

SCRIPT FOR ELECTION OF A COUNCIL OFFICER

Some time ago Miami Regia sent to us a script for council officer elections. We seem to have lost track of that document. I have reconstructed it here as closely as I can remember and added a few comments.

AT MEETING PRIOR TO ELECTION:

PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES: Next month we will be holding an election to fill the office of ____ because _____. (e.g. Bro. Jones has completed a 3-year term; he is eligible for reelection. Bro. Jones has completed six years in office and is not eligible for reelection. The office is vacant because Bro. Jones has moved from the area. Etc.)

The president or a person she designates give a brief outline of the duties of the office.

PRESIDENT: Any Legion member who has completed his or her probation and taken the promise is eligible for nomination. He need not be a current officer. (A committee may be named to seek candidates.)

VICE PRESIDENT: I declare the floor open for nominations for the office of _____. (NB if there is more than one office to fill, the offices are taken one at a time in descending order.)

++MEMBER: I nominate N. MEMBER 2: I second the nomination. VP: N do you accept the nomination? (NB Roberts Rules of Order says nominations do not require a second, but Regia requires it, and we follow their rules) NB Member must be present to be nominated and/or elected.

The same procedure is followed for each name placed in nomination. When there is silence, VP: Is there a motion to close the nominations. MEMBER 1: I so move. (NB A motion to close the nomination DOES NOT require a second, but the vote must be unanimous.) VP: Any objections? None appearing we will take additional nominations next meeting.

AT NEXT MEETING FOR ELECTION:

PRESIDENT: We will now have the election for the office of _____ as was announced last meeting.

VICE PRESIDENT: The following names have been placed in nomination N, N, N. Are there additional nominations. The procedure follows exactly as explained at ++ above.

PRESIDENT: (If only one name has been placed in nomination) I declare N. unanimously elected to the office of _____.

(If more than one name has been placed in nomination:) We will follow the procedure outlined in the Handbook for election. It is important that we strictly follow this procedure. Only officially appointed praesidium and duly elected council officers may vote. Visitors must not vote. (Remember Spiritual Directors are officers.)

The vote is taken and the president announces the results with the numbers. The total count must be the same as the number eligible to vote. One candidate must have a majority of the vote, or another ballot is taken as described in the Handbook.

SECRETARY: Throughout this procedure it is vitally important that the secretary record in the minutes each motion, name, second, vote count, etc., so the higher council can ratify the election. The secretary then completes the ratification forms and submits them to the higher council along with the minutes.