

## **Motion to Require Committee Agendas Introduced by Richard Stanger**

**"Committee agendas shall be created by the Committee Chair so long as they include the requirements set forth in the Standing Rules for the committee. Enough committee meetings must be scheduled to accomplish those requirements."**

The purpose of this motion is to ask the committee to consider the following change to the By-Laws. I have provided an explanation for why I am proposing this change.

In 1923, the Chair of the Land Use and Planning Committee, Michael Jensen, challenged the contention by members of his committee that the LUPC agenda must contain what the VNC Standing Rules requires the committee to do. County Counsel advised that a committee chairman had the right to set his committee's agenda based on the simple language of the By-Laws: "Committee agendas shall be created by the Committee Chair." However, Michael's contention (and counsel's concurrence) is not exactly true. For example, a committee chair cannot **not** produce an agenda **ever**, nor even for many months running. Nor should a committee chair put on the agenda an item clearly the purview of another committee or even of the Board itself. Moreover, it seems irrational that a committee chair can unilaterally simply ignore the requirements that the Board itself has stipulated the committee must perform. If so, the Standing Rules become meaningless, as would be the central purpose of the committee.

In the LUPC case, during the last election cycle the committee could have met every two weeks (the first and third Thursday of the month) as I believe was mostly the case in the previous election cycle. That could have meant up to 48 meetings; LUPC met only 15 times. Even on a monthly schedule the committee could have met 24 times, but didn't.