

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE GFWC-MFWC CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

With the approval of the Executive Committee, the Constitution and Bylaws Committee recommends the following amendments to the Bylaws be appended to the Call to Convention for consideration at the 2023 State Convention. If adopted at the State Convention, these amendments, along with any necessary editorial changes (such as renumbering), shall take effect at the adjournment of the 2023 State Convention:

1. Amend Article I, Section 3.A to provide that the Circulation Editor, rather than the Editor shall receive notifications of member resignations.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: *Resignation shall be submitted in writing to the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs Membership Chairman, who shall notify the State President and Circulation Editor of each resignation.*

RATIONALE: To conform to current practice, and to assist the Circulation Editor in her duty to maintain an up-to-date mailing list.

2. Amend Article II, Section 2 to provide that the Circulation Editor, rather than the Editor, shall receive notifications of new members.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: *Dues shall be due and payable on or before November 1st of each year. Dues for new members shall be sent to the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs Treasurer throughout the year. The Treasurer shall send the name and address of each new member to the State President, Membership Chairman and Circulation Editor.*

RATIONALE: To conform to current practice, and to assist the Circulation Editor in her duty to maintain an up-to-date mailing list.

3. Amend Article III, Section 2.C to provide that the four terms the Treasurer may serve do not have to be consecutive.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: *No officer shall serve more than one term in the same office, with the exception of Treasurer, the officer to be limited to no more than four (4) ~~consecutive~~ terms.*

RATIONALE: To clarify that the Treasurer may serve four terms, whether consecutive or not.

4. Delete Article III, Section 4.A.2.g, to remove the reference to the President’s duties regarding Headquarters.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: [~~2. The duties of the President shall be...~~] ~~g. To exercise authority over State Headquarters in cooperation with the Headquarters Committee and the Executive Board.~~

RATIONALE: To conform to Headquarters exit.

5. Amend Article III. Section 4.B.1.d to delete the reference to “the Headquarters Committee,” and to change “Long-Range” Planning Committee to “Strategic” Planning Committee.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: [~~1. The duties of the President-elect shall be...~~] ~~d. She shall serve as a member of the Finance Committee, an ex-officio member of the Headquarters Committee, the Audit Committee and the Long-Range~~ Strategic Planning Committee.

RATIONALE: To conform to: (1) the Headquarters exit, and (2) the term GFWC uses to describe the Planning Committee.

6. Delete Article III. Section 4.C.1.d, which refers to the Headquarters Committee.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: [~~1. The duties of the Vice President shall be...~~] ~~d. She shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Headquarters Committee.~~

RATIONALE: To conform to Headquarters exit.

7. Amend Article III. Section 4.D.1.a to address the collection and permanent retention of records that used to be stored at the Headquarters.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: [~~1. The duties of the Recording Secretary shall be...~~] a. To compile a permanent record of the administration (including the club histories; convention programs; copies of the Mississippi Clubwoman publications; and minutes of the Finance Committee, Executive Committee, Executive Board, and State Convention – such minutes to be typed and placed in chronological order). This record shall be ~~kept at State Headquarters and a copy shall be presented to the State President after the conclusion of the administration.~~ Beginning with the 2022-2024 administration, a cumulative electronic version of the permanent record for each administration shall be provided to the incoming President and the incoming Recording Secretary.

RATIONALE: to conform to Headquarters exit, and to provide for the continuous retention of the records from each administration that can no longer be stored at Headquarters.

8. Amend Article III. Section 4.E.1.c to provide that the Treasurer will send rosters and new member notices to the Circulation Editor rather than the Editor.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: *[1. The duties of the Treasurer shall be...] c. To keep the membership rosters up-to-date, and provide copies to the President, the Circulation Editor, and the membership Chairman. To notify the President, the Circulation Editor, and the Membership chairman of the new members throughout the year.*

RATIONALE: To conform to current practice, and to assist the Circulation Editor in her duty to maintain an up-to-date mailing list.

9. Amend Article III. Section 4.F.3.a.ii to state the Historian's duties regarding the permanent retention of records that used to be stored at the Headquarters.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: *[a. The duties of the Historian shall be...] ii. To provide the ~~have~~ club histories and a copy of the Programs of the ~~Convention bound annually and placed at State Headquarters~~ convention programs to the Recording Secretary for inclusion in the permanent record of each administration.*

RATIONALE: To conform to the Headquarters exit and to and to provide for the continuous retention of the records from each administration that can no longer be stored at Headquarters.

10. Amend Article III. Section 5.D to provide that, in the even-numbered years, the outgoing State President shall receive any travel allotment from GFWC for the GFWC Convention, regardless of amount.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: *In the even-numbered year (end of administration) of the General Federation, the Immediate Past President of GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs may attend GFWC Convention to report the work of her administration and may receive such awards, citations, and other recognition earned during that administration. She shall be permitted to receive the GFWC allotment, if any, of travel costs ~~one-half the cost of travel~~ to the convention.*

RATIONALE: To clarify and to conform to current practice. (Note: GFWC no longer gives a travel allotment of one-half the travel costs to the convention.)

11. Amend Article V. Section 5.D to delete "woman" and insert "member" in its place.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: *There shall be no proxy or absentee votes. No ~~woman~~ member may vote in more than one capacity.*

RATIONALE: To be consistent throughout the document.

12. Amend Article VI. Section 2 to address attendance and participation at Board Meetings for special appointees of the State President not otherwise provided for in the Bylaws.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: *Those Past Presidents of the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, ~~and~~ members of GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs Standing and Special Committees, and those serving in other appointed positions who are not members of the Executive Board shall be Invited to attend Board Meetings. These GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs members shall be extended the courtesy of the floor but shall have no vote.*

RATIONALE: To clarify as to appointed positions such as Assistant Editor, Circulation Editor, Meetings Coordinator, and any other special appointees of the President.

13. Amend Article VI. Section 5 to clarify the duties of the Credentials Committee to designate voting delegates at the State Convention.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: *Voting delegates shall be verified by the Credentials Committee ~~so that~~ and shall be designated by the Committee ~~and designated in a some manner~~ that will be visible to the Tellers.*

RATIONALE: To clarify current language.

14. Amend Article IX. Section 1 to change "Long-Range" Planning Committee to "Strategic" Planning Committee and to delete the references to the M. Colie Covington Endowment Fund and the State Headquarters.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: *There shall be the following Standing Committees: Constitution and Bylaws, Finance, Hebron Memorial Scholarship, ~~Long-Range Strategic Planning, M. Colie Covington Endowment Fund,~~ Membership, Nominating, Resolutions and Recommendations, ~~State Headquarters,~~ State Institutions, and Ways and Means.*

RATIONALE: To conform to: (1) the term GFWC uses to describe the Planning Committee, and (2) the Headquarters exit.

15. Amend Article IX. Section 5 to change "Long-Range" Committee in the heading to "Strategic" Planning Committee.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: *Section 5. ~~Long-Range~~ Strategic Planning Committee*

RATIONALE: To conform to the term GFWC uses to describe the Planning Committee.

16. Delete Article IX. Section 6.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:

~~Section 6. — M. Colie Covington Endowment Fund Committee.~~

~~See Standing Rule #15.~~

RATIONALE: To conform to the Headquarters exit.

17. Delete Article IX. Section 10:

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:

~~Section 10. — State Headquarters Committee~~

~~A. — This Committee shall be composed of eleven (11) members. The President, the President-elect and the Vice President shall be ex-officio members of this Committee. The remaining members shall be as follows: one from the State at large, one from the Jackson area, and at least one from each of the Districts.~~

~~A. — These committee members shall be appointed by the President for a term of three (3) years, to be staggered as equally as is practicable.~~

~~C. — A Minutes Book of the State Headquarters Committee shall be kept at the State Headquarters. All proceedings of the State Headquarters Committee of each administration shall be kept in this book.~~

~~D. — Duties~~

~~1. — To have custody of the State Headquarters building.~~

~~2. — To have the rules governing the Headquarters published in the Mississippi Clubwoman. The establishment and/or revision of the rules shall be the responsibility of the Headquarters Committee. In accordance with State law, the State Headquarters building shall be used exclusively for the furtherance of the work of the GFWC-Mississippi Federations of Women's Clubs. Therefore, it is the policy of this organization that the State Headquarters building may be used for functions of the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs at any time and may be used by federated clubs as provided in the Headquarters Rules. It shall not be rented or used by members of the general public. When requested, the Executive Committee may approve the use of the State Headquarters building by the State of Mississippi and by non-profit organizations with which the General Federation of Women's Clubs has a formal partnership agreement. Any use of the State Headquarters building must comply with the applicable statute.~~

~~3. — To have one member serve as Secretary, whose duty shall be to keep the minutes and to keep a file of correspondence of the committee. These minutes and files shall be kept as a permanent record at the State Headquarters.~~

- ~~4. To have one member maintain a list of individuals receiving gate access and/or keys to the State Headquarters building for each administration and to collect keys and remote controls for the gate from the outgoing President and any other members at the end of each administration. She shall also document on the list that any outgoing occupants returned the keys/gate remotes and new occupants were issued a key/gate remote. The GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs shall provide a key and a gate remote for the President; the State Headquarters Chairman; one member of the State Headquarters Committee, if designated by the State Headquarters Chairman; and, the State Headquarters occupant. Other members may be issued keys/gate remotes at their own expense, provided that prior approval is received from the Executive Committee.~~
- ~~5. The State Headquarters Chairman shall compile any data necessary for lease payments and submit it to the Executive Committee for approval. Upon approval by the Executive Committee, she shall submit this information to the State of Mississippi as required in the State Headquarters lease. She shall also provide a copy to the Treasurer, to be included in the regular financial records of the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs.~~

RATIONALE: To conform to the Headquarters exit.

18. Amend Article XI. Section 8 to state the Editor's duties regarding the permanent retention of records that used to be stored at the Headquarters.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: ~~Each State President shall have the publications of each of the two years of her administration bound and placed in the State Headquarters. The Editor shall provide electronic copies of the publications of each administration to the Recording Secretary for inclusion in the permanent record of each administration.~~

RATIONALE: To conform to Headquarters exit, and to provide for the continuous retention of the records from each administration that can no longer be stored at Headquarters.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE GFWC-MFWC STANDING RULES

With the approval of the Executive Committee, the Constitution and Bylaws Committee recommends the following amendments to the Standing Rules, along with any necessary editorial revisions to the (such as renumbering). If adopted by the Board, these amendments shall take effect at the close of the 2023 State Convention:

1. Amend Standing Rule 4 to clarify that no member may offer material or monetary awards for state-sponsored contests (except Youth Art and GFWC approved projects and programs) without the consent of the Executive Committee or Executive Board.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: ~~No member Officers, Community Service Program, Committee, and Special Appointments Chairmen~~ shall not offer material or monetary awards for State sponsored contests, except Youth Art and GFWC approved programs and projects, without the consent of the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs Executive Committee or the Executive Board.

RATIONALE: To clarify.

2. Amend Standing Rule 4 to clarify that no member may solicit contributions from members or individual clubs unless they are approved by GFWC, the state federation, or the state Executive Committee or Executive Board.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: ~~No member Officers, Community Service Program, Committee, and Special Appointments Chairmen~~ shall not call upon individuals or individual clubs for contributions unless they are approved by the GFWC, the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs Executive Committee or the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs Executive Board.

RATIONALE: To clarify.

3. Amend Standing Rule 12 to delete the references to the M. Colie Covington Endowment Fund and the Headquarters Fund.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: *The per capita dues for local club members shall be the amount proposed by GFWC and by GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs for the fiscal year, June 1 - May 31. Dues collected shall be divided within the discretion of the Finance Committee among the following: GFWC dues, State Federation Fund, ~~M. Colie Covington Endowment Fund, Headquarters Fund and the Mississippi Clubwoman.~~*

RATIONALE: To conform to Headquarters exit.

4. Delete Standing Rule 15.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:

~~15. — M. Colie Covington Endowment Fund~~

~~A. — The elected officers shall constitute a Board of Trustees, which shall have control over the funds as empowered by the Executive Board to act. The Board may grant to the Trustees the power to sell, assign or transfer any of the investments or securities belonging to the M. Colie Covington Endowment Fund when in the interest of the proper administration and conservation of its assets.~~

~~B. — A detailed accounting of all items of income and disbursements shall be made by the Trustees to the Executive Board whenever called upon.~~

~~C. — All interest from the M. Colie Covington Endowment Fund accruing during the year shall be transferred to the State Headquarters Fund at the close of the fiscal year.~~

~~D. — Funds derived from the M. Colie Covington Endowment Fund shall be kept on the Treasurer's books as a separate account.~~

RATIONALE: To conform to the Headquarters exit.

PROVISO: This amendment to the Standing Rules will only take effect if the M. Colie Covington Endowment Fund is removed from the Bylaws by a vote of the membership at the 2023 State Convention.

5. To amend Standing Rule 16.B.4 to delete an old reference to Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning (which usually means the eight public Mississippi universities and does not include private schools) and clarify a prior amendment that allows the Hebron Memorial Scholarship to be awarded to any student at a public or private Mississippi college or university that offers a 4-year degree or a graduate degree.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: *This scholarship shall not be limited to any particular year in college or graduate school, but is limited to a ~~Mississippi Institution of Higher Learning~~. A ~~Mississippi Institution of Higher Learning~~ is defined as a public or private Mississippi university or college with an undergraduate program of four-years and/or a graduate program The scholarship must be sent directly to the school ~~institution~~ the grantee plans to attend. The Scholarship Grantee should attend the State Convention or State Board Meeting to receive recognition.*

RATIONALE: To clarify.

6. Amend Standing Rule 19.C to clarify the makeup of the Sarah Peugh Butterfly Scholarship Committee, given that GFWC no longer has more than one area under the Education Community Service Program.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ: *The GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs Sarah Peugh Scholarship recipient will be selected by a panel to include the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs President and two representatives of the Education Community Service Program committee of three appointed by the State President. The recipient will be notified at least one week prior to the State Convention.*

RATIONALE: To conform to current practice.

7. Delete Standing Rules 26 and 27.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:

~~26. — The GFWC Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs 1935 Society is established to encourage donations for the restoration, renovation, and maintenance of the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs Headquarters Building. Membership in the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs 1935 Society will be available to donors of any amount, whether GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs clubs, club members, and/or other interested persons or organizations or businesses. The Executive Committee, in consultation with the Chairman of the Headquarters Committee, is authorized to expend these funds for the aforementioned purposes.~~

~~A. — Charter members shall be the first 100 contributors.~~

~~B. — Donors shall be designated as follows:~~

~~1. — Grand Patron for donations \$1,000 or more, and~~

~~2. — Patron for donations of \$500 to \$999.99.~~

~~Funds derived from contributions to the 1935 Society shall be kept on the Treasurer's books as a separate account and shall be solely dedicated to the restoration, renovation, and maintenance of the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs Headquarters Building.~~

~~27. — The Executive Committee, in consultation with the Chairman of the Headquarters Committee, is authorized to conduct all business related to the occupancy of the Headquarters apartment. This shall include, but not be limited to: removing unsuitable Occupant(s); searching for suitable Occupant(s); and authorizing the proper elected officers to execute agreements with selected Occupant(s).~~

RATIONALE: To conform to the Headquarters exit.