THE MOTION TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR AND THE AMENDMENT TO STRIKE OUT THE WORDS “AN EVENT” AND INSERTING THE WORDS “A CHICKEN DINNER”.
Reconsider Script – Comments/Analysis

CHAIR: [TO MEMBER B] DO YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO YOUR MOTION?

The member who made the motion to Reconsider debates and gives notice of a motion he or she will make if Reconsider is adopted. (This will give him or her preference in recognition when that motion is in order.) The chair puts the motion to Reconsider to a vote and it passes.

MEMBER B: THANK YOU. HOLDING A DINNER IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR IS A GREAT IDEA, BUT HE WON’T BE COMFORTABLE IF HE’S SERVED CHICKEN. IF THE MOTION TO RECONSIDER IS ADOPTED, I INTEND TO OFFER A SECONDARY AMENDMENT TO STRIKE “CHICKEN” AND INSERT “SPAGHETTI.” THIS WOULD ALLOW JOE TO ENJOY A VEGETARIAN DINNER THAT WE ALL CAN ENJOY AS WELL.

CHAIR: IS THERE ANY DEBATE?
[PAUSE DURING WHICH NO MEMBER ASKS TO SPEAK]

THE QUESTION IS ON RECONSIDERING THE VOTES ON THE MOTION TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR AND THE AMENDMENT TO STRIKE OUT THE WORDS “AN EVENT” AND INSERTING THE WORDS “A CHICKEN DINNER.”

ALL THOSE IN FAVOR OF RECONSIDERING THE VOTE SAY “AYE.”

MEMBERS: AYE!

CHAIR: ALL OPPOSED, SAY “NAY.”
[NO “NOES”]

THE AYES HAVE IT AND WE WILL RECONSIDER THE MOTION.
Since *Reconsider* was adopted the chair takes up the motions to be reconsidered: the primary amendment striking “an event” and inserting “a chicken dinner” and the main motion “to hold a chicken dinner in honor of Joe Rockstar.” But he takes up the primary amendment first as it has to be taken care of before the main motion can be voted on.

The member who gave notice of the secondary amendment he or she would offer is recognized.

**CHAIR:** IT IS IN ORDER TO TAKE UP THE RECONSIDERATION AT THIS TIME. THE QUESTION IS ON AMENDING THE MOTION TO HOLD AN EVENT IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR BY STRIKING THE WORDS “AN EVENT” AND INSERTING THE WORDS “A CHICKEN DINNER”.

**MEMBER B, YOU HAVE A MOTION?**

**MEMBER B:** THANK YOU MADAM CHAIR. I MOVE TO AMEND THE AMENDMENT BY STRIKING THE WORD “CHICKEN” AND INSERTING THE WORD “SPAGHETTI”.

**CHAIR:** IT IS MOVED AND SECONDED TO AMEND THE AMENDMENT BY STRIKING THE WORD “CHICKEN” AND INSERTING THE WORD “SPAGHETTI”.

An astute member might notice that the secondary amendment was *not* seconded.
The secondary amendment to strike “chicken” and to insert “spaghetti” is debated, voted on and adopted.

CHAIR: [TO MEMBER B] DO YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO YOUR MOTION?
MEMBER B: THIS AMENDMENT WILL ALLOW OUR GUEST OF HONOR WHO DOESN'T EAT MEAT TO ENJOY HIS DINNER.

CHAIR: IS THERE ANY DEBATE?
[PAUSE DURING WHICH NO ONE SEEKS TO BE HEARD]
THE QUESTION IS ON AMENDING THE AMENDMENT BY STRIKING THE WORD “CHICKEN” AND INSERTING THE WORD “SPAGHETTI”. IF THE AMENDMENT IS ADOPTED THE ENTIRE MOTION WOULD BE TO HOLD A SPAGHETTI DINNER IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR.
ALL IN FAVOR, SAY “AYE.”
ALL MEMBERS: AYE.
CHAIR: THOSE OPPOSED SAY “NO.”
[NO “NOES”]
THE AYES HAVE IT AND THE AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IS ADOPTED.
The primary amendment (as amended) is now taken up, no one wants to debate it, it is voted on and adopted.


ARE YOU READY FOR THE QUESTION? [PAUSE DURING WHICH NO ONE SEEKS RECOGNITION]

ALL THOSE IN FAVOR OF STRIKING THE WORDS “AN EVENT” AND INSERTING THE WORDS “A SPAGHETTI DINNER”, SAY “AYE.”

MEMBERS: AYE.

CHAIR: THOSE OPPOSED, SAY “NO.”

[NO “NOES”]

THE AYES HAVE IT AND THE MOTION IS AMENDED.
The main motion (as amended) is now taken up, no one wants to debate it, it is voted on and adopted.

CHAIR: THE QUESTION IS NOW ON THE MOTION AS AMENDED: TO HOLD SPAGHETTI DINNER IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR.

IS THERE ANY DEBATE?

[PAUSE DURING WHICH NO ONE SEEKS RECOGNITION]

ALL THOSE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION TO HOLD A SPAGHETTI DINNER IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR, SAY “AYE.”

ALL MEMBERS: AYE.

CHAIR: THOSE OPPOSED, SAY “NO.”

[NO “NOES”]

THE AYES HAVE IT AND THE MOTION IS ADOPTED. WE WILL HOLD A SPAGHETTI DINNER IN HONOR OF JOE ROCKSTAR.

IS THERE ANY FURTHER NEW BUSINESS?
A useful shortcut

Unanimous Consent

- Benefits
- When to use it
- “It is moved and seconded to do X, Y, and Z. Is there any objection?” [Pause to give members a chance to object] “Since there is no objection we will do X, Y, and Z.”
- Or, [if an objection is heard] the chair states the question on the matter, allows debate, and puts it to a vote.
Thank You!

David J. Cullen, PRP
cullenasea@aol.com