

Meeting Materials – Standing Rules 2020

1. “Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised” shall be followed. The Parliamentarian shall be elected by the Board of Directors prior to the Conference Annual Celebration Business Meeting.
2. Matters deemed by the Moderator to be merely format, routine, and non-controversial may be disposed of by common consent. However, if there is an objection, the chair will await a formal motion and submit the question to debate and vote.
3. Resolutions deemed not merely formal and non-controversial may be submitted by any voting delegate, congregation, association, commission, or committee of the Conference for action by the Annual Celebration Business Meeting. A resolution addresses the mission and/or teaching ministry of the Conference and its related bodies. As it relates to the Church’s mission, the resolution should empower the Conference to act in new areas of responsibility. Further, it shall address the congregations, the denomination, or other bodies, regarding issues of nurture and justice from our Christian perspective. As it relates to the teaching ministry, the resolution should enhance members’ knowledge of the Christian faith, improve the life of persons living in community, and help us make decisions as Christians in a secular world. A resolution that seeks to amend the prior work of a Conference committee must first be submitted to the committee chairperson sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Celebration Business Meeting.
4. Resolution forms are available to interested persons seventy (70) days prior to the Annual Celebration Business Meeting, at which time the due date is indicated. The Business Committee will receive resolutions and approve those to be circulated to the churches and other recognized ministries of the Conference sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Celebration Business Meeting. A resolution similar to the one addressed at an Annual Celebration Business Meeting in the past five years may be referred by the Board of Directors to an appropriate committee and not considered by the Annual Celebration Business Meeting.
5. Each resolution submitted must contain the following wording: “THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the delegates of the 46th Annual Meeting of the Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Church of Christ, meeting at La Foret Conference and Retreat Center, Black Forest, CO, June 4-6, 2020, shall/shall not...”. Summary information accompanying a resolution shall address the following in addition to its titles: The person(s), group or committee bringing the resolution, its purpose, to whom it is addressed, expected results, who will implement or follow up, when and by whom is report back expected, anticipated costs and source of funds, and how this resolution impacts the Conference’s mission and/or teaching ministry, and how it promotes or preserves healthy ministry relationships in the Conference.

6. A resolution received after the deadline may be approved for presentation at the Annual Meeting if the Board of Directors Executive Committee, in its sole discretion, deems it to be of a significant and timely nature.
7. Procedure for presentation at the Annual Celebration Business Meeting of properly submitted resolutions will be the following: The presenter will have two (2) minutes to introduce a resolution. Six (6) persons will have one (1) minute each to speak alternating pro and con, at which time a vote will be taken to extend discussion on the resolution, or refer it back to the appropriate committee for further consideration, or to vote For or Against the proposed resolution.
8. In considering a resolution, action is taken on the "Therefore, be it resolved..." section. Amendments may be made only as to the "Therefore, be it resolved..." section of a resolution. (The "whereas" section is background information.)
9. Amendments must be presented in writing to the meeting chair after they have been presented and seconded. Only one amendment will be considered at a time. One wishing to offer an additional amendment should announce the intention to offer the further amendment after action is completed on the pending amendment.
10. To close debate, the proper motion is "I move the previous question" or "I move to close debate." The mover must gain recognition and the motion must be seconded at which time debate is immediately suspended. The motion to call the question to a vote cannot be amended and requires a two-thirds vote to pass. It will not suffice merely to call "Question" if there are still delegates who wish to speak.
11. Delegates shall state their names when they are recognized to speak. No speaker shall speak on the same issue more than once, except to answer a question addressed to them from the floor. Except when rising to a point of order, or to second a motion, delegates may be requested to speak from a microphone.
12. The Moderator, with the assistance of the Parliamentarian, is charged with the duty of providing orderly disposition to the business of the Rocky Mountain Conference. Any ruling may be appealed by a delegate. The appeal requires a second. The majority vote by the delegates upon the appeal will prevail.

Adopted by the RMC Board of Directors this 15th day of January, 2020.

Rev. Kay Grice, Moderator