The Folleterre Empowerment Through Cooperation Hand Book as amended on 3 August 2025

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Title I. Introduction

Article 1. Documents

Preamble. We did not write this and other documents because we love paperwork; we wrote down our process because we love each other.

We have different needs and different ways of expressing them. We are many and we live far away from one another. We have different understandings of what Folleterre is and different dreams of what it will be.

Having an unclear process makes us uncertain, disempowered, frustrated, inefficient, bad listeners, excluding of others, and hierarchical. The purpose of this document is to increase transparency, make us inclusive, reduce unnecessary conflict, positively experience necessary conflict, efficiently work to build sanctuary, create space to express our individual needs, define our collective needs, and know what to expect of one another.

This document was adopted in the spirit of "good enough for now; safe enough to try." If it is not working, then we will talk about it and find a better solution.

Section 1 The association Les Amis de Folleterre uses three documents to clarify its procedures: the Statutes, the Folleterre Empowerment-Through-Cooperation Hand Book (FETCH Book), and the Steward Circle Operational Procedures Extravaganza (SCOPE).

Section 2. The Statutes define the organizational structure of Les Amis de Folleterre. They explain our relationship to outside civil life and are submitted to the sous-préfecture in Lure. They can only be changed at an Extraordinary Great Circle.

Section 3. The FETCH Book is the Internal Rules described in the Statutes. It defines the internal processes of Les Amis de Folleterre. It explains the responsibilities of different community members to each other. It is not submitted to any outside authority. It can be changed at any Great Circle.

Section 4. The Steward Circle Operations and Procedures Extravaganza (SCOPE) defines the internal processes of the Steward Circle. It explains the responsibilities Steward Circle members have to each other. It can be changed at a meeting of the Steward Circle by consensus.

Section 5. If the documents are not in agreement, then the Statutes takes precedence over the FETCH Book and the SCOPE, and the FETCH Book takes precedence over the SCOPE.

For matters of internal organization, all three documents take precedence over any other document produced by the Association.

Section 6. Preambles in this document create no obligations. They are included to help understand the intent of each section.

Article 2. Definitions

Preamble. Folleterre is a community with its own language. Sharing this document among diverse faeries requires us to define parts of our faerie language.

Section 1. Les Amis de Folleterre can be referred to as "the Association," "Folleterre," "the Folleterre community," and "the community."

Section 2. The Association is composed of community members, active members, a Steward Circle, and other organizational bodies created by the Association.

Community members are people who support the Association and feel that they are a part of the Folleterre community. They may be referred to as "faeries" or "Folleterre faeries" or "the community."

Active members are community members who want to participate in governance of Folleterre. Any mention of just "members" or "membership" in any document produced by Folleterre refers to the active membership.

The Steward Circle is made up of stewards. Stewards are active members who commit time and energy to helping Folleterre throughout the year and are responsible for Folleterre's administration. Stewards can take on various roles to help the Association function, including "Secretary," "Gathering Harmonizer," "Focus Bringer," and "Treasurer" (not to be confused with the former Administrative Circle titles).

Members of other organizational bodies created by the Association are not necessarily active members. Their responsibilities and admittance policies are set by the Association.

Section 3. Gatherings are events offered by the Association where community members are invited to participate in activities that fulfill the goals of the Association. Gatherings can also be called community weeks, workshops, meetings, or other names; in this document, "gathering" refers to any of the Association's events.

A gathering has at least one organizer, who coordinates a gathering's preparation, logistics, and space-holding.

Section 4. The Association may purchase property to better host its gatherings and achieve its goals. The property may be referred to as "the land" or "the sanctuary."

Maintenance of the land is any work that maintains function of any part of the land. Development of the land is any work done to change the function of any part of the land.

Section 5. The Association hosts a General Assembly each year as described in its Statutes. That General Assembly is called the Great Circle. If needed, we can call an Extraordinary General Assembly, also known as an Extraordinary Great Circle. Stewards meet at Steward Circle meetings. Any group of people empowered to make decisions is a circle.

Proposals are potential decisions considered by any circle. Decisions are proposals that have been properly discussed by a circle and raised no paramount objections when everyone was asked. A paramount objection – similar to a "block" in other consensus models – is a reasoned refusal to consent to a proposal.

Article 3. Consensus decision making

Preamble. Consensus decision-making is the main process by which decisions are made at Folleterre, especially at the Great Circle and at Steward Circle meetings. This process differs in many significant ways from organizational systems many of us are used to and takes practice to learn.

We believe that consensus results in better outcomes for our community. Our process requires us to listen to everyone's ideas and concerns and makes everyone an active participant in decision-making.

While we love a solutions that gets enthusiastic agreement from the whole community, we realize that, at times, this is not possible. Our particular decision-making model focuses on getting informed consent from each participant.

We ask ourselves if we can live with a new policy, not if we actively want the new policy. Individuals with grave concerns can make us reconsider our plans and the group can move forward even if we do not all agree with one another.

Section 1. Our consensus decision-making process requires several commitments from the faeries participating in it.

First, consensus asks us to put a common goal before our individual interests. In our case, we are always working towards making Folleterre the best Radical Faerie sanctuary that we can.

Second, our decision-making process requires a commitment to finding consensus. Consensus-building requires research, creative thinking, and time. We have to listen actively to each other's feelings and ideas, and we need to speak our concerns in a way that helps others understand. We schedule enough time for the process to unfold and put away distractions.

Third, we need to understand the space between consent and agreement. We are looking for a solution that is "Good enough for now; safe enough to try." This makes space for individual's creativity and freedom, while preventing major concerns from being ignored.

Last, we need to approach the process with an open mind. We allow it to unfold as it will without pre-determined goals, interrupting others, and straying off-topic.

Section 2. Consensus in this process is defined as the absence of paramount objections to a proposal presented at a quorate meeting, where each participant understood the proposal, had a chance to express concerns to the proposal, and was asked if they had a paramount objection. This may also be called consent.

Section 3. Our decision-making process involves several roles.

The **facilitator** ensures that the process is followed and that each person has a chance to speak.

The **presenter** of a topic explains the motivation for the discussion and relates necessary information and may also formulate proposals.

The **proposer** writes the wording of a proposal on behalf of the group and modifies it as necessary in response to concerns raised by the group. Often the proposer and the presenter are the same person.

The **minute-taker** writes the motivation for the discussion, the exact wording of the proposal being discussed, any paramount objections and their reasons, and other concerns, ideas, and questions for further investigation. Minutes should represent the overall nature of the discussion but do not need to record every comment made.

Section 4. Folleterre's consensus process takes place in multiple rounds. In each round, every participant can speak once. The facilitator should start each round with a different speaker. The presenter or proposer informs each round before it starts and does not respond to other participants until all have had a chance to speak.

The only time a speaker can be interrupted is for technical information. If a participant knows a fact that the speaker appears unaware of, that participant may present the fact briefly.

Speakers should self-facilitate; that is, they should ask themselves if what they plan to say needs to be said, if it is the appropriate moment to say it, and if it is the clearest way to say it. Our time at in-person meetings is limited.

Section 5. Our process depends on clearly-worded proposals. Clear and precise wording ensures that everyone knows what they are consenting to and provides necessary information for the faeries who did not attend the meeting. This requires time and concentration from the entire group.

Section 6. Below are the types of rounds that can be used in decision-making. Concerns for time, simpler problems, and discussions that have already happened may lead presenters and facilitators to skip the first one or two rounds. Discussions with pre-identified motivations can start with the brain-storming round. Discussions with pre-formulated proposals can start with the comprehension check. Facilitators should not make the decision to skip the first few rounds lightly.

-*Information-sharing round*. After the presenter has explained the motivation for a discussion, participants give information about the state of the situation and the needs of Folleterre related to the motivation.

-*Brain-storming round*. Once the motivation is well-defined, participants present ideas or parts of ideas for possible solutions.

At this point, either further brain-storming rounds are called, the discussion is suspended for further research, or a participant formulates a proposal. This person becomes the proposer.

-*Clarity check*. Each participant expresses whether or not they understand the proposal. Questions may only be asked to understand the meaning of the proposal.

-*Reaction round*. Participants react to a proposal, expressing areas of support, concerns, possible modifications, and feelings. This is not the time to express paramount objections; the goal here is to make the proposal as good as it can be.

-*Consent check*. Participants ask themselves if the proposal is "Good enough for now, safe enough to try." The facilitator asks each participant if they have a paramount objection. If there are no paramount objections, then consent is achieved.

Section 7. Our process is iterative: we repeat rounds as needed.

After a proposal is worded or re-worded, it is always followed by a comprehension check and a reaction round. Repeating these rounds is appropriate even if only minor changes are made to the proposal.

If the proposer or facilitator believe that the motivation is not well-defined or that the proposal is restricting creative thinking, the group can go back to the information-sharing round or the brain-storming round.

Facilitators are strongly urged to resist the temptation to move to the paramount objection check prematurely.

Section 8. Paramount objections are welcomed because they provide us with necessary information and force us to think through a proposal more. Faeries with paramount objections are strongly encouraged to help the presenter create a proposal that they can consent to, and to remember that our process needs us to put our common goals before our preferences.

Paramount objections can be made for the following reasons:

-This circle is not capable of making this decision. Examples:

"The Great Circle must make this decision, and this is a Steward Circle meeting." "This group does not have enough knowledge about this topic."

"This decision would result in a Folleterre that is not a Radical Faerie Sanctuary, which is our common goal."

-The proposal poses a major risk for the community, the Association, or its properties. Examples:

"The proposal might put faeries in danger when there are a lot of people on the land."

"The Association would face a serious legal penalty."
-The participant would have to leave the community or the circle.

Examples:

"The participant is transgender, and the proposal would exclude transgender faeries from coming to the land."

"This proposal would cause harm to a faeries with mobility issues, and that includes the participant."

If others believe that a paramount objection is not legitimate, we will discuss the matter with the participant.

Section 9. Our meta-process is iterative. Decisions are made on the basis of "Good enough for now, safe enough to try." We try the decision and live with it for a while. If we need to change it, we go through this process again and make a new decision.

Section 10. Sometimes our personal experiences and emotional baggage can prevent us from fully participating in the consensus-building process. We are encouraged to examine our motivations using other, heart-centered processes.

Section 11. All decisions shall be taken by consensus as provided in Title I Article 3 of the FETCH Book, unless otherwise expressly provided in the Statutes or in the Internal Rules.

Title II. Membership in the Association

Article 4. Community Membership

Preamble. Not everyone who is a part of the community will want to participate in governance, which is just another part of the work we do at Folleterre. Therefore, there will always be people who are a part of Folleterre who will not register as active members.

We have an obligation to keep the entire community informed and engaged. A person is a community member if they feel that they are a community member, because a Folleterre faerie is someone who feels like they are a Folleterre faerie.

Section 1. Community members are faeries who identify as part of the Folleterre community.

Section 2. Community members can participate in all events organized by the Association. They can attend all official meetings, including but not limited to the Great Circle and Steward Circle meetings. They cannot raise paramount objections at those meetings.

Section 3. The Association does not have to keep a list of community members.

Article 5. Active Membership

Preamble. Folleterre is organized as a Law 1901 association and therefore needs active members. Active members commit to helping the community with governance and appear on our official list of members that may be communicated with the outside world.

Section 1. Active members are community members and have all the privileges of community membership. Additionally, they can participate in consensus-building and raise paramount objections at the Great Circle and at all other meetings of the active membership of the Association. Active members can participate in Steward Circle meetings but cannot raise paramount objections.

Section 2. Applicants for membership self-identify as faeries, have attended at least one gathering organized by Folleterre, and agree to use Folleterre's consensus decision-making process before applying for membership.

Section 3. Community members who want to become active members must fill out an application form and submit it to the Secretary. The form is prepared and made available by the Secretary. The form will ask applicants for their names and contact information. It can ask for any information necessary for the well-being of the Association.

No money is required to be an active member.

Section 4. The Secretary can reject an application for the following reasons:

-the application form is incomplete,

-the applicant does not meet the requirements in Section 2,

-the application contains false information.

The Secretary will respond to membership applications. Refused applicants may re-apply, appeal to the Steward Circle, or appeal to the Great Circle, which has the power to approve membership when appropriate.

Section 5. The Secretary can revoke membership for the following reasons:

-an active member dies,

-an active member sends a message in writing to the Secretary asking to withdraw their membership,

-a period of one year has elapsed since the member's previous application was accepted,

-the Steward Circle decides that revoking active membership is in the best interest of the Association.

Section 6. The Secretary will maintain a list of active members and their contact information. The Secretary will contact all active members at least one month before the Great Circle to remind them to renew their membership.

Section 7. If an active member is causing major disruptions to Folleterre, the Steward Circle will try to find a solution that protects the interests of the Association. The Steward Circle is authorized by the Statutes to remove an active member if no other means of protecting the interests of the Association is available.

Title III. The Great Circle

Article 6. How the Great Circle works

Preamble. The Great Circle is an important part of how our community organizes itself, creating space to discuss Folleterre's current state and our visions for the future.

The Great Circle has two main sources of power: discussion and decision-making. In a non-hierarchical community, making space for thoughtful communication and heart-based listening is an effective way to be heard and to create change. This community has often been able to solve problems through discussion without a formal decision. Even the decision-making process is mostly discussion.

Section 1. The Great Circle is the yearly, in-person General Assembly of the Association's active membership, organized by the Steward Circle. Any community member may attend.

The purpose of the Great Circle is communication and decision-making in order to help the Association plan the following year.

The Great Circle is a place for official announcements of the Association. All offers of service from stewards end at the Great Circle, and stewards for the following year can make or renew pledges at the Great Circle.

Section 2. The Great Circle will have at least one facilitator and a prepared agenda of topics to discuss.

The facilitator(s) are responsible for ensuring that the Great Circle is efficient in discussing the agenda, that all community members are heard, and that the consensus decision-making process is followed when decisions are made.

Section 3. Written correspondence from community members may be read at the appropriate time at the Great Circle. Facilitator(s) can also make the written correspondence available without reading it aloud.

Section 4. Minutes recorded by the designated minute-taker(s) will be made available to all community members following the Great Circle.

Article 7. Preparing the Great Circle

Preamble. Our time at the Great Circle is limited, and faeries give time and money to attend. Therefore, we want to ensure that we are prepared to use this time well.

Many community members cannot attend. We balance the needs of those faeries with the need to protect the Great Circle space for those who do attend.

Much of the responsibility of preparing the Great Circle is given to the Steward Circle to make sure that it gets done. All community members are encouraged to participate in this process if they want to.

Section 1. The Steward Circle will set a date and location for the Great Circle and announce it as soon as possible on the website.

Section 2. The Steward Circle will prepare a provisional agenda. Community members can submit ideas for discussion topics. The Steward Circle will announce the provisional agenda to all members one month before the Great Circle.

Section 3. The Steward Circle will find community members to act as facilitator(s) and minute-taker(s) at the Great Circle.

Section 4. The Steward Circle will prepare several documents for review or approval at the Great Circle. These include:

-a financial report of the previous financial year,

-a provisional budget for the next financial year,

-a Steward Circle report of the Association's activities since the previous Great Circle,

-if needed, evaluations of the impacts of proposed changes to the FETCH as well as appropriate wording,

-a list of pledges from potential stewards.

Section 5. After the provisional agenda is sent, the Steward Circle will continue to collect ideas for topics of discussion at the Great Circle up to the day of the Great Circle.

Section 6. The facilitator(s) will prepare the final agenda up to the day of the Great Circle to be validated at the opening of the Great Circle.

The agenda will include a discussion of the provisional budget, an announcement of stewards for the following year, and a brief presentation of the Steward Circle and financial reports.

The final agenda can also include ideas collected from community members prior to the Great Circle, but it does not need to include all of them. Facilitators should prioritize topics that were announced in the provisional agenda, topics that are important to a large number of members, and topics that the previous year's stewards believe are important to the well-being of Folleterre.

Article 8. Decision-making at the Great Circle

Preamble. The Great Circle is empowered to make decisions because Folleterre belongs to the community.

Formal decisions ensure that a specific wording of an idea has been examined by a large enough group of people and that ample opportunity to raise concerns and objections was given. Decisions are communication tools that transform future discussions.

Our consensus process differs from decision-making processes many of us are familiar with in that we assume that we all want Folleterre to be the best Radical Faerie Sanctuary it can be, and we want many voices to help us reach that goal. Since in-person meetings of this community are rare and difficult to organize, we want this space to be an empowered and effective forum for decision-making.

Section 1. The Great Circle can:

-approve, modify, or reject the provisional budget presented by the Steward Circle,

-call for discussion of a potential steward's offer of stewardship that may end in acceptance, conditional acceptance, or rejection,

-approve or reject changes to the FETCH,

-approve any development project and create a named budget for it,

-create new governing bodies with mandates outside of the Steward Circle's mandate,

-approve spending and initiatives outside the Steward Circle's mandate,

-give general direction regarding the areas of the Steward Circle's mandate.

Section 2. The Great Circle is quorate for decision-making if seven active members are present. If the General Assembly is not quorate, it will discuss ways to host a Great Circle that is quorate.

Section 3. Decisions will be made in the process described in Article 3. Only active members who are physically present may raise paramount objections.

Section 4. If the Great Circle cannot approve a provisional budget, it will give guidance to the Steward Circle so that the Steward Circle can prepare and agree to a new provisional budget. The new provisional budget will be sent to all active members of the Association.

Section 5. Decisions made on topics not included in the provisional agenda will be announced to all active members after the Great Circle to give them a chance to respond. One month following the announcement, the Steward Circle can decide to block or modify the decision if major concerns were raised by members who did not attend the Great Circle.

Section 6. The Steward Circle is expected to implement decisions of the Great Circle. If no steward offers to implement a project approved by the Great Circle, the Steward Circle will notify the community in an attempt to find volunteers.

Article 9. Extraordinary Great Circle

Preamble. When we need to make decisions that involve everyone, we might not have time to wait for the next Great Circle. In these rare cases, we can organize an Extraordinary Great Circle.

This procedure is also for the few decisions that involve changing the nature of Folleterre, when we want to be sure everyone is aware of the gravity of the situation.

Section 1. An Extraordinary Great Circle is the Extraordinary General Assembly described in the Statutes. It can occur at a time and a location agreed to by those who call it.

Section 2. An Extraordinary Great Circle is called when either 50% of the active members of the Association agree to call one or when the Steward Circle agrees by consensus to call one, for the following reasons:

-to sell or abandon land owned by Folleterre,

-to change the statutes,

-to dissolve the Association,

-any serious matter that cannot wait for the next ordinary Great Circle nor be addressed by the Steward Circle.

Section 3. Unless otherwise specified here, the procedure for an Extraordinary Great Circle is the same as the procedure for an ordinary Great Circle. It can happen at any time of the year, including the same day as the Great Circle.

Section 4. The provisional agenda should be sent to all active members as soon as the Extraordinary Great Circle is called. This may be less than one month before the Extraordinary Great Circle. Those calling for an Extraordinary Great Circle do not need to include other topics for discussion submitted by community members.

Section 5. Consensus will be attempted for all decisions at an Extraordinary Great Circle. If consensus cannot be reached, and the situation the Extraordinary Great Circle was called to address requires immediate action, the Extraordinary Great Circle can validate a decision with a vote of 75% of the active members present.

Title IV. The Steward Circle

Article 10. Steward Circle Responsibilities

Preamble. Decision-making for a community like Folleterre requires time and energy to research, listen, share, and negotiate. Our work requires commitment and technical knowledge. In order to effectively make sanctuary, we delegate much of this work to the Steward Circle.

Stewards are volunteers who commit their personal time to deepening their understanding of the community and helping to make it a magical place. We appreciate faeries who lovingly give their time to do this necessary work, and we want them to be empowered to make the day-to-day decisions necessary to accomplish their work.

Stewards want to do a good job for others in this community and guidelines from the community help them to know what is expected of them. The clear mandate and guidelines contained here for the Steward Circle is a gift from the community.

Section 1. The Steward Circle is responsible for

-representing the Association in all contexts,

-administration of the Association,

-maintenance and development of its properties,

-helping organizers prepare gatherings, and

-facilitating communication among community members.

The Steward Circle can delegate its responsibilities when appropriate.

Stewards are active members who pledge time and energy for the following year to help the Steward Circle fulfill its responsibilities in Article 11 of the Statutes.

Section 2. The Steward Circle is a non-hierarchical body. Any steward may be authorized to represent the Association in any civil act. Any steward may be authorized to sign declarations and obligations on behalf of the Association.

The Steward Circle takes penal and civil responsibility for the Association, as explained in the Statutes.

The Steward Circle must agree by consensus to authorize any steward to sign obligations and declarations on behalf of the Association. That authority may be general or limited to a specific task.

Because of the nature of the Treasurer's and Secretary's responsibilities, they are authorized to represent the Association and sign declarations and obligations by virtue of their role. For this reason, the Steward Circle must agree by consensus to accept a steward's offer to fulfill the roles of Treasurer and Secretary.

Section 3. Certain responsibilities are performed more efficiently if assigned to an individual instead of to a group. The Steward Circle may assign any of its responsibilities to specific stewards as it sees fit.

The community needs several roles to be fulfilled in order to facilitate communication and to ensure that important administrative work gets done. The Steward Circle is responsible for finding stewards to fulfill these roles.

Roles are voluntary. More than one steward may take a single role and they can work together to fulfill it. Stewards may delegate part of their responsibilities to other community members when appropriate.

If no one volunteers for a role, the Steward Circle will communicate the problem to the wider community in order to find someone to take the role. In the meantime, the Steward Circle as a whole will fulfill that role.

The Steward Circle must make a decision to accept a volunteer for any of the roles and is encouraged to carefully consider whether the volunteer has the commitment, technical knowledge, and familiarity with the community necessary to fulfill the role. The Steward Circle may modify a role or decline a volunteer's offer for a role if necessary.

A steward's commitment to one of these roles lasts until the Steward Circle makes a decision to allow someone else to take on the role, the Steward Circle formally accepts a steward's resignation from the role, or the Steward Circle decides that the volunteer's serious misbehavior or gross negligence necessitates removal from the role.

The roles are:

Secretary: The Secretary is responsible for all official paperwork on behalf of the Association. This includes, but is not limited to, filing a yearly *Déclaration de Dirigeants* immediately after the Great Circle with the names of all the stewards; receiving, reviewing, and responding to membership requests on behalf of the Association as described in Article 4; maintaining an accurate list of active members and their contact information; adding names and contact information to the Association's mailing lists; and writing all *Procès Verbal* on behalf of the Association. The Secretary is empowered to sign all obligations and declarations on behalf of the Association in accordance with the rules in this document and the SCOPE.

Treasurer: The Treasurer is responsible for financial record-keeping and monetary transactions on behalf of the Association. This includes, but is not limited to, book- keeping of financial transactions made by the Association; ensuring that needed materials for book-keeping at Folleterre are available; producing a yearly financial report and provisional budget for the Great Circle; and making bank transactions on behalf of the Association in accordance with Article 15. The financial report will be authenticated by another community member before the Great Circle. The Treasurer is empowered to sign all obligations and declarations on behalf of the Association in accordance with the rules in this document and the SCOPE.

Focus Bringer: The Focus Bringer serves as a point of contact for the community on behalf of the Steward Circle and helps coordinate the stewards' work. Their

responsibilities include, but are not limited to, preparing provisional agendas for all Steward Circle meetings; responding to inquiries on behalf of the Association; preparing a Steward Circle report for the Great Circle; and ensuring that facilitators and minute-takers are found for all meetings of the Steward Circle.

Gathering Harmonizer: The Gathering Harmonizer is responsible for coordinating the dates of events for the calendar year as described in Article 19 and communicating the gathering calendar to community members. They are also expected to provide information and help to gathering organizers and communicate organizers' needs to the Steward Circle. They give guidance to gathering organizers.

Article 11. Adding and removing stewards

Preamble. Any active member who wants to commit time and energy to helping Folleterre throughout the year is encouraged to become a steward.

The community expects stewards to understand Folleterre, its practical needs, its purpose, and its culture. Folleterre wants stewards to participate in discussions, decisions, and other Steward Circle tasks. Potential stewards should only proceed if they can make this commitment for a full year.

Section 1. Stewards commit to

-take legal responsibility for the actions of the Association as described in the Statutes and the Internal Rules,

- use Folleterre's consensus decision-making model,

-participate in the discussions and decisions of the Stewardship Circle online and in person regularly,

-deepen their understanding of the community, and

-act in the interest of the community and not in their personal interest.

Section 2. To be eligible to stand as a steward, it is suggested that the candidate has been an active member of the Association for the last year.

Section 3. There is no limit to the number of stewards in the Steward Circle. A steward may be elected as steward any number of times.

Section 4. The Steward Circle shall, not later than one month before the Great Circle, authorise two stewards from among its members, as facilitators, to organise and conduct the election of stewards for the forthcoming term.

An active member who wishes to become or remain a steward must, at least two weeks before the Great Circle, submit a written pledge as steward to the association for the attention of the facilitators, in which one describes their motivations and skills which would benefit the Steward Circle and community.

In order of receipt the facilitators will record a list of all candidates and make it available for the members in due time before the Great Circle.

First time candidates must be physically present at the Great Circle and explain their pledge.

Section 5. In the Great Circle, the facilitator shall present each candidate in the order of the above-mentioned list. The Great Circle then decides on each candidate under the guidance of the facilitators.

The decision on a candidate must be made by consensus in accordance with Title I, Article 3 of the FETCH Book. If paramount objections are raised against a candidate in accordance with the aforementioned regulation and the reservations against a candidate cannot be dispelled in the procedure regulated therein within a period of time determined by the facilitators, the facilitators shall put the decision on the acceptance of the candidacy to a vote by the Great Circle. If at least 75% of the voting members vote to accept the nomination, the candidate becomes a steward, otherwise the candidature is rejected. The candidate themself is not entitled to vote in this ballot.

Section 6. Active members can be co-opted between Great Circles by a decision of the Steward Circle.

Section 7. The office of elected or co-opted stewards shall end with the election of stewards in the Great Circle following the election or co-option of a steward. The retiring stewards shall be free to stand again as steward in accordance with Section 4 of this Article.

Section 8. Any Steward may leave the Steward Circle at any time by sending written notice to the other stewards.

Section 9. If a steward refuses to comply with the decision-making process of the Steward Circle or otherwise severely disrupts the Steward Circle, the other stewards will attempt to find a way to work with that steward. If this appears futile, the other stewards may terminate the stewardship of the steward in question with immediate effect if there is no other solution that protects the interests of Folleterre. In the decision-making process under Title I, Article 3, the steward in question does not have the right to decide and cannot raise paramount objections.

Article 12. Meetings of the Steward Circle

Preamble. We generally favor leaving decisions to the people directly affected by them. This is why the Steward Circle is empowered to develop its own process in the SCOPE. Since many decisions made at Steward Circle meetings affect the entire community, we set some basic guidelines for transparency and inclusiveness.

Section 1. The Steward Circle will hold at least three in-person meetings each year, in the spring, summer, and autumn.

Section 2. All community members may attend Steward Circle meetings. The stewards may ask non-stewards to leave if they are discussing sensitive information about a community member.

Section 3. A provisional agenda for a Steward Circle meeting is prepared by the Focus Bringer, who communicates it with all active members one month in advance.

Section 4. The internal process of the Steward Circle and its meetings are defined by the SCOPE, which is available to all community members. If not otherwise set by the SCOPE, meetings of the Steward Circle are quorate if five stewards are present.

Section 5. Decisions are made by consensus at Steward Circle meetings. Only stewards may raise paramount objections.

Section 6. Minutes from each meeting of the Steward Circle will be made available to all community members in a timely fashion following the meeting.

Section 7. The Steward Circle may also make decisions online.

Article 13. Expenses

Preamble. As a general rule, stewards cannot claim reimbursement of expenses made as part of their service (like phone bills, fuel costs, ...). The only exception is listed below.

Section 1. Stewards with self-determined financial needs can ask the treasurer a compensation for travel costs made to attend a Steward Circle meeting, if the following criteria are met:

- Only stewards with critically low-income situation can apply for refund, via written request to the treasurer.

- The grant is limited to 100€ (round trip) per request. We ask to always consider traveling over land first. To allow early booking (for the lowest price possible), the Steward Circle will plan its meetings well in advance.

Title V. Communication

Article 14. Documentation

Preamble. Documentation is important for continuity of our work, for understanding our community's needs and desires, and for providing empowering knowledge for faeries in the future.

We acknowledge that paperwork is more work than paper, so we are agreeing to a minimum of documentation necessary for the community to function effectively. We appreciate any other documentation work community members can lovingly provide.

We value the participation of faeries of all linguistic backgrounds. Translations of documents are valued when they can be lovingly provided.

Section 1. The Steward Circle will present a financial report each year at the Great Circle. The financial report will include information about contributions, spending, named funds, and savings over the previous financial year.

Section 2. The Steward Circle will present a Steward Circle report each year at the Great Circle covering the Association's activities since the previous Great Circle. The Steward Circle report will include information about changes to the administration, communication, or daily functioning of Folleterre; major maintenance and development work; and information about gatherings hosted.

Section 3. The Steward Circle will present a provisional budget for the following financial year at the Great Circle. The budget will contain predictions about contributions and spending from the general fund, named funds, and savings. The provisional budget is not binding. The Steward Circle is encouraged to follow the provisional budget, but may make a decision to change the budget if appropriate.

Section 4. A provisional agenda for the Great Circle will be sent to all active members of the Association at least one month in advance.

Section 5. Minutes will be taken at the Great Circle and all Steward Circle meetings. Minutes will include the names of the community members present, the date, and location of the meeting; all proposals discussed and whether consensus was achieved; the motivation behind each proposal; names of faeries who raise paramount objections and their reasons; and information about discussions not geared towards decision-making.

Section 6. The Steward Circle will maintain a log of Great Circle and Steward Circle decisions. The log will be available to all community members.

Section 7. The Steward Circle will maintain an online file storage system of the community's important documents. Community members should be informed of where the file storage system is and how to access it. These include but are not limited to Steward Circle reports, financial reports, provisional budgets, meeting minutes, contracts, official reports on the land, newsletters, and provisional agendas.

Article 15. Communication infrastructure

Preamble. Communication creates community. We need to hear each other's experiences and desires to understand how to live with one another.

Our community is big and separated by both distance and the ability to attend gatherings. We have several ways to overcome these barriers and create a year-long sense of community.

Section 1. Any community member is encouraged to create a means for the Folleterre community to communicate outside of gatherings.

Section 2. Folleterre publishes a newsletter. The Steward Circle is responsible for finding an editor. The newsletter will be available to all community members. All email addresses collected through registrations or at gatherings will receive the newsletter unless their owners request otherwise.

Section 3. Folleterre maintains a website with practical information and the Association's bylaws. The Steward Circle is responsible for finding volunteers to manage and update this site.

Section 4. Folleterre can manage social media groups for community members to use. The Steward Circle is responsible for finding moderators for these groups.

Section 5. The Steward Circle will make practical information for organizing gatherings available. This includes information about contributions, book-keeping, useful addresses and phone numbers, and a Good Gathering Guide.

Section 6. If the Association purchases land, the Steward Circle will ensure that practical information about managing its property is available on that property. This includes information about management of natural spaces, use of buildings, and plans for future development.

Title VI. Sharing Folleterre's collective resources

Article 16. Financial decision-making

Preamble. Our money goes in many directions and has to accomplish many tasks to make Folleterre what it is.

Since Folleterre's money belongs the community, we limit the financial decisions any one person can make without input from others. The number of financial decisions necessary for Folleterre to function, though, requires that we delegate these decisions when appropriate.

This balance requires trust and tolerance to work. Our financial decision-making process makes space for that balance by encouraging faeries to participate in decisions that affect them. Openness and transparency help create the trust needed for this system to work.

We want our Treasurer to feel empowered to make necessary financial decisions. Having a clear process helps our Treasurer.

Section 1. Folleterre's general fund is used for Folleterre's administration, communication, and daily functioning; provisions and materials for Folleterre's gatherings; and maintenance, insurance, taxes, and other costs incurred by ownership of the land and organizing community events.

The general fund cannot be spent on development projects that cause difficult-to-reverse changes to the Association's property, as defined in Articles 16 and 17; development projects that cost more than 200 euro; initiatives outside of the Steward Circle's mandate; and initiatives that have not been approved by the Steward Circle and are not routine expenditures defined in the SCOPE.

The general fund includes a reserve, that is, funds that are set aside without a specific purpose and that should be immediately available in the case of an emergency. The size of the reserve is determined in the yearly budget and may be spent by a decision of the Steward Circle.

Section 2. Named funds are for projects and purchases not covered by the general fund that will occur before the next Great Circle. Named funds smaller than 2 000 euro can be created by the Steward Circle. All other named funds must be created by the Great Circle.

A proposal that creates a named fund will designate the person or circle that decides how that fund is spent. That person or circle is expected to communicate regularly with the Steward Circle. If no one is designated, then the Steward Circle makes decisions about how to spend a named fund.

When a project is complete or if the project has been abandoned for a period of more than a year, unspent named funds automatically return to the general fund.

Section 3. Savings funds are for a project or purchase that will not occur before the next Great Circle.

The Steward Circle or the Great Circle can add or remove savings funds from the budget. The existence of a savings fund does not imply approval of any specific project.

A Steward Circle decision is required to borrow money from a savings fund.

The Steward Circle can turn a savings fund into an active named fund if the fund in question is less than 2 000 euro. The Great Circle can turn any savings fund into an active named fund.

Section 4. Any money owned by the Association in any form that is not part of a named or savings fund is by definition part of the general fund.

Section 5. All contributions received by Folleterre go into the general fund. Accepting a contribution creates no obligation to the contributor and the contribution may be spent in any way deemed appropriate by Folleterre.

A contribution can be made to a named fund or a savings fund only if a Great Circle or Steward Circle decision opened that fund to outside contributions.

Section 6. Gathering co-organizers can spend money from the general fund necessary for hosting a gathering. These expenditures are limited to provisions consumed at a gathering and materials for activities at a gathering. Maintenance work, land management, and small

development projects described in Article 16 may be considered part of a gathering's activities.

Each gathering will produce a Cash Flow Summary for the Treasurer.

Section 7. The Treasurer makes financial transactions on behalf of the Association in accordance with the FETCH Book and the SCOPE.

Section 8. Community members should talk with a gathering co-organizer before making a purchase on behalf of the gathering, or with the Treasurer before making a purchase on behalf of the community.

The Treasurer may refuse a request for funds or reimbursement if appropriate. A community member whose funding or reimbursement request was refused by the Treasurer may appeal to the Steward Circle. The Steward Circle will work with the community member to find a solution that everyone can live with.

Article 17. House and built-environment maintenance and development

Preamble. The Association may purchase land in order to better achieve the goals described in the Statues.

This land may include buildings that are available for the community to use. These spaces will change over time as they are infused with faerie energy. Creativity can be fleeting, but we are mindful of what we could lose when we create new things and listen to other people's needs before making big changes.

We have different visions for these spaces, so this process creates space for individual initiatives while minimizing the need to undo people's work later.

Section 1. The built environment includes permanent structures, maintained gardens, trails and any space with a human-built structure that is difficult to move or remove.

The Steward Circle will monitor the built environment on its properties for necessary maintenance and will communicate necessary maintenance work with the community when appropriate.

Section 2. The Steward Circle is authorized to spend from the general fund for maintenance work. Maintenance projects are projects that do not change the function of part of Folleterre's property. Community members may undertake maintenance projects in communication with the Steward Circle.

Section 3. A small development project is any project that changes the function of part of Folleterre's property, does not produce difficult-to-reverse changes, and costs less than 400 euro.

Examples of difficult-to-reverse changes include cutting holes in the structure of a building, destroying a structure, pouring concrete, removing concrete, installing new structures attached to permanent structures, and adding or removing electrical fixtures or plumbing.

Community members may undertake small development projects without seeking consent from the Steward Circle or the Great Circle. A faerie who is on the land and who wants to do a small development project must inform others on the land at a forum like Practical Circle. A faerie who is not on the land and who wants to do a small development project must inform the Steward Circle. Steward Circle consent is not required.

Section 4. Development projects that cause difficult-to-reverse changes to the land or that cost between 400 euro and 4000 euro must be approved by the Steward Circle.

Section 5. Development projects that cost more than 4000 euro must be approved by the Great Circle.

Article 18. Land management

Preamble. The magic of faeries is intimately linked with nature. We tread lightly on the land and respect its process.

We manage parts of the land that cannot get what they need due to human development in the area. Some parts of the land need human help that may include mowing, removal of hay, removal of old plantations, and other techniques that make space for a diverse ecosystem.

We are responsible for the consequences of our interventions on the land and attempt to minimize our impact on local species.

Section 1. Property owned by the Association and not defined as a built space in Article 16 is defined as the natural environment.

Section 2. The Steward Circle is responsible for maintaining a year-round almanac of land work and contacting gathering organizers when needed work must be done.

Section 3. The Steward Circle may create a Land Management Plan for both a long-term vision and short-term task management.

Section 4. Difficult-to-remove structures cannot be built on the natural environment without Steward Circle consent.

Title VII. Gatherings and use of Folleterre's land

Article 19. Scheduling gatherings

Preamble. Gatherings are when we come together and share our experiences, our affection, and our energy to make a community.

There are many ways to organize a gathering, and we celebrate the diverse gatherings that Folleterre offers. We also want to reduce unhelpful conflict and maintain the magic of Folleterre, and having clearly defined reasons to say "no" to a potential gathering makes our default "yes" more authentic.

We encourage faeries to step forward and make their dream gatherings come to life, and the Steward Circle will help that happen.

Sharing space requires negotiation, so we want our Gathering Harmonizer to feel empowered to make necessary decisions for the community.

Section 1. Gatherings can be organized for any purpose that advances the goals of the Association. Any community member can propose and offer to co-organize a gathering and will receive support from the Steward Circle.

Section 2. The Gathering Harmonizer is responsible for producing a calendar of gatherings. Community members who wish to propose or co-organize a gathering should contact the Gathering Harmonizer with possible dates and a brief description of the gathering's activities.

Section 3. A proposed gathering needs prior consensus from the Steward Circle if the gathering will happen at any location not owned by the Association. A proposed gathering does not need prior consensus from the Steward Circle if it will happen on land owned by the Association.

Section 4. The Association does not organize or host gatherings at any location that:
-are intended to earn money for the personal profit of a private individual, outside group, or private enterprise,
-require payment from participants.

Section 5. The Gathering Harmonizer may refuse to schedule a gathering for the following reasons:

-a gathering will occur at a location not owned by the Association and there has been no prior authorization by the Steward Circle,

-the community members who proposed the gathering did not give enough advance notice to the Gathering Harmonizer,

-the community member has indicated that the gathering is of a type listed in Section 4 of this Article,

-the gathering would occur before the gathering that was designated the first gathering of the year or after the gathering that was designated the last gathering of the year,

-other community members wish to host a different gathering on the land at the same time,

-the community members have given the Gathering Harmonizer reason to believe that they do not have sufficient knowledge or experience to ensure the safety of the participants or adequate care for Folleterre's property,

-the gathering would occur at the same time as one of the routine, yearly gatherings offered by Folleterre, or

-the gathering is not proposed by a community member.

Section 7. If the Gathering Harmonizer refuses to schedule a potential gathering, they must inform the Steward Circle about the refusal.

Community members whose proposed gathering is refused by the Gathering Harmonizer may appeal to the Steward Circle. The Steward Circle and the community members will work to find a gathering proposal that everyone can consent to, if possible.

Section 8. The Steward Circle can ask organizers to modify their gathering plans if the proposed gathering poses a grave risk to the Association, its properties, or gathering participants or if it does not advance the goals of the Association.

The Steward Circle can ask an organizer to work with a co-organizer if the organizer has given the Steward Circle reason to doubt their ability to organize a gathering.

The Steward Circle may cancel a gathering if necessary to protect the interests of the Association.

Article 20. Gathering organization

Preamble. We have strong and well-known conventions about how gatherings function, passed along orally and through experience. These include attending practical circle, eating together, sharing work, offering workshops, freely deciding how to spend our time, listening to one another, going to heart circle….

It is impossible and undesirable to list all of these conventions. Impossible because they are always changing and there are so many exceptions; undesirable because we celebrate the diversity of gatherings by giving participants the space to determine how their time together unravels.

There are some parts of a gathering that affect the community generally. We set the minimal structure required for the good of the community.

Section 1. The Steward Circle will maintain an up-to-date Good Gathering Guide with practical information for gathering organizers. Stewards will help organizers produce a list of maintenance and development projects for work-themed gatherings. Stewards will help order provisions and materials in advance of a gathering.

Section 2. Each gathering has an organizer or co-organizers. Organizers serve as a point of contact before and during the gathering.

Section 3. If a participant is causing major disruptions to a gathering or is verbally or physically violent to other participants, organizers can ask them to leave.

Section 4. Folleterre does not charge money to attend a gathering.
The Steward Circle may set a suggested contribution for gathering participants, and that suggested contribution may be modified for specific gatherings if appropriate.

Section 5. At each gathering, a faerie who is not a co-organizer will keep financial records. They will send excess cash to the nearest bank branch during and at the end of gatherings and fill out a Cash Flow Summary for record keeping.

The Treasurer will leave guidance for faerie book-keepers on the land.

Section 7. Participants of a gathering may spend Folleterre's money on provisions and materials for that gathering; all contributions belong to Folleterre's general fund. Gathering organizers should be mindful of the necessity of gathering income for the general well-being of the sanctuary.

Travel expenses can only be reimbursed from the general fund by a decision of the Steward Circle or Great Circle.

Section 8. No one may be photographed without their consent.

Article 21. Staying on the land outside of gatherings

Preamble. Land owned by the Association may be used outside of organized gatherings. These stays can be rewarding for everyone in the community, but they also present risks that we will attempt to address.

Folleterre trusts the Steward Circle to manage many of the details of these stays when needed.

Section 1. Any faerie seeking to visit the land outside of gatherings must have already attended an organized gathering offered by Folleterre.

Section 2. Residency is any overnight visit to the land before the first gathering of the year or after the last gathering of the year, any overnight visit when the sanctuary is closed, or any stay on the land that lasts longer than one month. Community members should not plan a residency without prior authorization of the Steward Circle.

Section 3. The suggested contribution for a stay outside of gatherings is the same as the suggested contribution for gatherings. Faeries on the land are encouraged to use part of that money to provide for their own consumption and to leave some of it to cover expenses incurred by their stays.

No one is turned away for lack of funds.

Section 4. If community members are on the land outside of a gathering, then they must choose someone to keep financial records during that period. This person will record contributions and expenses and report financial records to the Treasurer.

Section 5. The Steward Circle may define other requirements for residents on the land appropriate to ensure the safety and well-being of residents and to protect the magic of the land.