

Onset Board of Trustees Bylaws  
Approved by the Onset Conference 28 July 2001  
Approved as Amended by the Onset Conference 29 July 2017  
Approved as Amended by the Onset Conference 29 August 2020

BYLAWS OF GOVERNANCE  
For the Onset Board of Trustees

**Section 1 Name**

The Name of this Board shall be the ONSET BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOARD)

**Section 2 Trustees**

2.1 Number: There shall be eleven Trustees on the BOARD. Nine elected by the annual Onset Conference with the majority registered members of a Branch within the former Southern New England District; one ex Officio – the Mission Center Director or designee and one ex Officio – the Regional Bishop or designee.

2.2 Term: Elected Trustees shall serve a term of three years. Initially, Trustees shall serve a term of one, two or three years so that approximately 1/3 will expire each year. Elected Trustees may serve more than one term, but not more than 6 consecutive years. Trustee terms shall commence 30 days after election. Ex-Officio Trustees shall serve until termination or resignation.

2.3 Qualification of election as a Trustee: Baptized member of the Community of Christ (or successor organizations) and:

2.3.1 Registered member of a Branch within the boundaries of the former SNE District  
(or)

2.3.2 Land leaseholder on the Onset Campgrounds

NOTE: These qualifications are identical to qualified voters at the Onset Conference

2.4 Termination of Trustees

2.4.1. By resignation

2.4.2. By death

2.4.3. By action of the Onset Conference at its regular annual meeting

2.4.4. Automatically by absence from three consecutive meetings of the Board unless waved by the Board

2.4.5. By termination of initial qualifications in paragraph 2.3.

2.5 Trustee Vacancies: Vacancies occurring on the Board during the interim between annual meetings of the Onset Conference may be filled by the Chair of the Board. Such appointments shall expire at the next annual meeting of the Onset Conference.

2.6 Compensation: Trustees shall not receive compensation for their services as Trustees.

**Section 3 Officers of the Board:** To be elected annually at the first meeting of the Board immediately following the annual meeting of the Onset Conference.

3.1 Chair: The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the board, fill Board vacancies, and supervise the proceedings of the Board, its officers, committees and activities.

3.2 Vice Chair: The Vice Chair shall assist the Chair in the discharge of duties and responsibilities and shall serve as Chair in the absence of the Chair.

3.3 Treasurer: The treasurer shall oversee all fiscal and financial activity within the Board's responsibility. The shall include the collection of fees, charges, assessments, rents, and other income; the safeguard and proper disbursement of funds, the maintenance of bank accounts, investments accounts, and reserve funds. The Treasurer shall cause the accounts to be audited annually, and reports created as required for the Board and the Onset Conference, annually, or as otherwise directed by the Chair.

3.4 Secretary: The Secretary shall record minutes of meetings and provide custodianship and security of records and materials of the Board.

**Section 4 Committees:** The Board may create standing or ad-hoc committees as are desired from time to time.

## **Section 5 Meetings:**

5.1 Regular meetings: Regular meetings of the Board shall be held on the Onset Campgrounds quarterly as scheduled by the Chair. All Board members shall be notified of the time and place of all meetings. Such notice shall include the intended agenda and be sent to all Trustees not more than 10 days and not less than 5 days prior to the meeting. Items not included in this agenda will not be admissible at the meetings without unanimous consent by the Trustees present.

5.2 Notice of meetings: Postal mail, FAX or electronic mail as feasible may be used to send Notice of Meetings. The Secretary shall be responsible for delivered by any method selected. Verbal notice is invalid.

5.3 Waiver of Notice: Proper notice, as described in Section 5.1 and 5.2 may be waived providing all elected Trustees are present or represented by written assent and unanimous consent to waive notice is rendered.

5.4 Presence through communication equipment: Trustees may participate in a meeting by means of a conference telephone, video monitor, or similar communications mode by means of which all Trustees participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time, and participate in proceedings. Such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting.

5.5 Action without a meeting: The Chair is empowered to act for and on behalf of the Board, unilaterally, when emergency exists, or, inaction would be detrimental to the interests of the Onset Campgrounds or to the Community of Christ. Notice of such action shall be immediately

conveyed to all Trustees and reviewed and ratified at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.

5.6 Special Meeting: Special meetings of the Board may be called by the Chair or any three Trustees.

5.7 Quorum: At any meeting of the Board, a majority of the elected Trustees then holding office and present shall constitute a quorum to convene and conduct business.

5.8 Voting: All Trustees present are entitled to one vote on each question. All questions shall be decided by majority vote. No Trustee shall be represented by Proxy.

5.9 Board Meetings: All regular and special meetings of the Board shall be open to any member of the Onset Conference. Executive Session (for Board members only) may be declared when sensitivity of an issue or individual privacy must be protected.

## **Section 6 General Duties and Responsibilities of the Board:**

6.1 The Onset Conference: The Board recognizes its empowerment by and jurisdictional responsibility to the Onset Conference. In this regard, the Board shall:

6.1.1 Provide an annual accounting of all fiscal matters, including budget for approval to the annual Onset Conference meeting.

6.1.2 Will accept direction as initiated by action of the annual meeting of the Conference, incorporating policy, vote or mandate as appropriate in the care and safekeeping of the Campgrounds and program development.

6.1.3 Provide copies of such written regulations and procedures as are created by the Board to the Onset Conference.

6.1.4 Provide the dates for quarterly meetings for the following year.

6.1.5 Provide for the Onset Conference to be conducted by teleconference, or by other technology, if either:

6.1.5.1 The Board determines for health and safety reasons, and the Mission Center President affirms,

6.1.5.2 Applicable Community of Christ policies in effect at the time dictate, or

6.1.5.3 Applicable governmental orders in effect at the time dictate, that an in-person meeting of the Onset Conference is either not advisable or not permissible. For any Onset Conference conducted by teleconference or other technology a quorum of members must be present and able to hear and participate in the meeting by telephone or other technological means which allow all persons participating to hear and respond to each other at the same time.

6.2 Management Responsibility: To manage and control all activities and property on the Community of Christ Campgrounds, creating regulations and procedures to accomplish this purpose compatible with the Principles and Practices of the Community of Christ or its successors or assigns. This shall include, but not be limited to:

6.2.1 The maintenance and safeguard of Church buildings and equipment

6.2.2 The leasing of sites for homes, cottages, trailers, tents and church properties

6.2.3 The establishment of procedures for sale/purchase of privately owned housing.

6.2.4 Management and control of all Programs and Activities which take place on the Onset Campgrounds.

6.3 Exclusions: Specifically excluded from the responsibility of the Board of Trustees are the planning and activities of the Annual Reunion and such other activities as may be under the jurisdiction of the NEMC or the Onset Creative Arts Association (OCAA).

## **Section 7: Fiscal Year**

7.1 Fiscal Year: The fiscal Year of the Board of Trustees shall be January 1 – December 31.

**Section 8: Indemnity:** The Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, its successors, and assigns shall indemnify all Trustees, Officers, Employees, or other agents who serve or have served as Trustees against all costs and expenses (including, but not limited to counsel fees, amounts of judgments paid, and amounts paid in settlement) reasonably incurred in connection with the defense of any claim, action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or other, in which he or they may be involved by virtue of such person's being or having been such Trustee, Officer, or employee. The said indemnity shall include payment by the Community of Christ for expenses incurred in defending any civil or criminal action or proceeding in advance of the final disposition of such action or proceeding, upon receipt of an undertaking by the person indemnified to repay such payment if he shall be adjudicated to be not entitled to indemnification under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 180. No indemnification shall be provided for any person with respect to any matter as to which he shall be provided for any person with respect to any matter as to which he shall have been adjudicated in any legal proceeding not to have acted in good faith in the reasonable belief that his action was in the best interests of the Community of Christ. The foregoing indemnity shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which those indemnified may be entitled under any law, by-law, agreement, regulation, or otherwise.

**Section 9 Amendment to the Bylaws:** These Bylaws may be amended or repealed by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members of the Onset Conference present at any regularly scheduled annual meeting. Written intent to amend or repeal shall be given thirty days prior to such meeting with complete written detail of the action proposed.