

**ARTICLE IV
MEMBERSHIP**

Section 3.

(a) Members of chartered Bethels shall not be selected to become charter members of a new Bethel without consulting the Executive members of the BGC of the Bethel so affected. However, any active member of any chartered Bethel in this GGC jurisdiction may volunteer to become a charter member of a new Bethel by demit as elsewhere provided by law.

Washington C-Bethel

**ARTICLE VII
ELECTION**

Section 1.

(a) Elections of officers of chartered Bethels shall be held at the first meetings in the months of April and November.

(c) (3) Where there is only one candidate for an office, the rule requiring election by ballot may be suspended, providing there is no objection prior to the beginning of the election, and election may be determined by viva voce vote.

(j) Objections may be made to the Honored Queen, or Bethel Guardian, or person assuming the duties of the Bethel Guardian in her absence, or in the meeting immediately prior to election. Members objecting must be present during election for their objection to be valid.

(k) The election of the officers of the Bethel shall proceed in the following order: (1) Honored Queen, (2) Senior Princess, (3) Junior Princess, (4) Guide, (5) Marshal.

Washington C-Bethel

**ARTICLE X
INSTALLATION**

Section 1. General

(a) The installation of Bethel officers shall take place during the months of May and December, and the first or second meeting in May and December may be for the purpose of installation without formal opening or closing.

(b) Any officer, elected or appointed, not present at the time the officers were installed, shall be installed as soon thereafter as possible by the Honored Queen at a regular Bethel meeting. A dispensation is not required. Such installation shall consist of the prayer, obligation, explanation of duties and proclamation as prescribed in the Book of Ceremonies.

(h) The ceremony for installation of Bethel officers shall be conducted in the manner prescribed in the Book of Ceremonies published by the Supreme Guardian Council.

(i) As soon as possible after election, the Honored Queen-elect shall submit to the Executive members of the BGC for their approval, her installation plans and the names of those participating in the Installation Ceremony. No children shall be used in any part of the Installation Ceremony at any time.

**ARTICLE XI
VACANCIES**

Section 1. Elective Office

(e) Any elective officer of the Bethel who desires to resign shall submit the resignation in writing to the Executive members of the BGC. The Bethel Guardian shall have the written resignation read at the first stated Bethel meeting after its receipt. The Executive members of the BGC shall then proceed to fill the vacancy as provided by law.

**ARTICLE XII
MEETINGS**

Section 1. Regular

(a) There shall be two (2) regular meetings a month except during vacation, which shall be July and August. The remaining ten (10) months shall be divided into two (2) equal terms, affording each Honored Queen the same number of meetings.

(d) (4) In the event a Bethel's membership has declined to a point where the required seven (7) members are not attending on a regular basis, causing the Bethel to consider surrendering their Charter, the following action shall be taken:

(aa) The proposed action to surrender the Charter shall be read at a Bethel meeting and a copy of the proposed action to surrender the Charter shall be sent to each active member and Majority Members of the Bethel (whose current address is on record), the Executive members of the BGC, and the Chairman of Jurisprudence.

(bb) After which it will lay over for a period of ninety (90) days before a vote of the Bethel members may be taken to surrender their Bethel Charter, preceded by the approval of the BGC. The Grand Guardian or the Deputy to the Grand Guardian must be present for this vote.

**ARTICLE XII
MEETINGS**

Section 1.

(n) At least two (2) Initiation Ceremonies, one (1) Obligation Ceremony, and one (1) Patriotic Ceremony shall be held during each Bethel term. The Majority Degree or other appropriate ceremony may be substituted for one (1) Initiation Ceremony at the discretion of the Executive Members of the BGC provided there are no candidates awaiting initiation. Initiation Ceremonies shall be held as frequently as there are candidates available.