

BYLAWS OF THE  
Cove of Light  
Last Revision 06/11/06

**Article 1 -- NAME AND ORGANIZATION**

**1.1 Name:**

The name of this organization shall be Cove of Light.

**1.2 Organization:**

The organization was founded on February 2, 2002 by Sara Harrison now Sara Danielson (Anora Eldorath) by marriage and Dennis Danielson (Awen Eldorath).

**Article 2- MISSION AND VALUES**

**MISSION**

“I bow to the one infinite Father, differently manifesting in the many churches and temples that have all been erected in His honor. I worship the one God resting on the various alters of different teachings and religious faiths” *Paramahansa Yogananda*

We are students of life. Our mission is to help to guide others in achieving their own self-realization.

**Mature disciples REMAIN IN DIVINE-CONCIOUSNESS.**

Growing intimacy with God through prayer and meditation. Able to study the scriptures and religious texts in-depth, learning the skills of interpretation.

Able to read religious texts for encouragement and intimacy with God.

Participating in fellowship/worship regularly

Participating in a small group for nurture, training, support and accountability.

**Mature disciples are OBEDIENT**

Baptized as a declaration of allegiance to the Divine.

Responds immediately to the direction of the Spirit and doesn't blasphemy the Spirit.

Strives to embody the qualities and characteristics of an enlightened being in daily life.

Avoids being a part-time believer.

**Mature disciples BEAR FRUIT OF THE DIVINE**

Reflects the fruit of the Spirit.

Builds relationships with all people.

Shares the Truth naturally will all people.

Encourages others toward spiritual maturity.

Involved in ministry that matches ability.

**Mature disciples have JOY**

Deep satisfactions in seeing other persons find the Divine.

Is moving to deeper levels of joy in the Divine.

Avoids causing harm to others.

Motivated by love.

Motivates by love.

**Mature disciples LOVE AS THE DIVINE LOVES**

Feels loved by the Divine.

Makes personal sacrifices for the benefit of others.

Demonstrates hospitality towards others.

Develops friendships with all people.

Cultivates relationships with all people.

## **Values**

### **Loving Kindness**

The church members are characterized by a high degree of love and affection towards all people.

"A new command I give to you: Love one another. As I have loved you so you love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:34-35

"Do not do to others what you would not want them to do to you" Confucius

### **Need-Oriented Teaching**

Adapting to the specific needs of the community in order to demonstrate the universal applications of the Divine thus winning them to the Truth.

"To the Jews I became a Jew... To those not having the law I became like one without the law... I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some." I Corinthians 9:20-22

### **Small Groups**

Small groups are dedicated to answering the true questions and meeting the real needs of its members in a specific and holistic manner.

"They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people." Acts 2:46-47

### **Encouraging Worship Services**

Worship services should be encouraging and uplifting to the soul.

"Everything else can wait, but your search for God cannot wait" Paramahansa Yogananda

### **Functional Structures**

The forms, regulations, and institutions of this church are designed according to the interpretation of original religious beliefs that prove to be the most effective for the community.

"Train up a child in the way that he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it" King Solomon

### **Devoted Spirituality**

The spiritual life of the members of this church is to be characterized by prayer, meditation, humility, and devotion.

"In the silence of the heart God speaks. If you face God in prayer and silence, God will speak to you. Then you will know that you are nothing. It is only when you realize your nothingness, your emptiness that God can fill you with Himself. Souls of prayer are souls great silence." Mother Theresa

### **Ministry**

The duties within the church are distributed according the abilities of each individual member.

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10

"You naturally love those who are dear to you, and you must learn to give that kind of love to the whole world" Paramahansa Yogananda

### **Leadership and Elders**

The ministry of the elders will focus on equipping other leaders to serve.

"It is by forgetting self that one finds self" St. Francis of Assisi

## ***Article 3 -- STATEMENT OF FAITH***

### **The Truth of the Divine Genius**

We believe that most if not all religious texts are inherently inspired by the Divine, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and that they together contain aspects of the universal Truth which serves as a guide for faith and conduct of all believers.

### **The Trinity**

We believe that there is one source from which all creation flows, existing in both masculine and feminine Persons which are equal in their divine perfection, and that they work in harmony towards the cycles of

creation. We believe in the Trinity of Maiden, Mother, and Crone and in the Trinity of Father, Son, and Spirit.

#### **God the Father**

We believe in the aspect of the All Father, creator and begetter of all life. We believe that He seeks to make His love and guidance known to all His children.

#### **Son**

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, differently manifesting throughout the ages to teach the Father's word of Truth.

#### **Spirit**

We believe that the Holy Spirit emanates from the Father and is present in all things. We believe that those who have faith in the Holy Spirit open themselves to inspiration, rejuvenation, and enlightenment. The Holy Spirit is the true Divine Genius, which manifests as a helper, teacher, and guide.

#### **Maiden**

We believe that the Maiden represents the feminine side of birth, new beginnings, youth, purity, and innocence. She brings promises of new beginnings, excitement, and a carefree energy.

#### **Mother**

We believe the Mother represents fertility, stability, ripeness, power, comfort and the act of birth. She is the counterpart of the Father and through their union all things are made.

#### **Crone**

We believe the Crone represents wisdom, experience, change, transformation, and death. She is the feminine counterpart of the Great Spirit and together they guide, comfort, and teach as well as prepare us for the cycles of life-death and rebirth.

#### **The Church**

We believe in one Church, of which the Divine is the head, and all persons are members. We believe in the local church, consisting of believers of the Divine, baptized on a credible profession of faith and associated for discipleship, work, and fellowship. We believe that the Divine has laid upon the members of the local church the primary task of giving the Truth of the Divine to the world.

#### **Spiritual Conduct**

We believe that believers should strive to live in harmony with the will of the divine, and that their conduct should reflect this goal. They should seek to realize the fullness of the Divine and teach this to others.

#### **Observances**

We believe the Divine has required His believers to follow certain observances. As a church we acknowledge those observances:

Dedication of the children  
Baptism and Proclamation of Faith  
The Lord's Supper (Lesser Great Rite/Cakes & Ale)  
Anointing of the Sick  
Anointing of the Dead (Last Rites)

#### **Stewardship**

We believe that just as the early church and temples functioned on the support of their members, so does the church of today.

"The tithe is sacred, reserved by God for Himself. It is to be brought into His treasury to be used to sustain the gospel laborers in their work."-GW 226.

2 Cor. 9:7 (NIV) Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

#### **Religious Liberty**

We believe that every person can have an intimate relationship with the Divine and that every man and woman is responsible solely unto the Divine as guided by the mandates of their conscious. We believe in the separation of church and state and that both should function separately and therefore each fulfilling its duties free from dictation or patronage of the other.

#### **Church Cooperation**

We believe that local churches function most easily to promote the Truth of the Divine when voluntarily cooperating with each other in specific (denominational) organizations, which exist and function by the will

of the churches. We also believe that churches of all faiths should strive to cooperate to spread the Truth of the Divine and to promote harmony within the world community. We believe in the Second Coming of Christ, and in the attunement with the Christ Consciousness. We believe that Love is the Highest Law under Will, and in the Laws of Karma.

#### **Church Planting**

We believe that Christ and his wife Mary gave us the power and the wisdom through the Spirit to ordain others to teach the truth. Churches will be planted in other leadership's homes and later churches as we grow, spread the truth of their message and ordain others.

#### **International Mission**

We believe in internationally spreading the truth that all faiths are to be tolerated and accepted for that is the truth of the good news.

### ***Article 4 -- MEMBERSHIP STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT***

#### ***4.1 Commitment:***

Having shown a desire to better know the Truth of the Divine Genius through the values of this Church, and being in agreement with Cove of Light statements, strategy, and structure, I now feel led by the Spirit/Crone to unite with Cove of Light. In doing so, I commit myself to the Truth of the Divine Genius and to the other members to do the following:

##### ***4.1.1 I will protect the integrity of my church***

- ...by acting in love toward all members
- ...by refusing to gossip
- ...by following the leaders

##### ***4.1.2 I will share the responsibility of my church***

- ...by inviting other community members to attend
- ...by warmly welcoming those who visit

##### ***4.1.3 I will serve the ministry of my church***

- ...by discovering my gifts and talents
- ...by being equipped to serve my church
- ...by developing a servant's heart

##### ***4.1.4 I will support the testimony of my church***

- ...by attending faithfully
- ...by living a life as taught by the prophets/saints of the Divine Genius
- ...by giving regularly

### ***Article 5 -- AIM AND PURPOSE***

**5.1** The aim and purpose of the Cove of Light is to bring those of like minds together in spiritual union to share wisdom of the Truth, and further to guide, to protect, and to share wisdom in order to bring balance to both others and us in our local area, while at the time planting sister churches, and sending out workers to spread the Truth.

#### **We want to be a church that experiences FELLOWSHIP:**

Where everyone, regardless of background is accepted. Where everyone is connected with others who provide unconditional love, encouragement, and support. Where everyone is using his or her abilities to build up the whole fellowship, with enough space to provide recreation, education, and activities for the entire fellowship.

#### **We want to be a church that excels at WORSHIP:**

Where everyone is excited about meeting together for worship. Where everyone cultivates an inner life of prayer, meditation, and devotion, which fuels the entire fellowship, where hundreds of people are equipped

to use their abilities for the glory of the Divine. Where we have adequate facilities to pursue excellence in worship.

**We want to be a church involved in MISSION:**

With one small group in every community. Where everyone participates in sharing the Truth with others. Where we have a strong local ministry AND plan new churches. Where we have a strong local ministry AND plant new churches, AND send out workers to spread the TRUTH.

5.2 This church will, therefore, take, secure, accept, hold, or acquire, by gift, purchase, legacy, or otherwise, real and personal property, whenever it may deem the same proper, necessary, and expedient in the work and purposes for which this body was organized and incorporated and to hold, lease, encumber, give, exchange, or sell and transfer and dispose of the same, in part or in whole, when it deems such action expedient, necessary or beneficial in promoting and advancing the work and purposes for which this corporation is formed, and to do or accomplish such acts as this body shall deem necessary or incidental thereto, all such acts to conform to the laws of this State.

***Article 6 -- FORM OF GOVERNMENT***

Within the Cove of Light, there are two levels of decision-making authority, responsibility and accountability.

**6.1**

It is resolved that this church can best accomplish its aim and purpose with a High Priest and High Priestess form of government, the decision-making authority lies with the founders, Lord Awen Eldorath and Lady Anora Eldorath. Meaning that the founders, High Priest and High Priestess, will maintain ultimate authority in all matters.

**6.2**

The Council of Elders will be the executive body of this church, having such authority as set forth in the by-laws of this church at the discretion of the High Priest and the High Priestess. To facilitate the administration of this council's responsibilities, it may appoint such committees, as it feels necessary at the discretion of the High Priest and the High Priestess.

***Article 7 -- MEMBERSHIP***

**7.1 Admission:**

**7.1.1 By Baptism:**

Any person professing faith in the Divine and adopting the views of faith and practice held by this church, may, upon baptism be received into its membership.

**7.1.2 By Experience:**

Persons who are members of other churches, who have been baptized upon profession of their faith in the Divine and accept the views of faith and practice as approved by this church may be received into membership upon testimony of their experience.

**7.1.3 By Restoration:**

Any "inactive member" or a former member who had been dismissed from the membership of this church may be restored by a vote of the Council of Elders at any stated meeting.

**7.2 Procedure:**

7.2.1 All applicants for membership in the church shall appear before the High Priest and High Priestess and the Council of Elders for consultation, examination, and a vote of approval.

7.2.2 New members shall be officially welcomed into the fellowship of the church at any stated meeting or service.

### **7.3 Responsibilities and Rights of Members:**

Members shall strive to keep their Membership Statement of Commitment as outlined in ARTICLE 4.

### **7.4 Status:**

**7.4.1 “Resident members in good standing”** shall include all members regularly received into the membership who have not been moved to another membership status.

**7.4.2 “Non-resident members”** are members in good standing who are living too far away to attend regularly, but who maintain contact with the church, such as students, personnel in the armed forces, missionaries and retirement home residents.

**7.4.3 “Inactive Members”** are those who have been absent from the church for a period of six months without manifesting interest and who have been moved to “Inactive Member” status by the Council of Elders. The Council of Elders may move members who move out of the area to “Inactive Member” status until such time as they join a church near their new home.

### **7.5 Voting Rights:**

Voting rights shall be restricted to the Council of Elders, High Priest and High Priestess who have reached the state’s legal voting age (18).

### **7.6 Dismission:**

#### **7.6.1 Dismission in Good Standing:**

Upon request, members in good standing may be granted a statement of good standing as a means of referral to a religious organization, which is in good standing in the community other than the Cove of Light.

#### **7.6.2 Dismission of Inactive Members:**

After one year of “Inactive Members” status, “Inactive Members” shall be dismissed from the membership of the church by a vote of the Council of Elders at any stated meeting.

#### **7.6.3 Dismission for the Purpose of Discipline:**

Members who persist in living lives in disobedience to truths and guidelines that the church hold to be divine in origin and habitually neglect their responsibilities as stated in the Membership Statement of Commitment (Article 4) may be dismissed from membership by a vote of the Council of Elders at any stated meeting, after personal counseling and kindly admonition by a High Priest/Priestess and/or a member of the Council of Elders is of no apparent avail.

## **Article 8 -- OFFICERS**

### **8.1 Officers of the Church:**

The High Priest/High Priestess, Clerk, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Council of Elders (not less than three)

### **8.2 Term of Office:**

#### **8.2.1 Pastor:**

The High Priest/High Priestess will serve for an indefinite period.

#### **8.2.2 Other Officers:**

The terms of office for members of the Council of Elders will be three years. The Treasurer shall be elected for an indefinite term. Other officers will be elected for a term of one year. These positions are volunteered non-paid.

#### **8.2.3 Qualifications:**

To hold office a person must be a member of the church in good standing and have been an active member for at least 1 year. Furthermore, to hold the office of an Elder, an individual must be a spiritually mature man/woman who at a minimum is a 5<sup>th</sup> Degree in S.A.I.V. (Solidatus Ab Intimus Votum).

### **8.3 Elections:**

#### **8.3.1 Nominating Committee:**

At the Mabon (September) business meeting the Council of Elders along with the High Priest and High Priestess shall convene. The purpose of the meeting

is to present qualified and willing candidates to be affirmed by the Council rather than to compile a list of candidates to compete with each other for each position. This Council will submit to the church at its annual meeting the names of persons to be approved for the offices of Clerk, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, and Council of Elders. The Council shall also recommend approval of two members to serve as auditors. The Council will collect, review, evaluate, check references, and gain approval from prospective nominees according to the standard procedures for the Council before names are submitted. The nominations for office will be posted for three weeks prior to the annual meeting. In order to ensure that all nominations are processed in the same manner, nominations will not be accepted from the floor.

#### **8.3.2 The Annual Election:**

The annual election will be held at the annual business meeting unless otherwise designated by the High Priest/Priestess and the Council of Elders. When a vacancy occurs in any office, the church may fill such vacancy at its next business meeting.

### **8.4 Duties of the Board and Officers:**

#### **8.4.1 High Priest/High Priestess:**

The High Priest/High Priestess's job is to lead by both teaching and example and encourage in both word and deed the members of Cove of Light to deepen their understanding of the Divine. The High Priest and High Priestess reserve the right to be the final arbitrators in any situation. They also hold voting rights in all matters of the church.

#### **8.4.2. The Council of Elders:**

##### **8.4.2.1 Spiritual Care Functions:**

The Council of Elders will cooperate with the High Priest/Priestess and small group leaders of the church in caring for the spiritual needs of people within the church, evaluating and supporting the teaching ministries of the church, and in developing strategic initiatives. The Elders will ensure the missionary outreach of the church, the proper observance of the ordinances of the Lord's Supper and Baptism. They will also oversee the disbursement of any funds for the benefit of those who are sick or are in need. The Elders will handle grievances that might arise and make arrangements necessary for any absence or vacancy in the pulpit.

##### **8.4.2.2 Executive Functions:**

Being the executive body of this church, this Council will oversee all of the ministries undertaken by the church and be responsible to the congregation for the administration of these ministries at the discretion of the High Priest/Priestess. The Council of Elders will act for the congregation in all matters not specifically reserved to the congregation in *[this constitution]{these Bylaws}* or where the congregation has not taken specific action. It will also be the responsibility of this Council to represent the church in any and all legal matters as they may arise. The Council of Elders may appoint Ministry Teams to give special attention to any of the duties or concerns of Council or special ministries of the church. The Council will approve ministry team charters annually and approve members of the church to each ministry team. The Council will coordinate recommendations that are to be presented at church business meetings. The Council will coordinate the preparation of the annual budget and oversee budget expenditures and finance officers. The Council may approve expenditure not included in the budget up to an amount of (10) percent of the

annual budget of the church or \$25,000 whichever is the smaller amount. All non-budgeted items require High Priest/High Priestess approval for amounts greater than these limits. The Council will make recommendations to the congregation on the calling of those who serve as equipping staff. The Council will handle all grievances at the discretion of the High Priest/High Priestess as outlined in the church's grievance policy.

**8.4.3 Clerk:**

The Clerk will keep a record of all proceedings of the church, take charge of all records (except property records), issue letters of dismissal as directed by the church, and keep a register of the names of all members of the church. The Clerk will make a report of the membership of the preceding year at the annual church business meeting and will deliver all documents and records kept by him/her to his/her successor. This is a volunteer non-paid position.

**8.4.4 Financial Secretary:**

The Financial Secretary will keep an accurate account of all moneys received and will deposit them in the bank as directed by the Council of Elders. The Financial Secretary will submit a report on moneys received at the midyear business meeting and at the annual business meeting. Weekly offerings will be counted under the supervision of the Financial Secretary by any combination of two church officers or Committee members. The Financial Secretary will provide the members with contribution envelopes and will send annual statements of account to each contributor. A monthly written report will be submitted to the Council of Elders. This is a volunteer non-paid position.

**8.4.5 Treasurer:**

The Treasurer will be custodian of all moneys and will pay all authorized current operating obligations and all official orders drawn upon the church accounts. He/she will keep a true book of accounts and will submit to the Council of Elders and at midyear and annual business meetings a report containing a detailed statement of all moneys received and paid out during the period. This is a volunteer non-paid position.

**8.5 Ministry Teams and Networks:**

Ministry Teams shall be formed, as required, in order to implement the varied ministries of Cove of Light. The Council of Elders at the discretion of the High Priest/High Priestess to implement specific ministries shall charter ministry Teams. The charter for a ministry team shall include: the statement of purpose, strategies, leadership structure, and qualifications for ministry. The list of ministry teams shall be determined annually by the Council of Elders, upon recommendation of the church staff, in accord with Cove of Light's mission, core values, and strategies. Only members in good standing may be appointed to Ministry Teams. These positions are volunteer non-paid positions.

The duties of ministry teams shall be:

**8.5.1** Develop and annually review its charter for submission to the Council of Elders.

**8.5.2** Recruit and train ministry personnel.

**8.5.3** Define and provide the necessary materials required for ministry.

**8.5.4** Submit annually to the Council of Elders proposed budgets and objectives for the forthcoming year.

**8.5.5** Meet as required to plan and execute specific ministry objectives.

**8.5.6** Review and provide a written report, at least semi-annually, of progress against objectives to the Ministry Staff and Council of Elders. Each ministry team shall normally have at least one staff person as an ex officio member. A Ministry Network is the group of people who serve in a general area of ministry under the supervision and direction of a Ministry Team. Ministry Networks will be organized differently from one another, depending on the nature of each particular ministry. People will become part of the Ministry

Network with the approval of the Ministry Team. The Ministry Network refers to the people who are actually doing a particular ministry in a network of relationships. The term Ministry Team will refer to the administrative team that coordinates the work of the Ministry Network.

**8.6 Auditors:**

Auditors will be appointed at the annual business meeting and report at the midyear business meeting. They will audit the books of the treasurer and the Financial Secretary at the close of the fiscal year or at any time within the fiscal year if there is a transfer of persons holding these offices. These are volunteer non-paid positions.

***Article 9 -- FISCAL YEAR***

**9.1 Fiscal Year:**

The fiscal year of the church will be from January 1 to December 31.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter: January 1-March 31
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter: April 1-June 30
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter: July 1-September 30
- 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter: October 1-December 31

***Article 10 -- MEETINGS***

**10.1 Annual Meeting:**

The annual business meeting of the church will be held during the Samhain week or as near that date as possible. The following will give reports: chairman of the Council of Elders, High Priest/Priestess, Ministry Staff personnel, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Auditor, and other committee chairpersons as deemed necessary.

**10.2 Midyear Business Meeting:**

A business meeting will be held the week of the Beltane, or as near that date as possible, and the following will give reports: chairman of the Council of Elders, High Priest/Priestess, Ministry Staff personnel, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Auditor, and other committee chairpersons as deemed necessary.

**10.3 Special Business Meetings:**

The High Priest or Priestess may call special business meetings. The time and place of meeting and the nature of business acted upon will be announced from the pulpit at a regular service.

**10.4 Rules of Order:**

The rules of Order shall be that of the Rede as well as the Code of Chivalry

**10.6 Public Worship:**

**10.6.1** The church will meet regularly for public worship

**10.6.2** The Lord's Supper will be observed one Sunday of each month unless otherwise designated by the Pastor and Elders.

**10.7 Procedure at Business Meetings:**

**10.7.1 Devotional service**

**10.7.2 Reading of minutes**

**10.7.3 Reports of board, officers, and committees**

**10.7.4 Reports of special committees**

**10.7.5 Unfinished business**

**10.7.6 New business**

**10.7.7 Adjournment**

**10.7.8 Prayer**

**10.8 Procedure for introducing new business:**

Whenever possible, new business should be submitted in writing to the Council of Elders at least six weeks before the midyear meeting or annual meeting.

## ***Article 11 -- PASTORAL RELATIONS***

### ***11.1 Special Qualifications:***

A Pastor will be a spiritually mature person. S/he will be an ordained minister or willing to seek ordination. His/Her doctrine will be in agreement with the church's affirmation of faith. S/he is expected to live as an example of the Divine and possess an awareness of having a definite call of the Divine to the ministry. A Pastor (Priest/Priestess) must have successfully completed all levels of education within S.A.I.V. in order to be officially recognized by the Cove of Light as a Priest/Priestess and must be willing to complete their internship with the Cove of Light for 1 year and a day before moving on to their own church/organization.

### ***11.2 Establishment of Relationship:***

#### ***11.2.1 Step One***

When a vacancy in the pastorate exists, the assembled church at a regular or special business meeting will appoint the Council of Elders to form a search committee. It will be the duty of this committee to prayerfully consider possible candidates and select one to come and speak to the church and to be interviewed by the search committee, elders, and representatives from the various departments of the church.

#### ***11.2.2 Step Two***

At a Council of Elders business meeting following the candidate's appearance, the search committee will present his/her name to the assembled. After sufficient time has been allowed for discussion and questions, the council will vote on the candidate by ballot. A three-fourths majority of the members voting must vote in favor of calling a candidate before a call can be extended. The search committee will present no other candidate to the church for consideration until the first candidate has declined the call.

#### ***11.2.3 Step Three***

A call will be formulated by the search committee stating salary, allowances, vacation, etc., as voted by the church. The church clerk will send the official call to the candidate. The candidate's written acceptance of the call will establish the pastoral relationship as of the date agreed upon by the church and the candidate.

### ***11.3 Dissolution of Relationship:***

#### ***11.3.1 Pastor's Resignation:***

When a pastor resigns, his/her letter of resignation will be read to the church at a business meeting. The pastor and the church will decide the date of dissolution of the pastoral relationship, but in no case will the relationship be obligatory to either party beyond ninety days after the date of resignation nor will the dissolution be effective in less than thirty days after the date of resignation.

#### ***11.3.2 Grievances:***

When there are grievances against the Pastor, the Elders will discuss the matter with the Pastor. If the grievances are not, or cannot be, corrected, the member shall have the option of simply dissolving his or her affiliation with the church.

## ***Article 12 -- ACQUISITION AND DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY***

### ***12.1 Acquisition or Sale of Property:***

Any business meeting at which decisions are made to buy or sell real estate or construct buildings will be announced two weeks in advance and the nature of the business mentioned at all the services. The Council of Elders following authorization by the church will administer any sale, purchase, acquisition, or encumbrance of any real estate property of the church.

## ***Article 13 -- AMENDMENTS***

**13.1 Amendments:**

Amendments to these bylaws may be adopted the Council of Elders and the High Priest and High Priestess have final authority on all decisions made at such meetings.

**Article 14 -- AFFILIATIONS**

**14.1 Affiliations:**

The Cove of Light recognizes the need for community and global interactions not only in the mundane day-to-day affairs but also in the religious community. The Cove of Light will form affiliations with other organizations locally and globally that have the same goals of recognizing that every faith is valuable.

**14.2 Membership**

Those who complete the affiliate application and agree to abide by the Cove of Light bylaws will be granted affiliate membership.

**14.3 Membership Dues**

Membership dues are due yearly by December 31<sup>st</sup> paid for the next year's membership. Memberships paid halfway through the year will count as that years due and will be due every December 31<sup>st</sup>. (I.E. If you join in October of 2007, those dues pay for the 2007-year and you will be expected to pay again by December 2007 for the 2008 dues). Dues are \$25.00 per year.

**14.4 Membership Benefits**

Dues pay for the following benefits:

- Free Advertising via website, church bulletin, and all other advertising pages
- Representation at Extended Council for 2 selected members
- Access to all resources through the Cove of Light
- Newsletter (forthcoming)
- Magazine (forthcoming)

**14.5 Dissolution of Membership**

The following will terminate membership:

- Failure to pay dues
- Failure to abide by bylaws