

# THE CNU MEMBERS CHRISTIAN CAUCUS GUIDELINES FOR GOVERNANCE AND STRUCTURE

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## 1. Guiding Principles

- 1.1. The following guidelines for the structure and governance of the CNU Members Christian Caucus (CNU-MCC) are intended to be lean and simple while providing adequate checks and balances.

## 2. The Identity and Mission of the CNU Members Christian Caucus (CNU-MCC)

- 2.1. CNU-MCC is a formal body within CNU with a specific identity and mission--it is comprised of CNU members who are self-identifying Christians and affirm a mission of supporting CNU by extending the concepts and practices of New Urbanism to the Christian community.
- 2.2. CNU-MCC identifies a nexus of overlapping concerns and values that are central to both Christian faith and New Urbanism. They are social justice, creation care/environmental sustainability, beauty, and urbanism that begets community wellbeing and serves the common good. CNU-MCC, therefore, will prioritize its work in these areas.
- 2.3. CNU-MCC is an ecumenical Christian caucus, but not an inter-faith caucus. We encourage other faiths to organize CNU caucuses to reach out to their communities, and should that occur we would welcome collaborating with other CNU faith caucuses.

## 3. Activities of the CNU-MCC:

- 3.1. CNU-MCC's activities include, but are not limited to issuing statements and/or recommendations (including design recommendations), developing resources, hosting events, and entering into collaborations and coalitions with other organizations that are congruous with, and/or advance the mission of CNU-MCC.
- 3.2. To be an official CNU-MCC project it needs to meet the following criteria and be submitted to the CNU-MCC executive committee to be vetted, approved, and then promoted to the CNU-MCC membership:
  - 3.2.1. The project is initiated by an eligible CNU-MCC member.
  - 3.2.2. The project is consistent with the mission of the CNU-MCC.
  - 3.2.3. The project can be undertaken by more than one CNU-MCC member.
  - 3.2.4. In addition to being initiated by a CNU-MCC member, at least one other member should be recruited as a sponsor or partner for any project to encourage accountability to the mission of the CNU-MCC and a spirit of collaboration in community.

## 4. Membership Criteria & Authority:

- 4.1. Criteria to be an eligible member of the CNU-MCC entails four things:
  - 4.1.1. Be an eligible member of the Congress for the New Urbanism.
  - 4.1.2. Be a self-identified Christian who affirms the Nicene and/or Apostles' Creed.
  - 4.1.3. Support the mission of the CNU-MCC.

4.1.4. Register to be a member at the following website [TBD] on an annual basis (for convenience we suggest renewing membership at the annual CNU congress).

4.1.4.1. Membership will be suspended if not renewed by your anniversary date, and membership will be ended after six months in suspension.

4.1.4.2. Membership can be renewed at any time.

4.2. Members of the CNU-MCC may do the following:

4.2.1. Initiate, lead, and/or be involved in CNU-MCC projects.

4.2.2. Cast a vote where voting is used for CNU-MCC business.

4.2.3. Be elected to the CNU-MCC executive committee according to the stipulations outlined below.

## 5. CNU-MCC Executive Committee:

5.1. The CNU-MCC executive committee is a body elected by the CNU-MCC members, and thereby has delegated authority to work on behalf of the CNU-MCC to further its mission. Its duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to the following:

5.1.1. Representing the CNU-MCC and its mission in forums and meetings. The executive committee only represents the CNU-MCC when they speak in one voice and in writing.

5.1.2. Vet and approve proposed CNU-MCC projects.

5.1.3. Strategic leadership.

5.1.4. Responding to issues and queries concerning CNU-MCC by its members and/or non-members.

5.1.5. Managing practical tasks such as communications with members, organizing events and meetings, etc..

5.2. Consensus decision making is the preferred method of the executive committee, but on rare occasions it may be necessary to decide an issue by simple majority.

5.3. The CNU-MCC executive committee is comprised of a minimum of three people, but preferably 5 people, who have been elected by the eligible members of the CNU-MCC.

5.4. The term for executive committee members is two election cycles. An election cycle is the period between CNU annual congresses. Elections will be held every annual CNU Congress, if needed, to elect executive committee members.

5.5. Elections for executive committee members will be organized in the following manner:

5.5.1. Elections will only occur if there are contestable elections, i.e., there are more nominees running for election than there are open positions on the executive committee.

5.5.2. If a contestable election cannot be held the executive committee may appoint an executive committee member through a majority vote by the executive committee. The term of a member appointed by the executive committee will run until the next opportunity to hold an election at the annual CNU congress.

5.5.3. Elections will occur at the annual CNU-MCC business meeting, which will occur at the annual CNU congress.

- 5.5.4. Nominations will be received from the floor, and only eligible CNU-MCC members at the time of the election can be nominated.
- 5.5.5. To be an eligible nominee the nominee is required to be a CNU-MCC member for a minimum of one previous election cycle leading up to the election being held.
- 5.5.6. Nominations require a supporting CNU-MCC seconder for a nomination to be placed on the election ballot.
- 5.5.7. Only eligible CNU-MCC members are permitted to cast a vote.
- 5.5.8. The number of votes a member may cast will be equal to the number of positions being filled in the election (e.g., if there are three positions available members may cast three votes in the election). Members are not required to use all the votes they are eligible to cast (e.g., a member may choose to cast only two votes of three they are eligible to cast).
- 5.5.9. Members can only vote once for a person on the ballot (i.e., there is no cumulative votes for a single candidate).
- 5.5.10. Nominations with the majority of votes win.
- 5.6. Executive committee members will decide which members will serve the following roles within the executive committee:
  - 5.6.1. Chairperson: The primary role of the chair is to provide general leadership for the CNU-MCC and run executive committee meetings and the annual CNU-MCC business meeting.
  - 5.6.2. Secretary: The primary role of the secretary is to take notes at all executive committee and annual CNU-MCC business meetings, and to maintain these records.
- 5.7. Executive committee members may be removed from their position at an executive committee meeting where a related motion is properly passed according to Roberts Rules of Order followed by a majority vote to support the motion. The same may occur at the annual CNU-MCC business meeting.

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