

## BETHEL ELECTIONS

ELECTIONS ARE 1ST ORDER OF BUSINESS UNDER NEW BUSINESS

C-BETHEL 3 ARTICLE VII Section 1 (f) Detailed procedure to be followed in conducting election shall be as determined by the Executive members of the BGC.

Honored Queen will call on Bethel Guardian / Associate Bethel Guardian to read election procedures and list of eligible Daughters.

Suggested Election Procedure for Balloting by Secret Ballot:

(1) Three (3) appointed officers act as tellers; two (2) to collect and read ballots; one (1) to tally the votes with the Guardian Secretary assisting. Bethel Guardian / Associate Bethel Guardian supervises.

(2) There is to be NO unnecessary talking during elections.

(3) Honored Queen says: -

(a) **"MEMBERS OF BETHEL NO. \_\_\_\_ WILL RISE AND COUNT OFF"**

Honored Queen says, "one" and is seated. All members follow same procedure, calling out number and sitting as soon as number is called.

(b) **"THERE ARE \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBERS ENTITLED TO VOTE.**

**A MAJORITY OF VOTES CAST FOR EACH OFFICE IS NECESSARY FOR ELECTION."**

Blank ballots are not counted as votes. The majority may vary, depending on the number of votes cast for each office. (Majority means "more than half"... more than half of the votes cast by persons legally entitled to vote, **excluding blanks** - Robert's Rules of Order).

(c) **"THE TELLERS WILL DISTRIBUTE THE BALLOTS AND PENCILS"**

(d) **"NO BALLOT IS TO BE CAST UNTIL BALLOTING IS DECLARED OPEN. WRITE FULL NAME LEGIBLY. CAST ONLY ONE BALLOT AT EACH POLLING. BALLOTS ARE TO FOLDED ONLY ONCE."** If two are folded together, both are fraudulent and not counted; if one is blank, the blank is not counted.

(e) **"YOU WILL NOW MARK YOUR BALLOT FOR THE OFFICE OF**

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(f) After allowing time to ballot **"HAVE ALL BALLOTTED WHO DESIRE TO DO SO? IF SO, I DECLARE THE BALLOT CLOSED."** 1 rap of gavel.

(g) **"TELLERS, YOU WILL COLLECT THE BALLOTS**

(4) When the tellers have placed the ballots on the Tellers desk -

**"TELLERS, YOU WILL COUNT THE BALLOTS"**

(5) When the tellers have finished, they will bring a report of the ballot to the Honored Queen. The Honored Queen will read the report out loud completely. If there is a majority (one half plus one of total number of votes cast, Honored Queen will state:

(6) **"BY YOUR VOTE YOU HAVE ELECTED \_\_\_\_\_ AS YOUR  
\_\_\_\_\_."**

\_\_\_\_\_ **DO YOU ACCEPT?**

**"I DECLARE \_\_\_\_\_ ELECTED  
\_\_\_\_\_ FOR THE ENSUING TERM."**

If there is no majority, the Honored Queen will state:

**"THERE BEING NO MAJORITY, WE WILL BALLOT AGAIN." YOU WILL  
NOW MARK YOUR BALLOTS FOR THE OFFICE OF  
\_\_\_\_\_."**

**"HAVE ALL BALLOTTED WHO DESIRE TO DO SO? IF SO, I DECLARE THE  
BALLOT CLOSED"**

It is permissible for a Daughter to stand and withdraw her name. The Honored Queen will say, "Thank You" (no other conversation should ensue).

(7) Repeat this process until each office is filled.

(8) When all balloting is completed the Tellers collect pencils and all excess ballots returning them to the Teller's desk. They then return to their stations.

(9) A member needs to make a motion to destroy the ballots. The Bethel Guardian / Associate Bethel Guardian is responsible for destroying the ballots.

(10) The Honored Queen thanks the Tellers **"THIS CONCLUDES THE ELECTION  
OF OFFICERS"** 1 rap of gavel.

## TELLER DUTIES

Three (3) members of the Bethel will serve during elections as tellers. Two (2) will collect the ballots when directed to do so by the Honored Queen and return them to the Tellers table. When the Honored Queen says "Tellers, you will count the ballots",

1. One (1) teller will pass the unopened ballots, one at a time to the second teller who will count each ballot.
2. The third teller will write on the top of the Teller's report the office being voted upon and the total number of ballots received.
3. The first teller will open each ballot, one at a time, look at it and pass it to the second teller, without saying anything.
4. The second teller will read the name aloud without saying anything else.
5. The third teller will write the name (the first time read) and repeat the name and number of vote this is (example: Susie - one) as she strokes tallies on the Teller's report by each Daughter's name. When any one Daughter reaches 5, 10, 15, etc. the third teller will repeat the name and vote number as "Susie - tally".
6. When all votes have been counted, the third teller will complete the Teller's report by writing the number of stroke tallies beside each Daughter's name. She will then take the Teller's report to the Honored Queen and return to her seat at the Tellers table. The Honored Queen will read the report.

If ANY teller has a question about any ballot received (can't be read, etc.) she should ask the Bethel Guardian / Associate Bethel Guardian or other Executive BGC member who is observing the counting about the eligibility of the ballot. The tellers do not decide among themselves about the eligibility of any ballot.

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