

July 23, 2024

Department Officers

I was preparing to revise and certify the revisions to the Department Governing Document (Constitution and Bylaws and the Department Standing Rules presented by Department President Covert and Constitution and Bylaws Chairman Weyrauch at the 2024 Department Convention June 23, 2024.

Imagine my surprise when I arrived at Page 9 of the 2024 Department Convention Proceedings and noted that the "NEW" Rule 51 was presented incorrectly and in my opinion cannot stand as written and consequently approved by the 2024 convention assembly at the convention on June 23, 2024.

In the 'current' Department Standing Rules, certified on July 5, 2022 Page 7 has 51 Rules:

- 50. The Department President-Elect will be the Department Membership Chairman and the Department Vice will serve as the Department Membership co-chairman.
- 51: The Department Secretary will serve as the Department Public Relations Chairman.

**Rationale:** The Department already has a Rule (albeit #50) that refers to those who would serve as Department Membership Chairman and Co-Chairman. Although Rule #50 does not specifically call out the District Presidents role in maintaining membership, they are already involved as part of their responsibility as District President.

It appears that in the haste to implement a new kind of membership 'committee' Rule 51 was authored and presented as a new Rule. This was incorrectly written and presented and therefore cannot stand.

**Recommendation:** Formation of a new membership committee must be suspended until the Constitution and Bylaws chairman and her committee have an opportunity to study the need for such a rule and present a written recommendation to our North Dakota units for approval to the assembly at the 2025 Department Convention..

*Marcy J. Schmidt*, Department Secretary

Enclosures: (2024 Department Convention Proceedings); Current Department Standing Rules (certified 7/5/2022)