

PICKLE FESTIVAL IN DINOPOLIS

6 attendees: chair, chamber of commerce (COC) president, chef, knitter, sheriff, TV anchor *[Note that the numbers are a substitute for being recognized.]*

1.	chair	Does any member care to make a motion?
2.	chef	I move that we hold a pickle festival this summer!
3.	COC president	Second!
4.	chair	Very well, the Main Motion has been moved and seconded that we hold a pickle festival this summer. The person who makes the motion has the right to speak first. Do you care to speak to your motion?
5.	chef	The North Carolina Pickle Festival has been a success for the last 22 years. They have an antique car show, a bicycle "Tour de Pickle," an event where you learn how to pack pickles in a jar, and tons of great pickle foods. This will bring many dinosaurs into town and increase our visibility.
6.	chair	Further discussion?
7.	sheriff	Ruin our reputation is more like it! This seems like a way to make the City of Dinopolis the target of everybody's jokes! I'm against this idea.
8.	COC president	Quirky events have been doing pretty well in our region. I'd like to give this a try. However, I move to amend the motion by striking the words "this summer" and inserting the words "next summer."
9.	knitter	Second!
10.	chair	It has been moved and seconded that we amend the motion by striking the words "this summer" and adding

		the words “next summer.” Do you care to speak to your motion?
11.	COC president	It seems like a good idea to me, but we need more time to plan if we’re going to make it a success.
12.	knitter	That is certainly a consideration. I’m in favor of the amendment.
13.	chair	Is there any further discussion? <i>[pause]</i> Hearing none, we’ll take the vote. It has been proposed to amend the motion by striking the words “this summer” and inserting the words “next summer.” If this amendment passes, the motion will read: “that we hold a pickle festival next summer.” All those in favor of amending the motion by striking the words “this summer” and inserting the words “next summer,” say “aye.”
14.	everyone	Aye!
15.	chair	All those opposed, say “no.” <i>[pause]</i> The “ayes” have it and the motion passes. The motion is amended to read “that we hold a pickle festival next summer.” Further discussion on the Main Motion as amended?
16.	TV anchor	I would like to amend the motion by adding the words, “And use the slogan, ‘The Dinopolis Pickle Festival is kind of a big dill.’”
17.	chef	Second!
18.	chair	The Chair didn’t hear the amendment; would the member please repeat it?
19.	TV anchor	Yes, I said, “And use the slogan, ‘The Dinopolis Pickle Festival is kind of a big dill.’”

20.	chair	The last word is spelled “D – E – A – L,” is that correct?
21.	TV anchor	No, it’s a pun – the word is spelled “D – I – L – L.”
22.	chair	Thank you, Councilmember. So it has been moved and seconded that we amend the motion by adding the words, “And use the slogan, ‘The Dinopolis Pickle Festival is kind of a big dill.’” Discussion?
23.	TV anchor	The clever pun in this slogan will make people laugh and pay more attention to the festival.
24.	knitter	Well, lots of people hate puns! This will just turn them off.
25.	COC president	It seems to me that it would make sense to wait until we decided whether we’re having a festival at all, and then leave the marketing experts to decide about the details of slogans and such.
26.	chair	I agree with the Chamber of Commerce president on this, so we should just move on. The Main Motion as amended is that we hold a pickle festival next summer.
27.	TV anchor	Oh, so now you’re telling us what to do, is that it?
28.	chair	If you’re going to make snarky comments, we should definitely move on.
29.	TV anchor	Point of Order, Chair! We had a motion on the floor and the chair doesn’t have the right to skip it. Plus the word “snarky” is insulting!
30.	chair	<i>[mumbling]</i> Uh, mmm, the point is well taken. The chair apologizes. Is there any objection if we wait on marketing until the implementation phase? <i>[pause]</i> Hearing none, we will move on.

31.	knitter	Chair, I think we should have a bigger festival than just pickles. I move to amend the motion by inserting the words “and yarn” after the word “pickle.”
32.	chair	Is there a second? <i>[pause]</i>
33.	chair	There being no second, the motion to amend will not be taken up.
34.	knitter	But that’s not fair! I have just as much right to suggest a yarn festival as the chef has to propose a pickle festival.
35.	chair	Under Robert’s Rules of Order, a motion has to be “seconded” before the group can spend time on it. Since no one seconded this motion, it means that only one person wants to discuss this idea. Broadening the festival to include yarn is not something that we can discuss at this time.
36.	TV anchor	Point of Information, chair.
37.	chair	State your question.
38.	TV anchor	Just what kind of pickley foods would we offer at this festival?
39.	chair	Chef, can you answer that question?
40.	chef	In North Carolina they have pickle chips and pickle popcorn and pickle pizza and deep-fried pickles, and also pickle ice cream and pickle sno-cones and pickle pretzels.
41.	TV anchor	Do we have any evidence that these foods are attractive to dinosaurs? I think that they taste too

		sour and acidic for our dinosaur population to enjoy.
42.	chef	Well, once you deep-fry pickles, or put them in pizzas, they lose their acidic quality.
43.	TV anchor	That seems pretty dubious to me. Speaking personally, I hate pickles! Also sauerkraut and kimchi and sushi and pickled fish and herrings... YUCK!
44.	COC president	Point of Order, Chair!
45.	chair	State your point.
46.	COC president	According to Robert’s Rules of Order, no one may speak a second time until everyone who wishes to do so has spoken once. These Councilmembers are talking directly to each other. Also, it seems to me that remarks about one’s personal preferences are not germane or relevant here. We should be discussing the merits of the motion.
47.	chair	The point is well taken! Each person has a chance to speak once before anyone may speak twice, and we should be talking only about whether a pickle festival is a good idea, not our personal taste. Is there further discussion on the Main Motion?
48.	sheriff	I just wonder about why the chef is proposing this motion. It seems to me that it’s a conflict of interest for the chef to propose something that involves cooking, since that’s how they make their living.
49.	chair	Under Robert’s Rules of Order, “conflict of Interest” refers to a specific personal interest, usually financial. Members are free to propose actions that benefit an entire group of which they are a member. There are

		many chefs in our city.
50.	COC president	I think that the sheriff is just saying that because the chef broke off their engagement last year.
51.	TV anchor	Point of Order!
52.	chair	State your point!
53.	TV anchor	Under Robert's Rules, personal remarks like that are NOT allowed!
54.	Chair	<i>[glaring at the COC president and speaking firmly]</i> The point is well taken. As Robert's Rules says, "Speak to issues, not to personalities."
55.	knitter	<i>[say this loudly and with emphasis]</i> I move to amend the motion by deleting the word "pickle" and inserting the word "knitting."
56.	chair	An amendment was proposed earlier to add "yarn" to the festival. It was not seconded and therefore was not taken up. The chair will rule that a "knitting" festival is essentially the same thing as a "yarn" festival. Since the group already declined to address such a proposal earlier in the meeting, this amendment is not in order and will not be taken up.
57.	sheriff	<i>[make a circling motion with your finger on the side of your head as you say this]</i> I wish people wouldn't get all riled up about their ideas. It seems kind of obsessive to me.
58.	chair	The member is reminded that insulting remarks or body language are not allowed under Robert's Rules of Order. Members will kindly show respect and courtesy to their fellow councilmembers, AT ALL TIMES!

59.	COC president	I call the question!
60.	knitter	Second!
61.	chair	The question has been called. As you know, if this motion passes, it means that we will stop debate immediately and vote on the question before us, namely, to hold a pickle festival next summer. All those in favor, raise your right hand.
62.	chair, chef, COC president, knitter	<i>[Raise your right hand.]</i>
63.	chair	Thank you, hands down. All those opposed, raise your right hand.
64.	sheriff	<i>[Raise your right hand.]</i>
65.	chair	Thank you, hands down. There are four in favor and one against, which is more than two-thirds, so we will vote immediately on the main motion.
66.	knitter	Chair, I have a question about parliamentary procedure.
67.	chair	State your question.
68.	knitter	Why did you take that vote by asking us to raise our hands, instead of just saying “aye” or “no?” It seems like it wastes time to vote that way.
69.	chair	Robert’s Rules of Order says that a two-thirds vote must be taken when member rights are limited or extended. And it’s hard to tell two-thirds by voice, so the vote must be taken another way.
70.	knitter	Thank you for that explanation, Chair.

71.	chef	Chair, I move to recess for 10 minutes.
72.	chair	The motion to recess is allowed while a vote on the main motion is pending. Is there any objection if we recess for 10 minutes? <i>[pause]</i>
73.	COC president	OBJECTION!
74.	chair	Very well, we don't have unanimous consent to recess for 10 minutes, so we'll take a vote.
75.	COC president	Just a minute, I need to explain why we shouldn't take a recess right now.
76.	chair	Sorry, the motion to recess cannot be debated. All those in favor of recessing for 10 minutes, say "aye."
77.	chef, knitter, sheriff, TV anchor	Aye!
78.	chair	All those opposed, say "no."
79.	COC president	No!
80.	chair	There is a majority in favor so the motion passes.
81.	COC president	<i>[say this in a disagreeable tone]</i> Chair, I feel like all these rules are tying us up in knots. They're making our meetings waaaay too complicated. You're just a DICTATOR WITH A GAVEL, Chair.
82.	chair	The chair will rule that the words "dictator with a gavel" are an insult and may not be used. We are now in recess for ten minutes.

AFTER THE RECESS

83.	chair	So when we left off, we were just about to take a vote
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		on the main motion.
84.	chef	Chair, during the recess, I researched some new info about pickles. I'd like to share it with you all.
85.	chair	Unfortunately once the call for the question has been approved, no further debate is in order. All those in favor of holding a pickle festival next summer, say "aye."
86.	chair, chef, TV anchor, COC president	Aye!
87.	chair	Those opposed, say "no" <i>[pause]</i> .
88.	sheriff, knitter	No!
89.	chair	The ayes have it and we will hold a pickle festival next summer.
90.	knitter	Finally! What a lot of maneuvering we went through—all for this silly proposal of a "pickle festival."
91.	chair	The member is reminded that once a vote has been taken and the result announced, no further discussion is allowed. There being no further business, this meeting is adjourned.