

MODIFIED CONSENSUS PROCESS

The facilitator has the responsibility to guide the body for every actionable item or proposal. The facilitator should follow these steps:

- Discussion, with clarifying questions
 - Test for consensus
 - If concerns are raised, the body should try to address those concerns
 - Test for consensus—
Ask if there are still concerns, and determine whether the concern is either
 - a stand-aside concern
 - or
 - a blocking concern
 - If a blocking concern remains, a vote is taken
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A stand-aside concern can be described as follows:

a disagreement with the majority but an acknowledgment of the majority view and, in the interest of cooperation and the broader goals of the organization, an acceptance of the will of the majority

A blocking concern can be described as follows:

standing in the way of the decision, if the blocker feels that the proposed action would be a serious threat to the organization's or community's mission as a whole, or to other persons (or creatures) not present