

COA Constitutional Changes 2011 v. 2018

2011 Current Constitution	2018 Proposed Changes Approved by BOG
ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP	ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP
<p>Section 1. Except as set forth in Article IV, Section 2, any person of the Jewish faith, by maternal descent, or converted to the Jewish faith under the standards of United Synagogue of America, 18 years of age or older, of good moral character, shall be eligible for membership.</p>	<p>Section 1. Except as otherwise set forth, any Jewish person under the standards of United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, 18 years of age or older, shall be eligible for membership. Membership shall also be extended to any spouse or life partner of any qualifying member and to the parent of any Jewish minor child.</p>
<p>Section 2. There shall be five types of membership.</p> <p>a. <u>Family Membership - Couples</u>: Such membership shall be extended to couples Dependent children under the age of 25 who reside with a parent member and/or are full-time students shall be deemed members. Emancipated children of members shall apply for an Individual Membership.</p> <p>1) The Rabbi and Cantor of the Congregation and the Principal/Education Director of the religious school and their families shall be members in this category of membership, subject to the exceptions noted forthwith.</p> <p>b. <u>Family Membership - Single Parent</u>: Such membership shall be extended to single parents. Dependent children under the age of 25 who reside with a parent member and/or are full-time students shall be deemed members. Emancipated children of members shall apply for an Individual Membership.</p>	<p>Section 2. There shall be three types of membership.</p> <p>a. <u>General Membership -</u> Such membership shall be extended to any member unit (couples, life partners, single parent households, individuals). Dependent children under the age of 25 who reside with a parent member and/or are full-time students shall be deemed members. Emancipated children of members shall apply for separate Membership.</p> <p>b. The Rabbi and Cantor of the Congregation and the Education Director of the religious school and their families shall be members in this category of membership, subject to the exceptions noted forthwith.</p> <p>c. <u>Honorary Membership</u>: Such membership may be conferred upon any deserving persons, whether or not they are of the Jewish faith, by The Board of Governors.</p> <p>d. <u>Associate Membership</u>: Such membership shall be extended to those individuals not of the Jewish religion who are in the process of conversion. This category of membership shall be valid for one (1) calendar year from the initiation of such a process.</p>

<p>c. <u>Individual Membership</u>: Such membership shall be extended to emancipated unmarried men and women of the age of 18 and older, except as otherwise set forth in Section 2a.</p> <p>d. <u>Honorary Membership</u>: Such membership may be conferred upon any deserving persons, whether or not they are of the Jewish faith, by The Board of Governors.</p> <p>e. <u>Contributing Membership</u>: Such membership shall be available to those who wish to retain or establish membership with Congregation Or Atid and support its mission and objectives, but do not reside within 100 miles of the Greater Richmond Metropolitan Area.</p> <p>f. <u>Associate Membership</u>: Such membership shall be extended to those individuals not of the Jewish religion who are in the process of conversion as set forth in Article IV, Section 1. This category of membership shall be valid for one (1) calendar year from the initiation of such a process.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE V: DUES</p> <p>Section 1. All members shall pay dues in such amounts and at such times as shall be determined by the Board of Governors, except as set forth in Article V, Section 2.</p> <p>Section 2. The Rabbi and Cantor shall not be required to pay dues.</p> <p>Section 3. Failure to pay dues in a timely manner shall result in the loss of membership privileges, unless a special arrangement has been made with the Membership Relations Committee.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE V: SUSTAINING SHARE IN LIEU OF DUES</p> <p>Section 1. All member units shall pay a sustaining share based on an annual pledge to support the operations of the Congregation. The Board of Governors may vote to replace Sustaining Share with a dues structure as they may see fit.</p> <p>Section 2. The Rabbi and Cantor and Education Director shall not be required to pay a sustaining share.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE VI: PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERSHIP</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE VI: PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERSHIP</p>

<p>Members in good standing as determined by Article V shall enjoy the following privileges.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. To have a voice in all meetings of the Congregation. b. To have a vote at Congregational Meetings, if a member of one of the following categories of membership: Family, Individual, or Contributing. Each of these categories of membership shall be entitled to one (1) vote per category of membership. Dependent children (as part of a Family or Contributing Membership) do not have the privilege of voting. 	<p>Member Units in good standing shall enjoy the following privileges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. To have a voice in all meetings of the Congregation. b. To have a vote at Congregational Meetings. Dependent children do not have the privilege of voting. Non-Jewish persons, under the standards of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, shall be entitled to vote on all matters other than ritual matters.
<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS</p> <p>Section 1. The annual meeting of this Congregation shall be held in May of each year at such a date as would be established by the Board of Governors. Notice of the annual meeting shall be given by the Congregational Secretary in writing, by mail, to all memberships of the Congregation, directed to their addresses as they appear on the rolls of the Congregation, and shall be sent not less than ten (10) days nor more than 60 days prior to such meeting.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS</p> <p>Section 1. The annual meeting of this Congregation shall be held in May or June of each year at such a date as would be established by the Board of Governors.</p> <p>Section 2. Notice of the all meetings of the Congregation shall be given by the Congregational Secretary in writing, by e-mail or mail, to all members of the Congregation, directed to their mail or e-mail addresses as they appear on the rolls of the Congregation.</p> <p>Section 3. Notice of annual meetings shall be sent not less than thirty (30) days nor more than sixty (60) days prior to such meeting.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE VIII: BOARD OF GOVERNORS</p> <p>Section 9. The Board's Meeting Schedule and Quorum Requirements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Board of Governors shall meet no less frequently than six (6) times per calendar year with meetings to be held on such dates as the Board, by resolution, may designate. A quorum at such meetings shall be one-third (1/3) of its members with 	<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE VIII: BOARD OF GOVERNORS</p> <p>Section 6. The Board's Meeting Schedule and Quorum Requirements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Board of Governors shall meet no less frequently than six (6) times per calendar year with meetings to be held on such dates as the Board, by resolution, may designate. A quorum at such meetings shall be one-third (1/3) of its members with

<p>voting privileges. Matters shall be decided upon by the Board by a majority vote of the members in attendance provided a quorum is present, unless a greater vote is required by law or by this Constitution and By-laws.</p> <p>b. If and when the President or two vice-Presidents deem a matter for consideration by the board of such a nature that it cannot wait for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors, the matter may be addressed via electronic mail and/or telephone. Such a matter requires an affirmative vote of three-quarters of the members of the Board of Directors to be effective. Upon a three-quarters affirmative vote, such action shall be as valid as though it had been authorized at a meeting of the Board of Directors.</p>	<p>voting privileges. Matters shall be decided upon by the Board by a majority vote of the members in attendance provided a quorum is present, unless a greater vote is required by law or by this Constitution and By-laws.</p> <p>b. If and when the President or two vice-Presidents deem a matter for consideration by the board of such a nature that it cannot wait for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Governors, the matter may be addressed via electronic mail and/or telephone. Such a matter requires an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the Board of Governors to be effective. Upon a two-thirds affirmative vote, such action shall be as valid as though it had been authorized at a meeting of the Board of Governors.</p>
<p>No Article Exists</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE XIII: EDUCATION DIRECTOR</p> <p>Section 1. The Education Director may be retained by the Congregation at an annual meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose upon the recommendation of the Board.</p> <p>Section 2. The terms under which the Education Director shall be elected shall be determined by the Congregation upon the recommendation of the Board.</p> <p>Section 3. The Education Director shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. be guided in the performance of his or her duties by the Rabbi and an appropriate committee which shall be appointed for this purpose by the Board; and b. be required to perform those duties as set out in his contract entered into with the Congregation and such other duties as may be assigned by the Board.
<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE XV: BOARD OF TRUSTEES</p> <p>Section 1. The Board of Trustees shall consist of not less than six (6)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE XVI: BOARD OF TRUSTEES</p> <p>Section 1. Prior to the purchase of any real estate, the Board of</p>

<p>individuals who are members of the Congregation and shall be certified by the appropriate court of the Commonwealth of Virginia to hold title to property or properties of the Congregation, without personal liability.</p>	<p>Governor's shall establish a Board of Trustees pursuant to Code of Virginia §57-8. The provisions of this Article shall only be effective in the event the Congregation seeks the purchase and ownership of real property.</p>
<p>Section 2. The Board of Governors shall submit an annual balanced budget to the Board of Trustees for approval to insure that the debts and obligations of the Congregation are paid as they mature.</p>	<p>The Board of Trustees shall consist of six (6) individuals who are members of the Congregation and shall be certified by the appropriate court of the Commonwealth of Virginia to hold title to property or properties of the Congregation, without personal liability.</p>
<p>Section 3. The Board of Trustees shall initiate and have primary charge and supervision over all long term (in excess of 12 months) financial agreements and arrangements of the Congregation including, but not necessarily limited to: contracts, leases, borrowings, and any other financial agreements.</p>	<p>Section 2. The Board of Governors shall submit an annual balanced budget to the Board of Trustees for approval to insure that the debts and obligations of the Congregation are paid as they mature.</p>
<p>Section 4. The Board of Trustees shall have the right to review and approve all fiscal matters relating to the operation of the Congregation, including dues structures and educational tuition; and must further review and approve all borrowings of the Congregation.</p>	<p>Section 3. The Board of Trustees shall have the right to review and approve all fiscal matters relating to the operation of the Congregation, and must further review and approve all borrowings of the Congregation.</p>
<p>Section 5. The President, and/or a Vice-President, shall report on all fiscal matters to the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall have the right to veto any act of the Board of Governors pertaining to fiscal matters that will endanger the payment of the debts of this Congregation relating to its property and operations.</p>	<p>Section 4. The Board of Trustees shall have the right to veto any act of the Board of Governors pertaining to fiscal matters that will endanger the payment of the debts of this Congregation relating to its property and operations.</p>
<p>Section 6. The Board of Trustees shall elect a chair and may adopt the rules and regulations by which it shall be governed by itself.</p>	<p>Section 5. The Board of Trustees shall elect a chair and may adopt the rules and regulations by which it shall be governed by itself.</p>
<p>Section 7. The Chair of the Board of Trustees shall appoint three (3) of the members of the Board of Trustees to be members of the Board of Governors with full voting privileges. All other members of the Board of Trustees are to be considered as ex-officio members of the Board of Governors without a voting privilege. Additionally, any other member of the Board of Trustees who is also on the Board of Governors by virtue of an elected office, or election to the Board of Governors, or</p>	<p>Section 6. The chair shall designate two (2) members of the Board of Trustees to serve as voting members of the Board of Governors. Any member of the Board of Trustees who is also on the Board of Governors by virtue of an elected office, or election to the Board of Governors, or chairing a Standing Committee shall have the right to vote on matters before the Board of Governors even if not designated by the chair.</p>
	<p>Section 7. The Board of Trustees shall be elected by the Congregation. Those elected shall serve for a term of six (6) years in</p>

<p>chairing a Standing Committee shall have the right to vote on matters before the Board of Governors.</p> <p>Section 8. The intent of the original Board of Trustees is that the original Board of Trustees be dissolved upon a satisfactory resolution of the entire original debt of the Congregation, and any other debts of the Congregation for which they are personally liable. A new Board of Trustees shall then be elected by the members of the Congregation from among the eligible members of the Congregation in a similar manner as the election of the first Board of Governors with staggered six (6) year terms. However, this new (second) Board of Trustees shall have two (2) persons elected for six (6) years, two (2) for four (4) years, and two (2) for two (2) years. Subsequent elections for membership on the Board of Trustees shall retain the staggered arrangement. The resultant elections for the new staggered terms shall be held at the time of the annual Congregational Meeting.</p> <p>Section 9. A member of the Board of Trustees may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of that Board, with at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Board of Trustees being present. The Trustee in this process will receive written notification of this process and reason for such action, thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which a vote will occur.</p>	<p>overlapping terms and in such a manner that each year the terms of office of those who were elected six (6) years prior to the date of the current election shall expire. The first Board of Trustees shall be appointed by the Board of Governors until a Special election is called or until the next Annual meeting of the Congregation when the Trustees shall be elected in a manner such that the terms of office of two of the Trustees shall expire every 2 years.</p> <p>Section 8. A member of the Board of Trustees may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of that Board, with at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Board of Trustees being present. The Trustee in this process will receive written notification of this process and reason for such action at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which a vote will occur.</p> <p>Section 9. This Constitution may not be amended in any portion pertaining to the Board of Trustees so long as any debt of the Congregation is outstanding and endorsed by the members of the Board of Trustees.</p> <p>*Language has been updated and streamlined pursuant to Code of Virginia §57-8.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE XVI: COMMITTEES</p> <p>Section 3. The Standing Committees of this Congregation and their responsibilities and duties shall be as follows:</p> <p>d. Membership: This committee shall be charged with the responsibility of keeping in touch with Jewish families in the community who are not affiliated with any Congregation, particularly with new families in the community, with the view of inviting them to become members of the Congregation. This committee shall also receive applications for membership, investigate such applications with the Rabbi's assistance and guidance, and present them for appropriate action to the Board. Upon approval of the Board, new members shall be referred to the Treasurer.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE XVII: COMMITTEES</p> <p>Section 3. The Standing Committees of this Congregation and their responsibilities and duties shall be as follows:</p> <p>c. Ritual: (Embedded Gabbi responsibilities, formally ARTICLE XIX: THE GABBI)</p> <p>The Committee shall have the responsibility of electing a Gabbi for a two (2) year term to run concurrently with the term of the President with the concurrence of the President. The duties of the Gabbi shall be established by the Rabbi and the Ritual Committee. Among these duties and</p>

- f. **Member Involvement:** This committee shall be charged with the responsibility of developing and implementing a range of programs for members' activities (youth, singles, 50+s, young married, etc.). It shall determine policy and formulate rules and regulations for the administration of such activities with the approval of the Board. It may also implement programming within the community involving non-Jewish organizations with the approval of the Rabbi and the Board.
- h. **Membership Relations:** This committee shall be charged with the responsibility of collecting arrearages in the dues, fees, and other obligations of the members. It shall have the sole authority to make confidential adjustments for members requiring special arrangements for the payment of dues, fees, building fund pledges, or other obligations. ***The committee shall report such special arrangements only to the Executive Committee.***

responsibilities are: appointing ushers, care of all books used in religious services, and generally assisting the Rabbi in the conducting of religious services as directed by the Rabbi.

- d. **Membership Engagement:** This committee shall be charged with the engagement of the members of the Congregation and the community and shall act through the following subcommittees.
 - i. The New/Prospective Member subcommittee shall be responsible for keeping in touch with Jewish families in the community who are not affiliated with any Congregation, particularly with new families in the community. This subcommittee shall also receive applications for membership, investigate such applications with the Rabbi's assistance and guidance, and present them to the Board.
 - ii. The Event Planning Subcommittee shall be charged with the responsibility of developing and implementing a range of programs for members' activities (youth, singles, 50+s, young married, LGBTQ, interfaith etc.) including educational programs. It shall determine policy and formulate rules and regulations for the administration of such activities with the approval of the Board. It may also implement programming within the community involving non-Jewish organizations with the approval of the Rabbi and the Board.
 - iii. The Member Involvement and Inreach Subcommittee shall reach out to and engage with the membership, particularly those who are not active, to involve them in Congregational activities.