

PROPOSED BRANCH BY-LAW CHANGES

SUBMITTED BY: The By-Laws and Ritual Committee of the Central Council

1

Current By-Law: CHAPTER IV - Meetings

Proposed Change:

Add an Article 4 to read:

Officers' Meetings may be called by the President at his or her discretion, or by written request of three (3) officers. Officers' Meetings are open to Officers of the Branch and the President's invitees. Officers' Meetings are for planning purposes only, and decisions are not binding on the Branch until approved by the members at a General Meeting of the Branch.

Rationale:

This By-Law establishes the process for initiating Officers' Meetings, defines who may attend, defines the purpose of the meetings, and prevents the officers from running the Branch without the consent of the members.

2

Current By-Law: CHAPTER XI - Elections

Article 2 - H. - An officer who has not paid his or her dues in full by March 31st of the new year will automatically be suspended from office.

Proposed Change:

Article 2 - H. - An officer who has not paid his or her dues in full by March 31st of the new year will automatically be suspended from office. The officer shall receive a fifteen (15) day notification, before March 15th, from the Financial Secretary that the officer must pay his or her dues to avoid suspension from office.

Rationale:

Officers should be given every opportunity to pay their dues on time. This will help prevent accidental non-payment of dues before the deadline. Note - Central Council has this provision in their Statutes.

Current By-Law: CHAPTER XIV - General Dispositions

Article 7 - A. - No Branch shall vote to close on its own. If a Branch wishes to close, the Branch must write a letter of this intent to the Executive Committee of the Central Council, signed by the President and the Secretary of the Branch, at least one (1) year before any vote to close. At this time, the Executive Committee will appoint a Central Council Member to work with the Branch to resolve the problems and/or challenges facing the Branch and administrate the Branch if necessary.

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Rationale:

While there must be a procedure that a Branch should follow when it considers closing, the current By-Law, which requires a Branch to give a one (1) year notice before any vote to close is taken, is unrealistic.