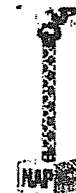


PARKER ATTACHMENT 3



John Tatum, Parliamentarian
National Association of Parliamentarians
American Institute of Parliamentarians

10615 Meadowridge Lane, Bowie, MD 20721
(202) 327-0671
e-mail: johntatumjr@netzero.com



OPINION
of
John Tatum, Registered Professional Parliamentarian
National Association of Parliamentarians
Parliamentarian of the Washington Teachers' Union

June 10, 2010

Issue:

The Washington Teachers' Union has a 23-member board. The quorum for a 23-member board is the majority of the board, which are twelve (12) members in this case. But what is the quorum when there are several vacancies on the board? There are two types of membership, *fixed* membership and *entire* membership. How are these defined?

Facts:

The WTU constitution does not address either *fixed* membership or *entire* membership, therefore we must revert to our parliamentary authority, which is Robert's Rules of Order Order, Newly Revised 10th Ed. to get the answer. The WTU Executive Board currently has seven (7) vacancies. This means that the *fixed* membership of the board is twenty-three (23), but the *entire* membership is sixteen (16). On page 390 of Robert's Rules of Order Order, Newly Revised 10th Ed. it states that when determining the quorum for a board that has vacancies, it is the majority of the *entire* membership that is used for determining the quorum. Therefore the current quorum for the WTU Executive Board is nine (9) members.

Comments:

A special meeting was held on Wednesday June 9, 2010, at 5:30pm. A quorum was present. All action taken at that meeting is valid because there were eleven (11) members present and the quorum is nine (9).

Opinion:

The quorum for the WTU Executive Board is based on the entire membership and not the fixed membership. The formula for the entire membership is the fixed membership minus the number of vacancies. As vacancies occur or are filled, the quorum will be adjusted accordingly.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Tatum". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John Tatum, Parliamentarian
Washington Teachers Union