**PROPOSAL FORMING**

**Picture Forming**

1. Present the issue, the “ball of yarn”.
2. Identify dimensions or elements of the issue, the “strands of yarn”.
   - **REMEMBER:**
   - No solutions at this stage.
   - This step is about understanding the problem.
3. Consent to completeness of the list.

**Proposal Shaping**

4. Generate proposal ideas in Rounds.
   - **REMEMBER:**
   - Refrain from judging or evaluating ideas.
   - This step is about free-flow creative idea generation.
5. Organize ideas.
   (A) Select “Tuners”.
   (B) Tuners shape ideas concisely, into a manageable number of proposal(s).
   (C) Circulate proposal(s) to whole circle.
   - **REMEMBER:**
   - Part (B) can be done in a break or separate session.
   - It is important that Tuners keep a neutral attitude while organizing collected information.
6. Confirm that Tuners “did their job” and that all identified dimensions of the issue were addressed by proposal(s)

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**Dynamic Governance Summary**

**CONSENT DECISION MAKING**

**Consent Round**

“Do you have any paramount objections to this proposal?”

- **Yes** (record objections)
- **No**

**Celebrate!**

Move to the next agenda item.

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**Options for Moving Forward**

- Facilitator amends the proposal
- Free-form discussion → amendment
- Refer to lower or higher Circle
- Brief dialog → 2 or 3 individuals
- “How might you solve this?” Round
- Conduct an experiment
- Refer back to idea originator to rework
- Refer to Research Task Force
- Refer to Resolution Task Force

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**GLOSSARY**

- **Round(s)** — every participant gives input in turn, with no group dialogue.
- **Tuners** — individuals appointed to make information more manageable by organizing it, without additions or modifications in meaning.
Dynamic Governance Summary

ELECTION

Review Role & Specified Term
State responsibilities, qualifications, term.

Submit Ballots
Write “I... (your name) nominate... (candidate)...” Submit to election facilitator.

Share Reasons Round
“I’d like... in this role because...”

Invite Changes
“I change my nomination to... because...”

Open Discussion
Use this step only if necessary. It is optional and seldom used.

Consent Round
Facilitator proposes the candidate with the strongest arguments relative to qualification.

REMEMBER:
- Propose candidate based on arguments. Numeric majority is less important than “weight” of reasons.
- Ask for the candidate’s consent last.
- To address paramount objections, see “Options for Moving Forward” in the consent decision making process.
- If necessary, amend proposal and repeat consent round.

DO NOT!
- Elect for an unlimited term.
- Ask for a volunteer.
- Inquire who is interested or who is not.
- Have dialog during a Round.
- Seek the perfect candidate: recall that each candidate has strengths and weaknesses.

CIRCLE MEETING

Opening Round
- Check-in, transition into meeting
- Requests for changing agenda items

Administrative Matters
- Agree to agenda if there were changes requested, otherwise skip this bullet.
- Consent to minutes of previous meeting
- Schedule next meeting (date, time, place, duration)

Matters of Content
Moving through the agenda items:
- Consent to proposals (follow “Consent Decision Making” process)
- Tackle an issue (see “Proposal Forming” process)
- Accept report(s) from lower circles

Closing Round
- Evaluate facilitation, meeting efficiency, group effectiveness: “What went well? What can we improve?”

OPERATIONAL MEETING

Start Meeting
Leader opens meeting informally, with a positive tone.

REMEMBER:
- There is no opening round.
- Decisions are made by leader.
- Circulate summary reports before the meeting.
- Meet regularly and enforce deadlines.

Monitor & Direct Progress
Report in turn on priority activities:
- For project work include item, status, brief note—as needed.
- For ongoing work include trend, aging, brief notes—as needed.
- Leader or peers may give input or ask questions from reporter.
- Leader may provide direction, assign priorities, delegate tasks.