

PARKING FEES IN BONNY DINO

6 attendees: chair, banker, elderly member, environmentalist, photographer, teacher
[Note that the numbers are a substitute for being recognized]

1.	chair	There is continuing pressure on our parking spaces in the downtown areas of the City of Bonny Dino. The staff has reviewed the matter carefully. As you know, our current rate is \$2 per hour. The staff recommends that the Planning Commission propose to Council that the new fee be set at \$20 per hour. Does anyone care to make that motion?
2.	environmentalist	I move that the Planning Commission propose to Council that parking fee be set at \$20 per hour.
3.	photographer	Second!
4.	chair	Very well, it has been moved and seconded that the Commission propose to Council that parking fee be set at \$20 per hour. We will now have discussion on the motion. Environmentalist, as the maker of the motion, you have the right to speak first.
5.	environmentalist	Well, I'm a believer in public transportation myself. I think that this increase will lessen congestion and also force more people to take buses or walk. It's a good idea for the environment and for our city.
6.	chair	Further discussion? The chair recognizes the Elderly Member.
7.	elderly member	<i>[speaking angrily]</i> I think this is a terrible idea! We've just learned that we have a \$10 million surplus! Why would we increase the parking fee and burden our residents this way?
8.	environmentalist	<i>[speaking passionately]</i> Do you know that the parking fees in most cities of the League are \$15 per hour? We are so far below the market that it's ridiculous.

9.	elderly member	Well, that's not a reason to go crazy and lay this burden on our residents. Many elderly dinosaurs are feeling the pinch. Our current tough economic times have hit them really hard.
10.	environmentalist	There's no point being an old softie and begging for sympathy for the down-and-out. If they had an ounce of gumption they would have saved up for their old age.
11.	elderly member	What a hard-hearted comment! Some day you might be OLD AND WRINKLED AND POOR yourself – have you no compassion?
12.	environmentalist	All I have to say to you about that is NONSENSE, APPLESAUCE AND BALDERDASH!
13.	banker	Point of Order!
14.	chair	State your point.
15.	banker	These members are monopolizing this discussion. Under Robert's Rules, no one can speak a second time until everyone who wishes to do so has spoken once.
16.	chair	The point is well taken. Everyone must have an equal chance. Thank you, Banker. Further discussion?
17.	photographer	This is likely to put a crimp on the vitality of our downtown. As a business owner, I'm really concerned about this. I speak against the motion.
18.	banker	I see those arguments, but I think we have to be prudent. I guess on balance I'm in favor of this proposal.
19.	chair	Honestly, I think that you dinosaurs are just living in the past. We ought to be preparing for driverless cars, not raising the rates for our parking lots! You're just a bunch of HAS-BEENS!
20.	elderly member	Point of Order, Chair!

21.	chair	State your point.
22.	elderly member	That is an insulting remark. According to Robert's Rules of Order, all of us are obliged to speak with courtesy and respect, INCLUDING THE CHAIR!
23.	chair	<i>[speaking sadly]</i> Oh, the point is well taken. The chair apologizes for her remarks. Further discussion?
24.	banker	<i>[speaking angrily]</i> In my opinion, this commission is CLUELESS! We have our heads stuck in the concrete. Given the way the stock market is trending, our surplus could just disappear. I hope everyone will agree to raise those rates.
25.	environmentalist	You know, I've heard better discussions in my daughter's kindergarten class! It's clear that we don't have the sharpest knives in the kitchen drawer here.
26.	elderly member	Point of Order!
27.	chair	State your point.
28.	elderly member	The members are insulting all of us by those remarks.
29.	chair	The chair will rule that the comments are indeed insulting. Members will kindly refrain from such improper statements.
30.	teacher	<i>[speaking intensely]</i> I have to say that I don't think all these rules are a good idea. They are keeping us from expressing our true opinion! You're an OUT-OF-DATE DINOSAUR yourself, Chair.
31.	chair	The chair will rule that the words "out-of-date dinosaur" are insulting and may not be used.
32.	teacher	APPEAL!
33.	environmentalist	Second!
34.	chair	Very well, the ruling of the chair has been appealed and seconded, so the members will decide. The chair has ruled that the words "out-of-date dinosaur" are

		insulting. All those who believe that this ruling should be sustained, please say “aye.”
35.	chair, banker, elderly member, photographer	Aye!
36.	chair	All those who believe that the ruling should not be sustained, please say “no.”
37.	teacher, environmentalist	No!
38.	chair	The “ayes” have it, the motion passes, and the ruling of the chair is sustained. Members may not use this term. Further discussion?
39.	photographer	If we do this, the residents are likely to come and throw eggs at our houses—or even worse! I’m dead against it.
40.	chair	Any further discussion? Hearing none, we’ll take the vote. All those in favor of proposing to Council that the parking fee be raised to \$20 per hour, please say “aye.”
41.	chair, banker, teacher, environmentalist	Aye!
42.	chair	All those opposed, please say “no.”
43.	elderly member, photographer	No!
44.	chair	The “ayes” have it, the motion passes, and we will propose to Council that the parking fee be raised to \$20 per hour.

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE PITFALLS

SITUATION	COMMISSION MEMBER...	PITFALL
1. The planning commission is considering a request to lower a setback from 50 feet to 20 feet.	Isn't there a better place in the city to site this hotel?	Confusion about scope
2. The environmental commission is considering recommending setting aside some wetlands.	I think we can't address this until the University report comes out in five years.	Asking for the moon
3. There doesn't seem to be an attractive option for the new community swimming pool. Both sites have environmental issues.	The planning commission and the city can't resolve this issue. I move that we recommend that the city carry out a referendum!	Shrinking from hard choices
4. The arts commission is considering a report about the museum.	I was on my honeymoon in Norway and I just haven't had time to study this.	Failure to read packet
5. There is mixed public opinion about a developer's plans to site a shopping center near the main road.	When we're getting so many different conflicting views on this, I think we should just punt for another six months.	Decision delay
6. There has been a public outcry about changes to the irrigation district boundaries.	Six of my neighbors are very upset about this. They've taken the trouble to come to our meetings, so we should do what they want.	Deafened by decibels
7. The staff have made a recommendation to purchase a historic farm site as a museum.	Why are the staff making this recommendation? I think we're wasting our money on staff salaries. Only citizens really understand the issues here.	Confusion about staff role
8. The commission is discussing plans for a new hiking trail along the river.	I think we have to analyze what kind of paving stones are best, so teeny-tiny rocks don't get stuck in the paws of our dinosaur residents.	Lost in the weeds/analysis paralysis
9. The staff has carried out a survey.	Since I'm a professional surveyor, I can re-do the survey to verify it.	Confusion about your job
10. There's a lot of dubious activity going on the 110-acre park to the east of town.	I move that all parks commissioners be issued T-shirts saying "Parks Commission" and be authorized to issue tickets to offenders.	Confusion about scope