

Leadership Dev Committee Minutes - 2 Sep 08

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Our goal is to get the proposed rules to the E-Board by this weekend, about 7 Sept, so they have them at least 10 days in advance of the E-Board meeting on 17 Sept where we will ask them to vote on it.

We talked a bit about accountability, oversight and reporting back to the membership of the committees. The hospitality committee's performance we'll know every month, but we won't know if the caucus committee is doing its job until a caucus falls flat. Regular reports rendered to the membership on the website and at meetings (at least E-Board meetings) might help. This also gives the E-Board a chance to determine if the committee structure is working and take action if it isn't. Another part of this is an operating manual for each committee to help guarantee continuity. And committee reports could help in recruiting committee members because they could see how the committees work and what they do. However this also becomes more micromanagement, which will engender pushback at the 17 Sept E-Board meeting. We did not come to a conclusion about this issue, i.e. whether to revise the proposed Rules to require regular reporting.

It is easy to change the rules - all it takes is a majority of the E-Board. Therefore we decided not to spend a lot of time trying to write "accountability" requirements into the Rules at this time.

Would it help if we expanded the list of duties for each committee in the Rules?

Finance and Fund-Raising Committee. These are really two separate functions with two separate kinds of people. We discussed having a single committee with co-chairs but decided the skills are just two different. So we decided to make it two separate committees. Tim thought there might not be enough work for a fund-raising committee right now.

Outreach and membership. We decided we could leave this marriage of functions together.

Leadership recruitment committee. We talked about an option where we would not keep it in this set of rules because of opposition to it by some members of the existing E-Board and Board Chair. What if this becomes a committee but the Chair of the District refuses to appoint a committee chair? Or the E-Board drops this particular committee? Well, any group of members (including us) could actually do leadership recruitment - it just wouldn't be officially sanctioned by the Board or Chair. We decided to keep the committee but rename it the Leadership Development Committee. We changed the wording to state "support the recruitment of candidates" meaning anyone can recruit candidates, not just this committee.

Program Committee. Should we mandate that the first vice-chair or second vice-chair of the organization will chair this committee? This is more appropriate for the By-Laws.

We added back the position of "corresponding secretary". We tweaked wording on a number of the other committees. We separated Legislative Action Committee away from Platforms and Resolutions because the functions are different.

Strategy for voting on this on 17 September. Steve recommends having the E-Board act on the whole set of Rules first. If it fails, then we can start amending or taking out specific committees or sections to make it more palatable to a majority. It is important to get these Rules passed in September so we can start recruiting for committee chairs immediately.