**Resolutions 101**

1. **What is a resolution?**

A resolution is a type of motion that is usually expressed in a more formal matter, which attaches a special level of importance to it.

**2. How is it different from a motion?**

One difference between a resolution and a motion is that a resolution begins with a preamble. (A wonderful example of a preamble is found in the Declaration of Independence giving all the reasons why the 13 colonies want to declare their independence from Britain! Check it out here: [https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/declaration-transcript](https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/declaration-transcript%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)). After the preamble, the stated resolution is identified by the use of the word "resolved".

**3. What are the steps to presenting a resolution or making a motion?**

First, the chair recognizes the member making the motion or the resolution. Then the member makes the resolution or motion. Another member then seconds it. Next, the chair states the resolution or motion.

**4. Then what happens?**

The chair then asks, if there is any discussion, defining how much time will be allowed for discussion. Then they call upon anyone raising their hand. Robert's Rules of Order provides that the person who presented the resolution or made the motion has the first opportunity to speak to explain their resolution or motion and the reasons behind it.

**5. The rules of the discussion**

The chair calls upon those wishing to speak, alternating between those for and those against the resolution or motion. A member is only entitled to speak a second time after everyone else who wishes to speak has done so.

**6. Can everyone be a part of the discussion?**

The chair is **not** allowed to participate in the debate unless they temporarily step down from being the chair, turning the discussion over to a chair pro tem.

**7. What's next?**

The chair will bring the discussion to a close at the specified time.

**8. Time to vote!**

Except for the President and Parliamentarian!