

# Ben Franklin Society

*Independent and Collaborative Research on Matters of Importance to Franklin County, NC*



Meeting Agenda - Discussion Only  
**OCTOBER 2008**  
Thursday, October 30<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm  
Youngsville Community House  
115 E. Main Street, Youngsville, NC

## Topic #1: Society Membership Concepts

Membership is open to anyone – whether a Franklin County resident or not. Types of membership to consider: Adult, Student, Guest, Sponsor etc. Membership requires pre-payment of yearly Membership Dues and active participation in a Research or non-Research Project. Member Dues are set yearly. Members agree to trust, support and respect other Society members in their research efforts. Members accept the innovative notion of 100% responsibility for their Project success and all other [Active] Society Projects. All Members have one vote. All matters of importance to the Society are subject to a vote. All Society matters are by majority vote of all Members unless stated otherwise. It is preferred that all Voting be performed at Quarterly Meetings; but Voting may be held electronically as needed.

**[Agree] [Disagree] [Other Membership ideas]**

## Topic #2: Research Proposals and Projects

There are two Project types: Research and non-Research (i.e. supportive activities such as grant writing etc). Project Proposals are normally accepted Quarterly from any Individual or Collaborative Research Team. Research and Non-Research Proposal acceptance is subject to a 3/4 membership vote. Projects are categorized as [P]roposal/Pending, [A]ctive, [I]nactive, [D]ropped or [C]ompleted. [A]ctive Projects must report their progress at each Quarterly Society Meeting.

**[Agree] [Disagree] [Other Proposal/Project ideas]**

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**Topic #3: Project Proposal Preparation**

Review and discuss Initial Meeting Panel and Attendee Project Proposal ideas for completeness, clarity, purpose, value etc. If necessary, break "large" Proposals into a sequence of "smaller" Proposals. Ideally, Research Project duration should NOT exceed one calendar year. Note how proposals relate and overlap. Categorize the value and impact of each Proposal. Assemble a list of common budget items. Prepare submissions for an acceptance vote at the November 2008 meeting.

**[Agree] [Disagree] [Other Proposal ideas]**

**Topic #4: Project Operating Protocols**

Independently functioning Research Projects are the basis of a strong Society. Communication and collaboration between Research Team members and between Research Projects is fundamental to the mission of the Society. Internet protocols (website, email, text, chat etc.) are highly recommended. Efforts will be made to enable all Members to participate in this manner. Every Society Member will be provided an email address and each Research Project will be provided a website for their use. Society LISTSERV and CHAT services will also be established to facilitate communication among all Society Members. Non-Internet protocols (meetings, telephone, mail) are also recognized as necessary and appropriate. Student mentoring is encouraged for all Projects. Each project team will independently plan, organize and perform their research.

**[Agree] [Disagree] [Other Protocol ideas]**

**Topic #5: Society Meeting Format**

Interaction and collaboration are of utmost importance to the health of the Society. Meetings will be Project-centric. Meetings will have a published Agenda of [A]ctive Project Presentations: both non-Research and Research Types. Project Team Presentations will be encouraged to be visual (PowerPoint (.ppt), photos, graphs, charts etc.) Project presentations should encourage the free and open exchange of ideas among the Society Membership.

**[Agree] [Disagree] [Other Meeting ideas]**

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**Topic #6: Society Formal Structure**

The Ben Franklin Society will be structured as a Non-Profit Organization (type to be recommended). Tax, banking and legal matters (to be recommended)

**[Agree] [Disagree] [Other Formal Structure ideas]**

**Topic #7: Project Deliverable Concepts**

All Research Project Deliverables become Society property, but remain Project property. All non-Research Project Deliverables and tangible Budget Allocation Items are solely Society property.

**[Agree] [Disagree] [Other Project Deliverable ideas]**

**Topic #8: Society Meeting Schedule for 2009**

Agree upon a tentative schedule of 2009 Society Quarterly Meeting Dates, Times and Locations. The 2009 Society Meeting Calendar will be adopted at the November 2008 Society Meeting (perhaps 1<sup>st</sup> weeks of March, June, September, December)

**[Agree] [Disagree] [Other Meeting Schedule ideas]**

**Topic #9: Form Project Teams for 2009**

Record a tentative membership list for each Proposed Research Project. Projects will be voted upon and Teams will initially meet at the November 2008 Society Meeting. Commence individual Research Project Planning. Establish Communication protocols. Initiate High School Mentoring arrangements.

**[Agree] [Disagree] [Other Project Team ideas]**

**Other Topics**

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## Ben Franklin Society

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Meeting Agenda  
**NOVEMBER 2008**  
Final Discussion & Acceptance Votes  
\*\* Date, Time & Location t.b.d. \*\*

Topic #1: Society Membership Concepts

Topic #2: Research Proposals and Projects

Topic #3: Project Proposal Acceptance

Topic #4: Project Operating Protocols

Topic #5: Society Meeting Format

Topic #6: Society Formal Structure

Topic #7: Project Deliverable Concepts

Topic #8: Society Meeting Schedule for 2009

Topic #9: Form Project Teams for 2009

Break into Project Teams to organize individual 2009 Work Plans. Establish Project communication protocols: email, telephone, website, LISTSERV and CHAT. Initiate High School Mentoring.

**Other Topics**

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