

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE SUPREME GUARDIAN COUNCIL
Year: 2026

Amendment: 31

Page: B-Bethel-5

Article: XII

Section: 1

Subsection: ADD new (k) & (l)

NOW READS:

- (h) There shall be (2) two types of Bethel Meetings allowed: "Formal" Bethel Meetings and "Business" Meetings. The "Business" Meeting is an optional meeting format for Bethels not under reorganization.
- (i) "Formal" Bethel Meetings (robes, etc) shall be conducted in accordance with the Ritual of the Order and in conformity with the laws of the SGC and Robert's Rules of Order Revised (latest edition)
- (j) "Business" Meetings (business professional attire) with the approval of the EBGC, Bethel Members may vote to wear attire other than the official regalia (1 meeting a month) with the vote cast at a previous meeting. Meetings shall be conducted in conformity with Robert's Rules of Order Revised (latest edition).
 - (1) Special Dispensation Required
 - (2) No more than 1 per month and 4 (or (5) per term)
 - (3) May be conducted in accordance with the Ritual if desired (see SOP Bethel 11, Sec 2(a) & SOP 21 Art XII Sec 2)
- (k) The Bethel shall exemplify the Membership Ceremony at least one (1) time each term. If no candidate is available, a previously initiated Job's Daughter shall be used.
- (l) The Bethel shall perform the Majority Ceremony and/or the Obligation Ceremony at a regular (or special) meeting one (1) time during the year.

- ☐ DELETE
- ☒ ADD NEW TO READ
- ☒ AMEND TO READ (Underline all changes or additions)

WILL READ:

- (h) There shall be (3) three types of Bethel Meetings allowed: "Formal" Bethel Meetings, "Informal" Bethel Meetings, and "Business" Meetings.
- (i) "Formal" Bethel Meetings (robes, etc): Shall be conducted in a Bethel Meeting Room and in accordance with the Ritual of the Order and in conformity with the laws of the SGC and Robert's Rules of Order Revised (latest edition). Formal Bethel Meetings MUST be held when performing any ceremony from the Ritual or Book of Ceremonies.
- (j) "Informal" Bethel Meetings (business professional attire): Shall be conducted in a Bethel Meeting Room and in accordance with the Ritual of the Order and in conformity with the laws of the SGC and Robert's Rules of Order Revised (latest edition). Informal Bethel Meetings MAY be held at any time there is no ceremony being performed. (see above Bethel-Art XII-Sec 1(i))
- (k) "Business" Meetings (business professional attire): With the approval of the EBGC, Bethel Members shall, at a previous meeting, cast a vote to apply for a special dispensation to hold a Business Meeting.
 - (1) May be conducted in a boardroom roundtable style to discuss the Order of Business as outlined in the Ritual;
 - (2) The "Business" Meeting is an optional meeting format **for Bethels not under reorganization;**
 - (3) Shall be conducted in conformity with the laws of the SGC and Robert's Rules of Order Revised (latest edition);
 - (4) There shall be no more than (2) two Business Meetings per 6 month term.
- (l) The specific business attire to be worn by members for an Informal Meeting or Business Meeting shall be reviewed and approved by the BGC, who shall ensure it aligns with organizational values, promotes equality among members, and is appropriate for the jurisdiction's climate and cultural context.
- (m) The Bethel shall exemplify the Membership Ceremony at least one (1) time each term. If no candidate is available, a previously initiated Job's Daughter shall be used.

- (n) The Bethel shall perform the Majority Ceremony and/or the Obligation Ceremony at a regular (or special) meeting one (1) time during the year.

REASON FOR CHANGE:

This amendment is not about removing the robe, but about preserving what it represents. The robe has always been a symbol of equality — a reminder that within this organization, all members stand on equal ground. By reserving the robe for designated ceremonies, we elevate its meaning and continue to honor that shared identity at our most significant moments.

In the same spirit, permitting business attire for Informal Meetings and Business Meetings, establishes a **professional meeting uniform** that affirms our commitment to developing confident, capable leaders. Dressing professionally teaches young women how to present themselves with pride, purpose, and readiness for the real world — a core value of this organization. **Job's Daughters of today will be the leaders in boardrooms of tomorrow.** This will give them the opportunity to learn how to run meetings in the style of an executive boardroom. This professional meeting uniform will be approved by each BGC, ensuring consistency, appropriateness, and alignment with local needs while maintaining equality across the organization.

THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT BETHEL'S HAVE TO HOLD INFORMAL OR BUSINESS MEETINGS, it simply gives them the option to do so. It provides the opportunity for Bethels to operate successfully within the cultural context of their Jurisdictions.

"Business meetings" being not so time consuming, can be especially helpful when activities, charity events, or ceremonies are scheduled on the same day, giving members more time to focus on these important events. The robe remains the standard for ceremonies, and this flexibility allows Bethels to make decisions that best support their members' comfort, engagement, and leadership development.

As our organization grows across diverse regions, we must consider the realities our members face. In hot climates, girls have raised concerns that the robe can be uncomfortable as they feel hot & sweaty and this affects their engagement and sometimes their attendance. Allowing a professional meeting uniform shows care for members' well-being while keeping them fully involved.

This amendment reflects thoughtful stewardship of our traditions and values. It is not a departure from who we are, but a respectful evolution — one that honors our legacy of equality while preparing our girls for the future they are being called to lead. **NOT** allowing this change is not inclusive and dismissive of non-American cultures.

If this amendment is passed, the current bylaw items **k** and **l** will need to be renumbered as **m** and **n** to reflect the changes made. This should fall under housekeeping.

SUBMITTED BY:

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