Governance, Regional Meetings, and Delegate Information - September 2013

Please share this information with all members in your area!

Q. What are the Regional Meetings? Who should/can attend?

A. *Regional Meetings are held each year (usually in the fall) within each geographical area of the council. The meeting is open to any registered member. It is an opportunity to receive or exchange information from our Board of Directors. There may be additional business to conduct at these meetings.*

Q. What is a Delegate?

A. *A Delegate is a volunteer position that can be filled by any member 14 years of age or older. The primary function of a Delegate is to attend the GSMISTS Annual meeting (where voting occurs each year to approve nominees for Board positions, and approve nominees for National Council Delegates every 3 years). There may also be a vote on By-Law changes. Other business may also be conducted at this meeting. Delegates will communicate information from our Board of Directors and that from all meetings back to their local members.*

Q. How does one become a Delegate?

A. *Delegates are elected at the Service Unit level. Members of the movement (aged 14 and older) can nominate themselves or can be nominated by another member (member must approve the nomination). An election is conducted by the Service Unit Director or member of the Service Unit Team (usually in October). Election results are then reported to Regional Chairs who assist in maintaining records for Delegates, Alternate Delegates, and Girl Delegates.*

Q. How many Delegates and Alternates does each Service Unit elect?

A. *Each service unit is entitled to one (1) delegate for every 200 registered girls or portion thereof calculated on the number of registered girls as of September 30th of the previous membership year. Each service unit shall elect a minimum of one (1) delegate in that service unit. This formula may be adjusted annually by the Board of Directors.*

Q. Is there training for Delegates? What about Alternate Delegates?

A. *Yes! Training will be offered at the end of business at each Regional Meeting location. All Delegates, Alternate Delegates, and Girl Delegates are required to complete training in order to perform duties at the Annual Meeting (typically held at the end of April of each year).*

Q. What if I cannot attend the Regional or Annual Meetings?

A. *We encourage all Delegates, Alternate Delegates, and Girl Delegates to attend the Regional Meetings. If you are unable to attend it is important to communicate with your Regional Chair, who will assist you to receive your training. Likewise, it is important for Delegates and Girl Delegates to attend the Annual Meeting. If you cannot attend, it is important for you to communicate with the elected Alternate Delegate from your Service Unit so they can attend in your stead.*

Q. Where can I get more detailed information?

A. *The Governance Task Group is hard at work to develop and update the Delegate Policy, training materials, and position descriptions. Once materials are ready, they will be distributed to all current Delegates and made available on the GSMISTS web page at:* www.gsmists.org/aboutus/governance

Q. I don't know what region I am in – how can I find out?

A. *Our governance page is an excellent resource for all members. You will find the map of our council area broken down by counties into regions.* *www.gsmists.org/aboutus/governance*

Q. I still have questions, who can I talk to?

A. *We are working on a way to further communication with all our members. At present, you are welcome to contact the Delegate Chair, Judy Thomson at Thomson@freedomet.org or 616-868-0321.*

Additional Information for Delegates and Members!

Regional Meeting dates and locations are listed below. We encourage registration for these meetings. There is no cost to attend. These meetings are appropriate for adult members and girl members ages 14 and older. The agenda for these meetings has not yet been set. The meeting agenda will be published once completed.

Links to register for these meetings are also included.

Region	Date	Time	Address
1	November 13, 2013	6:00 PM	**United Way Offices** 116 East 5th Street, Gaylord, MI 49735 https://gsusa.ebiz.uapps.net/vp/FamilyManagement/ProductDetail.aspx?ProductId=161516986
2	November 14, 2013	6:00 PM	**Traverse City Service Center** 1820 Oak Hollow Dr., Traverse City, MI 49686 https://gsusa.ebiz.uapps.net/vp/FamilyManagement/ProductDetail.aspx?ProductId=161523761
3	November 6, 2013	6:30 PM	**Lake County Council on Aging aka Baldwin Senior Center** 1505 Michigan Ave, Baldwin, MI 49304 https://gsusa.ebiz.uapps.net/vp/FamilyManagement/ProductDetail.aspx?ProductId=161524594
4	November 7, 2013	6:30 PM	**Muskegon Service Center** 1217 E River Rd, Muskegon, MI 49445 https://gsusa.ebiz.uapps.net/vp/FamilyManagement/ProductDetail.aspx?ProductId=161526955
5	November 8, 2013	6:30 PM	**Camp Anna Behrens** 9841 Colby Rd, Greenville, MI 48838 https://gsusa.ebiz.uapps.net/vp/FamilyManagement/ProductDetail.aspx?ProductId=161540662
6	November 4, 2013	6:30 PM	**Faith United Church of God** 3290 Walker Ave NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49544 https://gsusa.ebiz.uapps.net/vp/FamilyManagement/ProductDetail.aspx?ProductId=161545649

Other Resources

Our Board of Directors maintains a page on our website to keep you informed of the work they are doing through their meetings. Visit: www.gsmists.org/aboutus/gsmists-board-communications