

GSR School: Brief Parliamentary Guide

When recognized by the Area Chairperson:

- Stand; state your name, your service title and the name of the group you represent.
- Speak as clearly and as briefly as possible. Your remarks must be pertinent to the business at hand or items you wish to bring to the floor.
- The chairperson is not required to recognize a frivolous motion.

The Minority Opinion

In Alcoholics Anonymous, once a vote has been taken on a motion, the minority parties ALWAYS have the opportunity to speak from the floor. If someone in the majority (the winning side) would like to change their vote after the minority has spoken, it becomes a motion to reconsider which needs to have a second. It is then open to further discussion (if the original motion was open to discussion) before a new vote on the original motion is taken. It is not amendable and requires the same type of vote (majority or 2/3s) as the original motion.

Questions

1. At what meetings are parliamentary procedures used?
2. What is the difference between a majority vote and a "2/3" vote?
3. Why are "minority opinions" important?
4. When is "substantial unanimity" important?