

**OCT Declaration of Trust - Article IV
with Summary of Member Comments - May/August 2014**

Article IV- Members of the Trust		
Original Article IV - Members of the Trust	Revised Article IV - Members of the Trust	Considerations
<p>There shall be four classes of members of the Trust, Life Members, Sponsoring Members, Regular Members and Associate Members. Life Members shall consist of those members who have been appointed by the Trustees and paid life membership dues as established by the Trustees. They shall be exempt from the annual dues charged other classes of Members of the Trust. Sponsoring Members shall consist of those members who shall have made an initial contribution in a sum fixed by the Trustees during the first year of the term hereof and shall pay annual dues thereafter, also in a sum fixed by the Trustees. Regular Members shall consist of those members who shall pay regular dues annually as fixed by the Trustees. Associate Members shall consist of those members who shall make an annual contribution in an amount less than the regular dues.</p>	<p><u>Members of the Trust:</u> Any individual, couple, or family Trust that makes a donation equal to the minimum dues level set for that membership year by the Trustees, or anyone who has placed a conservation restriction on their land or donated or sold land to the Trust during a membership year, is a member of the Trust for that membership year and shall be entitled to cast one vote at any Special Meeting or Annual Meeting. Anyone holding the title of Life Member shall continue to hold this title and is eligible to attend and vote at all meetings of the Members of the Trust.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need revision regarding definition of class of members, when determined • Need clarification between donors and members. • Suggest specific membership forms for individuals to choose to become members, regardless of any other donation made. Form would provide “paper trail” for member info and dues vs. donation info. • Anyone who pays minimum dues should have a vote (thus not one vote per couple or household). • Original DOT seems to indicate that anyone who pays minimum dues is a member and can vote – which is different from current interpretation of “member”. • Do we need an unbiased legal or other interpretation of current DOT regarding “member”? • Group suggestion that any individual who makes a donation equal to or greater than the minimum dues amount shall be a Member for that year, entitled to vote (other language same as draft/revised DOT).
<p>Any resident of the Town of Orleans or any individual who is interested in the Town of Orleans may become a Member of the Trust.</p>		
<p>The Trustees may in their discretion determine that any contribution to the Trust shall be considered as a payment of dues.</p>	<p>The Trustees may in their sole discretion determine that any contribution to the Trust shall be considered as a payment of membership dues for that membership year.</p>	
	<p>For the purposes of this Article, "to vote" means either in person or by proxy/absentee ballot.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group suggestion that absentee ballot be “submitted by U.S. Mail, email or by hand delivery” (reference to “email” is specific – but does not seem to indicate “electronic ballot”).
	<p><u>Membership Year:</u> For the purpose of determining eligibility for voting, the membership year shall be from July 1 through the following June 30. All members during this period shall be eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting that follows the end of the membership year, and eligible to vote at any Special Meetings during the membership year and during the membership year immediately following.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to clarify voting rights of members added between year-end and Annual Meeting. • Group suggestion to change end of draft/revised language to say instead “eligible to vote at any Special Meetings during the membership year up to the date of the Annual Meeting” (this would be approximately 14 months instead of 24 months).

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<p>Sponsoring Members and Regular Members shall be entitled to attend and vote at all meetings of the Members of the Trust during the years for which such Members paid dues. Associate Members shall be entitled to attend but not vote at all meetings of the Members of the Trust during the years for which such Members paid dues.</p>		
<p>The Trustees shall keep a record of the names and addresses of all Members of the Trust.</p>	<p><u>Member Records:</u> The Trust shall keep a record of all names and addresses, including electronic addresses if available, of all members of the Trust.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership form would provide “paper trail” for member info and dues vs. donation info. • May need to “correct” records to record membership info if decide one person/one vote instead of one vote per couple/household. • Group suggestion that “This record shall be available to all Trust members upon request.”