



# Robert Said What?

January, 2021



## *Teaching Ourselves to Sewe the Community*

From the desk of

Joyce Gleason, RP

Hello, Members! And a Happy New Year to you all. (It could hardly be worse than 2020!)

Because of your contributions as a loyal member, and the hard work of CCPU's officers, committees, and volunteers, CCPU has weathered 2020 and made significant contributions to our well-being as an organization. We now have the ability to conduct virtual meetings, as a result of a special meeting in October. It has not always been easy, but we are moving forward with changes that will strengthen us as a unit (the largest in FL!).

At the November 12th meeting, we conducted traditional business, in-person, due to the majority who polled for that choice, and thanks to **Brian Pelkie's** arrangement with Oak Forrest condominiums' clubhouse in Port Charlotte. Brian offered motions to conduct "The Practical Applications of Robert's Rules of Order" (PARR) and "The Art of Presiding" courses during January -- April. **Mary Giddens** began the presentation of amendments to our Bylaws, on behalf of the Bylaws Committee (including Libby Curnow and Luceal Curry). But, as expected, we ran out of time and fortunately had an adjourned meeting planned for the following week.

At that adjourned meeting, we slogged our way through some of the remaining proposals and finally closed out the remainders in a grand motion. Among the changes are inclusion of the Education Chair as

part of the Executive Board (needed by a unit whose main work is education), the addition of Nominating Committee, Finance and Audit Committees, and new duties for the Vice-president. We have only to complete amendments to the Standing Rules at the January meeting. Mary and her committee are to be congratulated on their tremendous efforts, much of it conducted weekly over conference phone calls during the spring COVID-19 shut-down!

Still the unit continues to face challenges: The FOP Hall will not be available to us until there is a reasonably successful vaccination program. Not only do we need to find replacement space, but potential students are wary of in-person programs. Our wonderful instructors, volunteers all, may not be expert at online teaching. Increasingly, the length of our traditional introductory course is becoming unappealing to students, in addition to requiring an update to accommodate references to the new RONR 12th ed. Might a stripped-down introduction serve their needs better? Do we want to abandon Dr. Janet Wilson's text after so many successful years of achievement? The Presiding course also needs a new, more-consistent approach to provide necessary practice sessions to students who choose to expand their knowledge as leaders of organizations. **Sam King** is investigating the possibility of a renewed RP study group, more in line with NAP's changes to that credential. The Executive Board is grappling with options for issues of location, methodology (online, in-person, hybrid?) and revised curricula. We plan to offer our ideas in January. Your input will be desired.

Lesson to follow the January 14th meeting.



## 2019-2021 Officers

President—Joyce Gleason—joyglee16@gmail.com  
Vice President—Louis Rivera—liinspect@gmail.com  
Secretary—Barbara Davis—babsdavis@comcast.net  
Treasurer—Sam King—gammanuking@gmail.com



## Standing Rules...

As a CCPU member, you know about rules. It could even be said that our rules have rules. There is Robert's Rules (RONR), Bylaws, Special Rules, and Standing Rules. At our next meeting in January, we will look at the CCPU Standing Rules. We tended and amended the CCPU Bylaws in November, which led to an adjourned meeting a week later to complete the consideration. Joyce put us on notice at that meeting that the standing rules would be reviewed at the January meeting.

Standing Rules cover points of lesser importance than those contained in the bylaws, and they do not relate to parliamentary procedure. Sometimes there are administrative details important enough to be followed, but not important enough to be put in the bylaws. For example, one of the rules specifies who can sign CCPU checks, and another authorizes the president to appoint a monitor for the NAP examination.

Bylaws have a higher authority than standing rules, so bylaws amendments recently adopted might automatically impact some of the current standing rules. Standing Rules require only a majority vote to adopt. To amend them takes either a majority vote with previous notice or, without notice, a two-thirds vote or a vote of a majority of the entire membership of the voting body. [RONR (12<sup>th</sup> ed.) 2:23-24]. Since Joyce gave previous notice in November, amending the rules will take a majority vote.

When you login to the CCPU website, Members' Section (CCpuRocks!), you will access the CCPU Bylaws and Standing Rules. The bylaws on are now updated. The current standing rules on the website will be up for review at the January meeting. I look forward to our discussion.

Thank you, Jane for keeping our Bylaws up to date on our website.



March Newsletter

**Deadline**

February 19, 2021



To learn more about using the ZOOM platform, please follow the link below. There are many instructional video on zoom.com. <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-How-Do-I-Join-A-Meeting>



Time for Dues \$\$\$

Yes! It is that time again. Another year has quickly passed by and it is time for dues to be paid to Sam King, CCPU's Treasurer. If you are a member of NAP and pay the National and State dues by sending your check to NAP – the Unit dues are \$10. If you are not paying dues to NAP and are a provisional member – the State dues are \$25 and the Unit dues are \$10 – please pay \$35 to CCPU. All checks should be written out to Charlotte County Parliamentarians Unit (CCPU) and mailed to: Stephanie King, PRP, PO Box 495482 Port Charlotte, FL 33949-5482



Watch for a poll to determine location/ type of meeting to be held on January 14, 2021



Upcoming Meeting  
January 14, 2021

9:30AM—11:30AM.

Email—[rbtrules@gmail.com](mailto:rbtrules@gmail.com)  
Website—[robertrules.org](http://robertrules.org)