Actions to Demonstrate Good Faith Effort in Chapter Votes

Good Faith Effort involves making a diligent and honest attempt to fulfill the obligation to reach quorum in chapter voting that a reasonable person would consider appropriate. It emphasizes honesty, fairness, and a genuine attempt to meet the quorum.

A "good faith effort" involves taking all reasonable steps to ensure members are aware of the vote and encourage participation. Here are some strategies chapters might consider:

1. **Advance Notice**: Notify members of the upcoming vote well in advance, including reminders as the timeframe gets closer.

2. **Clear Communication**: Clearly explain the importance of the vote and the need for quorum in your communications.

3. **Chapter Champion:** Identify an individual to coordinate/lead outreach efforts. This could be a chapter leader but does not need to be.

4. **Multiple Channels**: Use various communication channels such as emails, social media, newsletter, and individual outreach, particularly to organizations with a large number of members.

   a) Intentional email outreach – Emails sent from individual email accounts (non gmail/free mail) – higher chance of reaching intended recipients

   b) Enterprise team – available to support chapter in efforts

   c) Cvent – Volunteer Experience Team will send periodic reminders to chapter members who have not yet voted (if Volunteer Experience Team sets up the ballot and chapter requests the team send it out)

5. **Ongoing Follow-up:** It may be necessary to reach out multiple times to members to encourage voting.

It is important to document the chapter's actions to show it acted in good faith and made all reasonable efforts to achieve quorum.

FAQs

Q: How do we calculate the number of votes needed to reach quorum?

A: Quorum is based on the number of members in the chapter as of the day the vote starts (in Section 3.7 of bylaws):

- Up to 499 members – 10%
- Up to 2,499 members – 7.5%
- Up to 4,999 members – 5%
- 5000+ members – 2.5%

Q: Can the Volunteer Experience Team give us a list of who has voted?

A: Because the voting is anonymous, we are unable to provide a list of who has voted. It is recommended language similar to the following be used in communications to encourage members to reach out to others:

- ***If you have already voted, thank you! Please pass this on to someone who may not have voted yet.***

Q: How do we ensure no one votes twice?

A: Ballots set up by the Volunteer Experience Team are tied to the member's email address and do not allow for multiple votes.