

From Diocesan Canons

Canon 22 Parish Meetings

Sec. 22.1. The meeting of every Parish shall be held annually for the election of members of the Vestry, for the reception of reports and for the transaction of other business which may legally and canonically come before the meeting.

Sec. 22.2. A special meeting of any Parish may be held at any time on the call of the Rector with the consent of the Vestry, on the call of the Vestry when the office of Rector is vacant or on the call of ten per cent (10%) of the qualified voters of the Parish; provided, that the notice of such special meeting shall set forth the business which it is proposed to transact at such meeting and no other business than that specified in the notice shall be in order except by a two-thirds majority.

Sec. 22.3. The annual meeting of a Parish shall be held not later than the thirty-first day of January, the day and hour being determined by the Vestry.

Sec. 22.4. Notice of any Parish meeting shall be given during all services held on the two Sundays preceding such meeting and by mail or electronically posted at least ten days prior to such meeting to all members of the Parish.

Sec. 22.5. At any meeting of the Parish, qualified voters shall be those persons of sixteen (16) years of age or over who, at the time of such meeting, shall be either communicants on the records of the Parish or baptized persons who have been contributors to the funds of the Parish for six months and whose names as regular contributors shall have been for that period entered or entitled to be entered upon the books of the Treasurer of the Parish, provided, however, that any Parish by its ByLaws may increase the age requirement up to and including eighteen (18) years. Any dispute as to whether an individual is a qualified voter shall be determined by majority vote upon the recommendation of the Rector and Treasurer. If the Parish shall have been organized within six months before the day of such meeting, then the prescribed period of qualification shall be considered as beginning with the date of such organization.

Sec. 22.6. At any meeting of the Parish the presence of ten percent (10%) of qualified voters of the Parish shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and no person shall be permitted to vote by absentee ballot or by proxy. A Parish by its By-Laws may increase the percentage of qualified voters to constitute a quorum.

Sec. 22.7. The Rector shall preside at all Parish meetings provided, however, in the absence of a Rector, the Wardens, according to seniority by title, shall preside. The Clerk of the Vestry shall be the Clerk of the Parish and shall discharge the duties of that office at any meeting of the Parish, but in the case of the Clerk's absence or disability, the voters shall elect a Clerk to serve for that meeting. The election of the Junior Warden and the members of the Vestry shall be by

ballot. The Presiding Officer shall appoint three tellers who shall receive and count the ballots and notify the presiding officer of the results thereof.