**NATIONAL SOJOURNERS, INCORPORATED**

**7942-R Cluny Court**

**Springfield, Virginia 22153**

C2 13 JUNE 2018

**NATIONAL REGULATION 7.1**

Subject: National Conventions, Mid-Winter Meetings and Special Meetings

Reference: (a) National By-Laws, Article 7

(b) National Regulation 8.1.5

(c) National Regulation 4.3

1. PURPOSE: To prescribe the composition, authority, actions, and timing of National Conventions, Mid-Winter Meetings and Special Meetings in accordance with reference (a).

2. NATIONAL CONVENTION: The National Sojourners, Incorporated, National Convention will be held each year at such time (normally late spring or early summer) and place (giving due consideration to rotating the location thereof to ensure maximum equitable membership participation over a period of years) as may be agreed upon at the National Convention two to five years in advance. Recommendations for locations, with supporting justifications, will be made by formal report of the National Sojourners Convention Corporation.

a. Delegates: The voting members of the National Convention shall consist of the:

(1) National Officers

(2) Chapter Presidents (an elected Vice President may represent an absent President).

(3) Chapter Secretaries (an elected Assistant Secretary may represent an absent Secretary).

(4) Elected and/or Appointed Chapter Delegates.

(a) Each Chapter, except National Headquarters Chapter, shall be entitled to one delegate for each twenty-five (25) active members or major fraction thereof on the rolls as of the preceding 31 December. Multiple and deceased MIP members shall not be included in determining the number of delegates to which a Chapter is entitled.

(b) A delegate may represent one Chapter only.

(c) A duly accredited alternate may attend and vote in the absence of a duly credentialed elected or appointed Chapter delegate.

(5) Proxy Delegates. Any Chapter located outside the continental limits of the United States, which does not have delegates registered at the National Convention shall have the right to vote upon any proposed amendment(s) to the National Directives System provided such Chapter, in writing, notifies and directs National Headquarters as to the manner in which to cast its “vote” on any such proposed amendment(s). Upon certification of the Chapter’s action by National Headquarters, the Chapter shall be entitled to one vote upon such proposed amendment(s) to be cast by the National Secretary-Treasurer as directed by that Chapter.

(6) Voting Delegates. Each voting delegate attending the National Convention shall, upon registration, have his nametag plainly marked in some distinctive manner to identify him as a “voting delegate.”

b. Quorum. Seventy-five (75) voting delegates, representing not less than ten (10) Chapters, shall constitute a quorum at a National Convention.

c. General Sessions. The order of business, which may be changed by a majority vote of the voting delegates present, shall be as follows:

(1) Minutes of the previous National Convention.

(2) Reports of National Officers

(3) Reports of Committees

(4) Other Reports

(5) Unfinished business

(6) New business

(7) Election of Officers

(8) Adjournment

d. Suspension of Rules. The National Convention may, by an affirmative vote of 3/4ths of the delegates present and voting, a quorum being present, suspend the rules for consideration of any specific item(s), including amendments to the National Directives System.

e. Elections. In all balloting for National Officers, a majority of the votes cast shall be necessary for election. Where there is only one candidate for an office, a unanimous vote may be cast.

f. Committee Meetings. Meetings of the National Trustees, Committee of 33, National Committees, Area and Regional Representatives, etc., will be scheduled prior to, after and around the General Session(s). All regularly scheduled meetings are open to all interested Sojourners unless otherwise announced. Non-committee members may request permission to participate in any portion of the meeting in which they have a pertinent interest.

3. MID-WINTER MEETING.

a. The National President shall convene a mid-year meeting of the National Officers to provide a mid-point assessment of the program year and shall establish the format, criteria and parameters of the meeting in conformity with the National By-Laws and the National Regulations.

b. This meeting will normally be held in January at rotating locations to ensure maximum, equitable attendance over a period of years.

c. In general, the order of business and the policies applying to the National Convention will also apply to Mid-Winter Meeting, except that the general session is to be quite abbreviated. It is not intended to be a “mini-convention,” and there should not be a detailed reading of prior meeting minutes or official business of the Order transacted.

d. Attendees at the Mid-Winter Meeting:

(1) All National Officers are expected to attend.

(2) Area and Regional Representatives and members of the National Standing Committees are strongly encouraged to attend.

(3) Interested National Sojourners, especially Chapter Officers, are invited and encouraged to attend.

4. SPECIAL NATIONAL CONVENTION/MEETING. A Special National Convention and/or a Special Meeting may be held under emergency circumstances. Reference (c) refers.

5. RULES. The most recent edition of ROBERT’S RULES OF ORDER shall govern the conduct of a National Convention, Mid-Winter Meeting and/or Special Meeting, as well as committee meetings held in conjunction therewith, of National Sojourners, Incorporated, in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not in conflict with the National Directives System and/or with the Standing Resolutions of National Sojourners, Incorporated.

6. NATIONAL SOJOURNERS CONVENTION CORPORATION (NASOCOCO): NASOCOCO will make arrangements for and manage all National Conventions, Mid-Winter Meetings and Special Meetings in accordance with reference (b).

ATTEST:

WILLIAM R. SANNER EDWARD W. NOLTE

National Secretary-Treasurer National President