

MOTION REGARDING AMENDMENTS TO THE COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE 2018-04-04

Submitted for: April 4, 2019

WHEREAS, a spirit of continuous improvement and innovation should exist within the Students' Society of McGill University ("the Society") and be reflected in the work of the Society's Committees;

WHEREAS, current Executives, Commissioners, and Coordinators have provided ideas on how to improve certain Committees currently under the purview in the Committee Terms of Reference;

WHEREAS, the included amendments exist to increase the effectiveness of committees, standardize the committee structure, and provide clearer expectations for committee chairs;

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the following amendments to the Committee Terms of Reference included in Appendix A be adopted.

Moved By: Tre Mansdoerfer, *President* Brandon Hersh, *Dentistry Representative* Bryan Buraga, *Senate Caucus Representative* Ana Paula Sanchez, *Arts Representative*

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APPENDIX A

1. CLUBS COMMITTEE

1.1 OVERSIGHT. The Clubs Committee shall be a Committee of the Legislative Council.

1.2 GENERAL. The primary responsibility of the Clubs Committee shall be the review and approval of Interim Club Status applications, Full Club Status applications, and Club constitutional amendments in accordance with the Internal Regulations of Student Groups. It shall also serve as a consultative body for the improvement of Policies related to the Society's Clubs.

1.3 RESPONSIBILITIES. The Clubs Committee shall:

- a) review and make recommendations for the approval of Interim Club Status and Full Club Status applications in a manner consistent with the Internal Regulations of Student Groups;
- b) review and make recommendations for the approval of proposed changes to Club Constitutions;
- c) make recommendations to the Vice-President (Student Life) on Policies related to Clubs;
- d) review club workshop materials and basic modules and make recommendations to the Vice-President (Finance) in relation to this information; and
- e) review and make recommendations to the club committee's terms of reference at the end of the year.

1.4 MEMBERSHIP. The Clubs Committee shall consist of:

- a) the Club Administrative Coordinator (Committee Chair, non-voting);
- b) the Vice-President (Student Life);
- c) The Vice-President (Finance);
- d) two (2) Clubs Representatives to the Legislative Council;
- e) two (2) one (1) other Councillor representing the First Year Council;
- f) two (2) one (1) representatives from the executives of the Society's Clubs and Services; and
- g) three (3) one (1) Members at Large; and
- h) Up to two (2) additional Councillors.

1.5 MEETINGS. All meetings of the Clubs Committee shall be in-camera, unless the committee decides by a two-thirds (2/3) vote to go into a public session. The Club Committee will meet weekly, unless an



exception is made by the Clubs Administrative Coordinator, or VP Student Life.

1.6 QUORUM. Quorum of the Clubs Committee shall be a simple majority of voting members, with at least one Officer present (i.e., either the Vice-President (Student Life) or Vice-President (Finance).

1.7 REPORTING. The Clubs Administrative Coordinator shall report to the Legislative Council whenever there are changes to student group statuses that require the approval of the Legislative Council in accordance with the Internal Regulations of Student Groups. Once per semester at the last meeting of the term.

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6. FRANCOPHONE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

6.1 OVERSIGHT. The Francophone Affairs Committee shall be a Committee of the

Legislative Council.

6.2 GENERAL. The Francophone Affairs Committee shall serve as a forum to unite representatives from every francophone student group and association catering to undergraduate students. It will foster better communication and collaboration between these groups, in order to streamline their work and avoid redundancy.

6.3 RESPONSIBILITIES. The Francophone Affairs Committee shall:

- a) plan and execute initiatives to make McGill and SSMU more accessible and engaging to francophone students;
- b) promote the rich cultural diversity of the francophone world through events catering to both francophone and non-francophone students; and
- c) review and make recommendations to the Francophone Affairs Committee terms of reference at the end of the year.

6.4 MEMBERSHIP. The Francophone Affairs Committee shall consist of:

- a) the Vice-President (External Affairs) Francophone Affairs Commissioner (Chair, non-voting);
- b) the Vice-President (External Affairs),
- c) the Community Affairs Commissioner;
- d) two (2) Councillors;
- e) one (1) representative from each francophone undergraduate student group or association.

6.5 MEETINGS. The Francophone Affairs Committee will meet at least once per month (that is, a minimum of four meetings) during the Fall and Winter semesters.

6.6 QUORUM. The quorum for the Francophone Affairs Committee is a simple majority of the voting members.

6.7 REPORTING. The Francophone Affairs Committee will report twice a year to Legislative Council, at the third to last meeting of each semester.



7. FUNDING COMMITTEE

7.1 OVERSIGHT. The Funding Committee shall be a Committee of the Legislative Council.

7.2 GENERAL. The Funding Committee shall be responsible for the disbursement of the following fees:

a) the Campus Life Fee;

b) a portion of the Environment Fee (as referred to in the Internal Regulations of Finances it doesn't state the breakdown of this portion allocated to the Funding Committee);

c) the Ambassador Fee;

- d) the Club Fund Fee;
- e) a portion of the Space Fee (as referred to in the Internal Regulations of Finances);
- f) the Charity Fee;

g) a portion of the Equity Fee (This is because a portion of this fee is used to cover the Equity Committee's yearly deficit); and

h) a portion of the Mental Health Fee (as referred to in the Internal Regulations of Finances).

i) the SSMU Award of Distinction Fund

7.3 RESPONSIBILITIES. The Funding Committee shall:

a) allocate monies in the name of the Legislative Council from the aforementioned fees, in a manner consistent with the Internal Regulations as they pertain to fees, especially the Internal Regulations of Finances;

b) meet at the discretion of the Committee Chair to ensure that applications are processed in a timely manner;

c) run a fee referendum for an expiring fee or report to council why the committee has decided not to run a referendum for an expiring fee; and

d) review and recommend recipients of the SSMU Award of Distinction applicants to Legislative Council

e) review and make recommendations to the Funding Committee's terms of reference and Financial Internal regulations at the end of the year.

7.4 MEMBERSHIP. The Funding Committee shall consist of:



- a) the Funding Commissioner, (Committee Chair, non-voting);
- b) the Vice-President (Finance);
- c) the Vice-President (Student Life) (non-voting);
- d) four (4) Councillors;
- e) four (4) Members at Large;

7.5 MEETINGS. All meetings of the Funding Committee shall be in-camera, unless the committee decides by a two-thirds (2/3) vote to go into a public session. The Funding Committee will meet weekly, unless an exception is made by the Funding Commissioner.

7.6 QUORUM. The quorum for the Funding Committee is a minimum of three (3) voting members.

7.7 REPORTING. The Funding Committee will update the Legislative Council on the balance of the funds at the last meeting of the Legislative Council for the fall semester and the third meeting of the winter semester. These updates will be in the reporting section of the agenda; being a document comprised solely of the account balances. The Funding Committee will provide a formal report at the second to last Legislative Council meeting in the winter semester.

7.8 COMMITTEE SPECIFIC.

7.8.1 CONSULTED MEMBERS. The following members should must be consulted on applications under their purview:

- a) the Club Commissioner for Club Fund applications;
- b) the Sustainability Commissioner(s) for Environment Fee applications;
- c) the Community Engagement Commissioner for Community Engagement Fee applications;
- d) the Mental Health Commissioner(s) for Mental Health Fee applications;
- e) the Equity Commissioner for Equity Fee applications; and
- f) one (1) executive from First Year Council for First Year Council Fee applications.; and
- g) the Club, Sustainability, Community Engagement, Mental Health, and Equity Commissioners may be invited to the Funding Committee meetings as non-voting members by the Chair, or may be present in any Funding Committee meeting with relevant applications as per their mandate, in order to consult over relevant applications.

7.8.2 RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS. The Members at Large and Councillors that make up the Funding Committee shall be responsible to:



- a) review and assess, in accordance with the Internal Regulations of the stipulated Funds, Funding Applications assigned by the Chair; and
- b) review, assess, and present on a concluding funding sum to scheduled Funding Committee meetings.

7.8.3 DISMISSAL OF MEMBERS. The following is the criteria of the dismissal of Councillors

- a) It is up to the Chair's discretion to dismiss a Councillor or member at large from the Funding Committee if they do not attend the minimum four (4) meeting requirement per term without valid medical or emergency notice.
- b) Legislative Council will be notified on any Councillors' removal from the Funding Committee and shall recommend a replacement.
- c) If all Councilors are exhausted on Legislative Council, then members at large will replace Councilor seats that cannot be filled on the funding committee.
- d) Councillors or members at large may also be dismissed for repeatedly failing to complete assigned responsibilities, as per the discretion of the Chair.

7.8.4 VOTING RIGHTS.

- a. The Vice President of Finance, councillors and all members at large all have one (1) vote each.
- b. If the Vice President of Finance cannot attend the meeting, The Vice President of Finance's voting rights will be delegated to the two Funding Commissioners each with half a vote and both together will be considered one (1) voting member for the purpose of quorum.
- c. If one (1) of the Funding Commissioners cannot be present at a meeting, the Funding Commissioner present at said meeting will have one vote and will be considered one (1) voting member for the purpose of quorum.
- d. If the funding decision remains split in the absence of the Vice President of Finance, then the funding application will be postponed until the next meeting where the Vice President of Finance will decide on the tie.



9. LIBRARY IMPROVEMENT FUND COMMITTEE

9.1 OVERSIGHT. The Library Improvement Fund Committee shall be a Committee of the Legislative Council.

9.2 GENERAL. The Library Improvement Fund Committee shall be responsible for the allocation of the Library Improvement Fund. It shall operate and be governed by the Internal Regulations of Representation and Advocacy.

9.3 RESPONSIBILITIES. The Library Improvement Fund Committee shall:

- a) determine the yearly allocation of the Library Improvement Fund;
- b) consult with students and student groups on their priorities regarding the libraries;

c) solicit, facilitate and review proposals for uses of the Library Improvement Fund from Members of the Society and other members of the University community;

d) develop project proposals for uses of the Library Improvement Fund based on identified priorities of the Members of the Society;

e) ensure the fund is used to enrich library resources, and not to provide for regular operational costs;

f) run a fee-renewal campaign when the current Library Improvement fee is expiring; and

g) review and make recommendations to the Library Improvement Fund Committee's terms of reference at the end of the year.

9.4 MEMBERSHIP. The Library Improvement Fund Committee shall consist of:

- a) the Library Improvement Fund Commissioner (Committee Chair);
- b) the Vice-President (University Affairs);
- c) the other Society Representative to the Senate Committee on Libraries
- d) at least four (4) Members at Large; and
- e) one (1) Councillor.

9.5 MEETINGS. The Library Improvement Committee will meet at least once a month throughout the Academic Year, unless an exception is made by the Library Improvement Fund Commissioner.

9.5.1 Committee members will be provided a tentative schedule at the first meeting.



9.6 QUORUM. The quorum of the Library Improvement Fund Committee is a simple majority of the voting members.

9.7 REPORTING. The Library Improvement Fund Commissioner shall present to the Legislative Council on behalf of the Library Improvement Fund Committee at the last Legislative Council of the winter semester, unless requested to by the Vice-President University Affairs. at least once per semester. They shall also report on the allocations at the last Legislative Council of the winter semester, unless an exception is granted by the Vice-President University Affairs.

9.8 COMMITTEE SPECIFIC.

9.8.1 FACULTY REPRESENTATION. The Library Improvement Fund Committee shall aim to represent the multiple faculties in McGill by seeking to have no more than 1/3 of the committee members be from the same faculty, unless an exception is made by the Library Improvement Fund Commissioner.

9.8.2 ALLOCATION PERIODS. The Library Improvement Fund Committee will hold three allocation periods, which will be the following:

- a) Fall;
- b) Winter;

c) Summer, at the discretion of the Library Improvement Fund Commissioner. This allocation period will only be open if there are leftover funds from the previous year.

9.8.3 CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS. The Committee will aim to provide 3-6 weeks between when the call for submissions and the deadline for applications.

9.8.4 REMOVAL OF MEMBERS. The Library Improvement Fund Commissioner may shall ask a committee member to resign from the committee if the member missed three meetings without providing advance notice. Additionally, a member may be asked to leave the Committee if they miss an allocation meeting without providing advance notice to the Library Improvement Fund Commissioner.



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10. MENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

10.1 OVERSIGHT. The Mental Health Committee shall be a Committee of the Legislative Council.

10.2 GENERAL. The Mental Health Committee shall serve as a representative body for all mental health advocacy, events, and policy that are affiliated with the Society.

10.2.1 LONG-TERM PLAN. The Mental Health Committee shall be required to fulfill the expectations laid out in the updated Mental Health Three Year Plan, as created by the 2018-2019 Mental Health Commissioners.

10.3 RESPONSIBILITIES. The Mental Health Committee shall:

a) coordinate events and programming for the promotion and destigmatization of mental health on campus, including Mental Illness Awareness Week in the fall semester, and Mental Health Awareness Week in the Winter Semester, along with other relevant forms of outreach such as tabling;

b) connect and facilitate cooperation between mental health related groups on campus through regular meetings which include representation of student mental health initiatives;

c) solicit student feedback on professional and peer-run mental health services on campus with the intention of documenting long-term trends, and advocate on behalf of students who have had negative experiences with available mental health resources services, either in the scope of Advisory Board meetings or on an ad hoc basis when necessary;

d) monitor the Society's compliance with its Policies and Plans as related to Mental Health;

e) identify and make recommendations for addressing broader issues affecting student mental health on campus;

f) review and make recommendations to the Mental Health Committee's terms of reference at the end of the year.

10.4 MEMBERSHIP. The Mental Health Committee shall be split into Outreach and Advocacy Subcommittees, of which the total membership shall be:

- a) the Mental Health Commissioner(s) (Committee Chair(s));
- b) the Vice-President (Student Life);
- c) three (3) two (2) Councillors;



d) three (3) four (4) representatives from each relevant student-run mental health initiative (selected from applicants representing the Peer Support Centre, Nightline, and the the Sexual Assault Centre of the McGill Students' Society), as determined by the Vice-President (Student Life);

e) six (6) Members at Large.

The Mental Health Commissioners shall prioritized marginalized applicants in their selection process.

10.5 MEETINGS. The Mental Health Committee will meet weekly twice monthly, with the Outreach and Advocacy Subcommittees meeting on alternating weeks, unless an exception is made by the Mental Health Commissioner(s). Should a Committee member miss two meetings without giving prior notice to the Committee Chairs, they will be removed and replaced. The specific content of the meetings will be outlined and determined by the relative points within the SSMU Mental Health Three Year Plan.

10.6 QUORUM. The quorum for the Mental Health Committee is a simple majority of the voting members.

10.7 REPORTING. The Mental Health Committee will report to the third legislative council meeting of each semester.

10.8 COMMITTEE SPECIFIC

10.8.1 SUBCOMMITTEE ON ADVOCACY. This Subcommittee of the Mental Health Committee shall:

a) be charged with mobilizing Members and the administration towards making McGill a more mental health positive campus; and

b) collecting feedback from students, conducting research and developing proposals on ways to improve mental health on campus.

10.8.2 SUBCOMMITTEE ON OUTREACH. This Subcommittee of the Mental Health Committee shall:

a) be tasked with the general programming of events on campus that work towards the de-stigmatization of mental health issues and promotion of positive mental health; and

b) produce at least one informational resource for continuous use every academic



year, or spearhead projects to update pre-existing resources created by past Mental Health Committees.



12. STEERING COMMITTEE

12.1 OVERSIGHT. The Steering Committee shall be a Committee of the Legislative Council.

12.2 GENERAL. The Steering Committee shall be responsible for all matters relating to the operation and management of business at the Legislative Council.

12.3 RESPONSIBILITIES. The Steering Committee shall:

a) review the content and constitutionality of all resolutions before they are considered by the Legislative Council, including proposed amendments to the Internal Regulations;

b) set the agenda for all meetings of the Legislative Council

- c) organize and maintain an annual calendar of business;
- d) ensure the accountability of all Committees of the Legislative Council;
- e) monitor deadlines and approval paths;

f) set the agenda for all General Assemblies; and

g) recommend amendments to the Internal Regulations and Constitution that would improve the governance functioning of the Society and be permitted to have motions referred to it for review to be returned to Legislative Council with a report and recommendation as requested by Legislative Council;

h) review and make recommendations to the Steering Committee's terms of reference at the end of the year.

12.4 MEMBERSHIP. The Steering Committee shall consist of

a) the Speaker (Committee Chair, non-voting);

- b) the Speaker on Call (non-voting);
- c) the Parliamentarian (non-voting);

d) the President; and

e) four (4) two (2) Councillors

12.5 MEETINGS. The Steering Committee will meet the week of meetings of the Legislative Council and General Assemblies.



12.6 QUORUM. The quorum for the Steering Committee is a simple majority of the voting members.

12.7 REPORTING. The Steering Committee will report at each Legislative Council.

12.8 COMMITTEE SPECIFIC.

12.8.1 CONSULTED MEMBERS. The Steering Committee can may have additional seats for SSMU e Executives interested in the c Committee. These e Executives will serve as non-voting members of the c Committee.

12.8.2 SUBCOMMITTEES. The Steering Committee may, by its own resolution or by means of a resolution of the Legislative Council, create ad-hoc Subcommittees as it deems advisable. Such ad-hoc Subcommittees shall operate under the Terms of Reference of the Steering Committee, except that voting membership shall be opened to all interested Councillors, to a maximum of four (4) additional Councillors.





5. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- 1) **OVERSIGHT.** The Nominating Committee shall be a Committee of the Board of Directors.
- GENERAL. The Nominating Committee Shall work to ensure that positions on the Board of Directors and the Judicial Board and Elections SSMU are adequately filled during the academic year.
- 3) **RESPONSIBILITIES.** The Nominating Committee shall:
 - a) Review applications and select appropriate candidates to fill positions on the Judicial Board and Board of Directors;
 - b) Be responsible for the distribution of the Society's awards and nominations where another Committee of Legislative Council is not specifically responsible; and
 - c) Review and make recommendations to the Nominating Committee terms of reference at the end of the year.
- MEMBERSHIP. The Nominating Committee shall consist of:
 - a) The Parliamentarian (Committee Chair, non-voting);
 - b) One (1) Equity Commissioner (non-voting), chosen at the beginning of each hiring cycle.
 - c) Three (3) Directors; and
 - d) Three (3) Four (4) Members at Large.
- 5) MEETINGS. The Nominating Committee shall meet when they need to appoint a Judicial Board Justice, or Director or International Representative for the Board of Directors or when called by the Parliamentarian.
- 6) QUORUM. The quorum for the Nominating Committee shall be a simple majority of the voting members.
- 7) **REPORTING.** The Nominating Committee will report to the Board of Directors with a timeline and plan for any upcoming hiring cycles, and with a full report immediately after any decision made by the Nominating Committee.

8) COMMITTEE SPECIFIC.

8.1 SELECTION FOR INTERVIEWS. The Nominating Committee should will review applications in order to select which applicants should be interviewed. Candidates will



> be shortlisted for interview by a majority vote at a meeting of the Nominating Committee. Applications are to be reviewed in the order that they were received.

- 8.2 INTERVIEWS. The Nominating Committee should will interview selected applicants. Interviews can be conducted via teleconference or in person. The Equity Commissioner for a given hiring cycle may not conduct or score interviews.
- **8.3 FINAL SELECTION.** After the interviews, the Nominating Committee shall recommend the best candidate(s) for ratification by the Board of Directors. Any decision to recommend a candidate to the Board of Directors for ratification must be confirmed by a majority vote of the committee.
- **8.4 AVAILABILITY OF MEMBERS.** Members of the Nominating Committee must be available to meet for a period of twelve (12) months.

8.4.1 EXCEPTION Section 8.4 does not apply to Equity Commissioners.

- 8.5 PARTICIPATION BY WAY OF TECHNICAL MEANS. A Member of the Nominating Committee may participate in a meeting of the Nominating Committee by way of technical means, such as a telephone or teleconference. In such a case, the member shall be deemed to have attended the meeting.
- 8.6 DIVERSE REPRESENTATION. The Nominating Committee shall ensure that there is diverse representation in among the individuals nominated to the Board of Directors, including, but not limited to, diversity in terms of race, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, gender, age, mental or physical disability, language, sexual orientation or social class. The Nominating Committee reserves the right to undertake additional outreach efforts if the applications received lack diversity.
- 8.7 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST. Members of the Nominating Committee are obliged to disclose conflicts of interest between themselves and applicants to the Committee Chair prior to the selection of candidates for interview. Members are subject to the SSMU Conflict of Interest Policy for the purpose of defining a Conflict of Interest.
 - **8.7.1** A member may not vote on nominations, conduct or score interviews for applicants when a conflict of interest involving the member and the applicant is present.



1. AD-HOC FALL READING BREAK COMMITTEE

1.1 OVERSIGHT. The Ad-Hoc Fall Reading Break Committee shall be a Committee of the Legislative Council.

1.2 GENERAL. The Ad-Hoc Fall Reading Break Committee shall gather student input and engage with various members of the McGill community in order to bring about the successful implementation of a Fall Reading Break.

1.3 RESPONSIBILITIES. The Ad-Hoc Fall Reading Break Committee shall:

- (a) review and evaluate past actions undertaken by the SSMU to bring about a Fall Reading Break;
- (b) investigate and find solutions to the scheduling conflicts arising from the introduction of a Fall Reading Break;
- (c) conduct consultations with the student body to determine what students are looking for in a Fall Reading Break and what they are willing to compromise for it;
- (d) propose a Fall Reading Break structure that would best benefit students;
- (e) submit a report to the Legislative Council by the end of February 2019 detailing the actions taken in the course of business of this committee, complete with a list of recommendations in order to bring about the implementation of a Fall Reading Break;
- (f) present this report to the SSMU membership as a referendum question in the 2019 Winter Referendum period for acceptance or rejection.

1.4 MEMBERSHIP. The Ad-Hoc Fall Reading Break Committee shall consist of:

- (a) the President [Advisory, voting];
- (b) the Vice President (University Affairs) [Advisory, voting];
- (c) sixteen (16) representatives:
 - (i) Senate Caucus Representative (1)
 - (ii) Arts (1)
 - (iii) Arts & Science (1)
 - (iv) Dentistry (1)
 - (v) Education (1)
 - (vi) Engineering (1)
 - (vii) First Year Council (1)
 - (viii) Inter-Residence Council (1)
 - (ix) Law (1)
 - (x) Management (1)
 - (xi) Medicine (1)
 - (xii) Music (1)
 - (xiii) Nursing (1)



(xiv) PT/OT (1) (xv) Science (1) (xvi) Social Work (1) (d) two (2) Members at Large.

1.5 MEETINGS. The Ad-Hoc Fall Reading Break Committee shall meet every 2 weeks, unless an additional meeting is approved by a simple majority of the Members. Committee Members will be provided a tentative schedule at the second meeting.

1.6 QUORUM. Quorum for the Ad-Hoc Fall Reading Break Committee shall be a simple majority of members.

1.7 REPORTING. The Ad-Hoc Fall Reading Break Committee shall report its proceedings and progress in its work at the first Legislative Council meeting of each month. The Committee shall submit its final report to the Legislative Council by the February 28, 2019 meeting.

1.8 COMMITTEE SPECIFIC.

1.8.1 CHAIR. The Committee Chair shall be selected by an internal vote of the Committee.

1.8.2. SECRETARY. The Committee Secretary shall be selected by an internal vote of the Committee. The Committee Secretary must take detailed meeting minutes at each meeting of the Committee.

1.8.2 MEMBERS AT-LARGE. The Committee Chair, in consultation with the other Members of the Committee, shall have the power to appoint Members at Large of the Committee.

1.8.3 DISMISSAL OF MEMBERS. The following is the criteria for the dismissal of Members:

- a) It is up to the Chair's discretion to dismiss a Member if a Member misses two or more meetings unexcused or without valid medical or emergency notice.
- b) It is up to the Chair's discretion to place Members first on probation and dismiss Members if their behavior warrants removal from the Committee.
- c) A ³/₃ majority vote of Members can empower the Committee to exercise the same powers as the Chair with regards to probation or dismissal of Members.
- d) The Legislative Council will be notified at the next Legislative Council meeting of the removal of Members from the Committee and will recommend a replacement.
- e) A Councillor that is removed from the Committee should first be replaced by another Councillor of the same constituency, then by a Member-at-Large of the same constituency.

1.8.4 VOTING RIGHTS. Each Member of the Committee shall have one vote each. In the event that a Member is unable to attend a meeting, they may send a proxy to vote on their behalf. All voting shall be conducted by simple majority unless decided otherwise by a consensus of the Members.