

Constitution of the Grand Chapter of New Mexico

Be it resolved the Constitution of the Grand Chapter Of New Mexico be amended as follows:

Article VII

Officers

SECTION 2. FORM OF SELECTION

Which now reads:

(a) The Worthy Grand Matron, Worthy Grand Patron, Associate Grand Matron, Associate Grand Patron and Grand Conductress, having been nominated in the following manner, "Worthy Grand Patron (or presiding officer) I nominate Sister _____ or Brother _____ for the ensuing year and move that the Grand Secretary cast a unanimous ballot for her/him on behalf of the Grand Chapter." Unless there has been an objection filed previous to the time set for election, the Grand Secretary shall be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot. Should there be an objection to any officer advancing, then each shall receive a separate written ballot

(b) The Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Grand Trustees, Associate Grand Conductress and Grand Sentinel shall be elected by separate written ballot from among those having filed a Declaration of Candidacy (DOC) When there is not more than one nominee per office, election may be had by acclamation.

(c) All members seeking elective office shall file a Declaration of Candidacy (DOC). The (DOC) shall be on the form available from the Grand Secretary who will have the file available on the New Mexico OES website. The original signed document must be received by the Grand Secretary no later than 45 days prior to Grand Chapter. The Grand Secretary shall promptly provide an electronic copy of each form to the webmaster to be posted on the website. All properly filed forms shall be posted no later than 30 days prior to Grand Chapter. The Grand Secretary shall insure each voting delegate at Grand Chapter is provided a copy of the properly filed forms.

(d) Those filing a Declaration of Candidacy (DOC) and those nominated from the floor shall proceed directly to the east, state their name and chapter, along with the spelling of their name. All other officers shall be appointed by the Worthy Grand Matron.

(e) If no DOC has been filed for an office, nomination(s) from the floor will be accepted. A nomination must be made by a member of the nominee's primary chapter. The nominees name and number of his/her chapter shall be given at this time. The nominee(s) will then proceed to the east and give a brief answer to each of the areas on the DOC regarding their qualification and desire to hold the position being voted on. All other officers shall be appointed by the Worthy Grand Matron.

Be amended to read as follows: no change in (a) but eliminate current sections (b), (c), (d) and (e) and replace with (b) and (c) below so that section would now read:

(a) The Worthy Grand Matron, Worthy Grand Patron, Associate Grand Matron, Associate Grand Patron and Grand Conductress, having been nominated in the following manner, "Worthy Grand Patron (or presiding officer) I nominate Sister _____ or Brother _____ for the ensuing year and move that the Grand Secretary cast a unanimous ballot for her/him on behalf of the Grand Chapter." Unless there has been an objection filed previous to the time set for election, the Grand Secretary shall be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot. Should there be an objection to any officer advancing, then each shall receive a separate written ballot

(b) The Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Grand Trustees, Associate Grand Conductress and Grand Sentinel will be nominated from the floor during elections. Nominations must come from a member of the nominee's primary chapter. Once nominations have closed, all nominees for the position being decided will proceed to the East. The nominee will state and spell her/his name, chapter membership(s), and their desire to fulfill the position for which they have been nominated. Election shall be conducted by separate written ballot from among those nominated. When there is not more than one nominee per office, election may be had by acclamation.

(c) All other officers shall be appointed by the Worthy Grand Matron.

Rationale:

A number of members have requested this Grand Chapter re-visit the decision to require a Declaration of Candidacy (DOC) for our elected positions. Members expressed that the requirement of the DOC and the timeline associated with its presentation prevent some members from considering serving our Grand Chapter in an elected position. This Grand Chapter's decision of requiring the DOC was done so to allow our membership to be more familiar with those who sought elected office. The reasoning was sound but may have had the unexpected consequence of deterring some from considering elected office. Members also stated that the DOC requirement has made them feel disenfranchised from the election process as decisions have already been made regarding most positions. Passage of this legislation eliminates the DOC requirement. All nominations for the above stated offices will be from the floor.

Signature and Chapter: Shirley Crawford Bethany #56
Printed Name: Shirley Crawford

Signature and Chapter: Gayle Smith Adah #5
Printed Name: Gayle Smith

Signature and Chapter: Samala K. James Alamo 1
Printed Name: SAMALA JAMES