

**By-Laws**  
**Cotton Mission Chapter**  
**National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers**

**Article I. Name**

This organization shall be called the Cotton Mission Chapter of the National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers, hereinafter referred to as the Chapter.

**Article II. Purposes**

Section 1. The purposes of the Chapter are to support the designs, goals, purposes, and objectives of the National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers, which include, but are not limited to, preserving the heritage of the Pioneers of the State of Deseret and the Utah Territory; fostering the spiritual elements of the Pioneers; and promoting and sponsoring historical collections of writings and museum materials.

Section 2. The Chapter also has the purpose to provide social and developmental opportunities for members of the Cotton Mission Chapter.

**Article III. Membership**

Section 1. Eligibility. Membership in the Cotton Mission Chapter shall be open to adult males 18 years and older who are interested in perpetuating the goals of the National Society and its programs and are otherwise qualified under provisions set forth in these By-Laws and the policies of the Board of Directors and the Officers of the Chapter.

Section 2. Types.

1. Annual members are those individuals who pay annual dues to the National and the local Chapter

2. Life members are those individuals who have paid a life membership fee. To belong to a Chapter, Life members are required to pay local Chapter dues.

3. Honorary membership may be granted such honor by the Chapter under guidelines provided by the National Board. Honorary members are not entitled to vote in local or national matters nor may they hold any local or national office.

### Section 3. Rights and Privileges

a. All members in good standing have the right to participate in Chapter activities, serve on committees, and be elected to official leadership positions, including that of Board members and Officers.

b. All members in good standing shall receive a subscription to the *Pioneer Magazine*, the official publication of the National Society.

c. A member may join any chapter or multiple chapters by paying dues to each chapter.

d. A member need not belong to a chapter and, if so, the member is designated a member-at-large. Such members shall pay the national dues only, but as such, the member is ineligible to participate in activities or hold offices in a local chapter.

### Section 4. Dues.

a. All annual members must pay National Society dues; the amount and method of payment are set by the National Board, on or before January 1 of each year.

b. Changes in National Society dues must be submitted to Chapters for ratification at least 30 days before the change becomes effective.

c. All members of the Cotton Mission Chapter shall pay dues on or before January 1 of each year. The amount to be paid is determined by the Board of

Directors of the Cotton Mission Chapter.

#### **Article IV. Board of Directors**

Section 1. Administration. The Chapter shall be governed by a Board of Directors. The Board shall have the duty to carry out the purposes of the Chapter.

a. Composition. The Board of Directors shall consist of Ten (10) voting members, the five officers and five Directors. The five directors include: communications; community involvement; member services; pioneer history; and trails and landmarks.

b. Elections and Terms of Office. The five Directors of the Board shall be elected for alternate years. Three Directors shall serve initial terms of two-years and two Directors shall serve initial terms of one-year. After that, three Directors will be elected one year and two Directors will be elected the next year. In alternate years, the nominating committee shall nominate three Directors and two Directors each to serve two-year terms. Directors are eligible for re-election to their office for succeeding terms.

c. The Secretary and Treasurer shall be members of the Board, and shall be appointed at appropriate times by the Executive Committee.

d. The President and the Immediate Past President shall also be members of the Board by succession from the positions of President-elect and President.

e. The Area Vice President shall be an ex-officio (nonvoting member) of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Executive Committee.

- a. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, President-elect, the Immediate Past President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer.
- b. The Executive Committee shall advise the president and the board on matters related to the operation of the chapter.

### Section 3. General Powers.

- a. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to review decisions of the various committees and accept or reject them.
- b. The Board of Directors shall conduct the affairs and business of the Chapter. The Board shall meet monthly at a time and location designated by the President.
- c. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to set Chapter dues with the approval of the membership.
- d. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to approve committee appointments and to fill vacancies as recommended by the President.
- e. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to approve the budget and all expenditures, and to provide for the audit of all accounts.
- f. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to implement programs of the National Society and to establish goals, projects, and programs of the Chapter.

Section 4. Quorum. Five (5) members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for purposes of conducting meetings and transacting business. Official business may be transacted only when a quorum is present.

## **Article V. Officers**

Section 1. Composition. Officers shall consist of the President, President-elect, Immediate Past President, Secretary and Treasurer. All officers shall be members of the Board of Directors

Section 2. Removal from Office. Any officer or director who is unable to fill his responsibilities because of incapacity or for other cause may be removed from office by a two-thirds (7) vote of the Board of Directors or by a majority vote of the chapter members at a regular meeting.

Section 3. Elections and Terms of Office.

a. The President-elect shall be elected at the same time as members of the Board for a term of three-years; during the first year to serve as president-elect, the second year as president, and the third year as immediate past president.

b. The President-elect, shall be ineligible for re-election for a period of two years after the expiration of his three-year term of office.

c. The President and Immediate Past President shall succeed into their positions from the position of President-elect.

d. The Secretary and the Treasurer shall be selected and appointed for indeterminate terms of office and released at the pleasure of the President with the concurrence of the Board of Directors.

e. Nominating Committee.

(1) A nominating committee appointed by the President and chaired by the Immediate Past President shall submit nominees to the Board at or prior to the October meeting for each elective office of the Chapter that falls vacant at the end of the year (two or three Board members and the President-elect).

(2) Only paid in full members of the Chapter are eligible for election as

Board members (officers and Directors).

- (3) Additional nominations beyond those proposed by the Nominating Committee may be made from the floor at the November meeting.
- (4) Elections shall be by secret ballot and held during the November meeting.
- (5) Newly elected Board Members shall assume their responsibilities at the first Board meeting in January.
- (6) The Area Vice-President shall conduct the installation and swearing in of newly elected Board members (officers and Directors) at the December meeting.
- (7) Should the office of President become vacant, the President-elect shall assume the office of President for the unexpired term, and then serve his own term as President.

#### **Article VI. Committees**

Section 1. The President, in consultation with the appropriate Directors, may appoint committee members and committee chairs to assist and be supervised by the Directors in pursuing the achievement of their assigned goals and responsibilities. Directors should recommend prospective committee members and chairs of committees to the President.

Section 2. The President, with the approval of the Executive Committee, may appoint special committees as needed.

#### **Article VII. Rules of Order**

The latest publication and released edition of Sturgis' Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedures (McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York) shall be the official parliamentary guide for all meetings of the Chapter.

### **Article VIII. Amendments**

Section 1. These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds (7 votes) vote of the Board of Directors provided that notice has been given to all Board members two weeks prior to the meeting during which the amendments are proposed.

Section 2. Amendments to the By-laws may be proposed by three members of the Board of Directors or by ten (10) percent or more of the paid membership of the Chapter.

### **Article IX. Dissolution**

If this Chapter is dissolved at any time, after payment of all indebtedness, the surplus funds and properties shall be turned over to the National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers, Salt Lake City, Utah. No part of the funds or property of the Chapter shall be distributed to or among its members.

Approved at the monthly Board meeting of the Cotton Mission Chapter on June 4, 2007.