

Proposed Amendments to Board Rules Re Public Comment Period

Amend Section E.3 as follows:

3. Time for Public Comment

- a. As set forth in Article IV.A.1.f, there shall be a period for public comment, subject to the following procedures.
 - i. The public comment period shall not exceed thirty (30) minutes. However, any member may make a motion to extend the public comment period, provided the total does not exceed 50 minutes. The motion must be made before the public comment period starts and must pass by a simple majority vote of members present and voting.
 - ii. The President shall establish the amount of time allocated per speaker, which shall neither exceed three (3) minutes nor be less than one and one half (1½) minutes per speaker. Given the time limits set forth in section i, there is no guarantee that all members of the public who have signed up to speak will have the opportunity to do so. In the event that the public comment period is extended beyond thirty (30) minutes, the time allocated per speaker shall be no more than two (2) minutes.
 - iii. Speakers shall indicate their wish to speak during the public comment period by notifying the Board Office no later than 6:00 PM prior to the start of the meeting, indicating their name, and may also provide City or Town of residence, and Board district if known. The Board Office shall construct a speakers' list of people who have signed up, with the order of the list following the order in which people signed up.
 - iv. Speakers may address any topic which has not been subject to a prior public hearing of either the Board or a Board committee.
 - v. Speakers shall be heard in the order listed on the speakers' list.
 - vi. If time remains in the public comment period, and in the event that, in the President's sole discretion, the President concludes that an individual who wishes to address the Board was either unaware of or could not meet the sign-up requirement, the President may invite the individual to speak, subject to all other rules regarding the public comment period.