

May 9, 2018

Voting on the ABM Proposal

Within RCA groups, decisions are made, hopefully, by reaching an informed group conscience. When the Fellowship as a whole makes decisions at the Annual Business Meeting, we seek to reach a decision that reflects “the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.” And we make efforts to make that an “informed” decision.

This year, 2018, there is one proposal on the ABM ballot. For each RCA group, there are three questions to address in preparing to vote on this proposal:

1. How do we gain information about the proposal and the issues it addresses so that we can make an informed decision?

The [notices](#) that are sent to the Fellowship by the Structure Committee include the rationale for the proposal as submitted by the proposer, in this year’s case, the Board of Trustees. They also include the opinion(s) of the Structure Committee who are fulfilling their assigned task of evaluating and giving opinions on resolutions. *We emphasize that all comments are simply opinions as is the rationale.*

Another source of information about the proposal is the [Discussion Forum](#) on the RCA website. Here again, you will be reading opinions and/or giving your own. Hopefully, there will be some reasoned opinions that can help your group to reach its decision.

2. How do we reach a group decision that reflects the conscience of the whole group?

Certainly, it is hoped that the vote a group casts is based on the conscience of the whole group. In the fourth edition of our Blue Book, *Recovering Couples*

Anonymous, on page 80 is a description of how a business meeting can be operated to reach an informed group conscience. It is helpful if all participants in the meeting have had access to the pertinent notices and the [discussion forum](#).

3. How can we cast our group's vote?

Option 1. Send a delegate couple to the ABM in Stockholm, Sweden to participate in and hear discussion and debate and then cast your group's vote when the vote is taken. (Utilize the online [Delegate Designation form](#) to identify your delegate couple)

Option 2. Designate the delegates from another group to carry your group's proxy. (Utilize the online [Delegate Designation form](#) to assign your groups proxy). A delegate couple can carry the proxy of one other group besides their own.

Option 3. Have your group's delegates attend the ABM on August 17 via ZOOM to participate in the discussion and debate and then cast your groups vote. Information on the Zoom connection will be available closer to the date. (Utilize the online Delegate Designation form to register your delegates)

Option 4. Have your designated couple cast your group's vote by mail. (Utilize the [Electronic Ballot](#) which is posted on the RCA website). The mail-in votes are combined with the votes of the delegates in the hall and those attending by Zoom to come up with the final tally.

It is important for our Fellowship decisions at the Annual Business Meeting to reflect the collective informed consciousness of the entire Fellowship. We encourage all groups to inform themselves and participate in this year's ABM decision.

This notice is submitted to the Fellowship by your RCA-WSO Structure Committee.