May Quiz

A seemingly simple question: May a society or organization appoint a committee member who is not a member of the group? Simple answer? Maybe not!

The answer from Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised 11th edition:

(p. 492, ll. 26-30) "It is possible for persons who are not members of the assembly or the society to be appointed to committees—even to the position of committee chairman—but control over each such appointment is reserved to the assembly in the individual case."

- An example of including members on special committees who do not belong to the group (or even to chair such a committee) is found on p. 174, ll. 32 ff. Note that the chair cannot appoint such non-members; that right is reserved to the members themselves.
- What condition might exist that would call for a non-member to be asked to participate on a special committee? Maybe a computer tech? Or an event planner? Or a proof-reader? Maybe a CPA? Or a PR person?
- Any other examples you can think of?