

BY-LAWS



Copake
Grange

Copake,

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New York

BY-LAWS

OF

Copake Grange

No. 935

Copake, New York

ORGANIZED OCTOBER 24, 1902

PRESS OF
THE MILLERTON TELEGRAM,
MILLERTON, N. Y.

ARTICLE I.

MEETINGS.

SECTION 1. This Grange shall be known and distinguished as Copake Grange, No. 935, of the state of New York.

SEC. 2. The regular meetings of this Grange shall be held on the second and fourth Monday evenings of September, October, November, December, January, February, March, April and May, at 7:30 o'clock, and on the second Monday evening of June, July and August at 7:30.

SEC. 3. Special meetings may be called by vote of the Grange, or by the Master of the Grange, or in his absence by the Overseer, when it is deemed necessary for the good of the order.

SEC. 4. Whenever a fifth Monday occurs during any month excepting the months of June, July and August, the Grange, unless otherwise ordered, shall hold a social meeting the object of which shall be, first the promoting of sociability amongst the members, and second the promulgation of the principles and purposes of our order, by specially appointed speakers, so that persons who are eligible for membership, may be induced to join the Grange.

SEC. 5. Quorum — Fifteen members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a less number may adjourn from time to time.

ARTICLE II.

MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1. The members of this Grange are all who have been or may be initiated in, or affiliated therewith; who have subscribed to the roll book, and who have not withdrawn or been excluded for unworthy conduct or non-payment of dues.

SEC. 2. Eligibility: Any person of good moral character, engaged in agricultural pursuits having no interest in conflict therewith; of the age of fourteen years, duly proposed and elected, and complying with the rules and regulations of the order, is entitled to membership and the benefits of the degrees taken. Every application must be accompanied by the fee of membership. If rejected the money shall be refunded. It shall require three negative votes to reject an application.

SEC. 3. All applications for membership, must be made in the form prescribed by the National Grange, and when made, shall be announced in open Grange and referred to a Committee of Investigation, consisting of three brothers or sisters, two appointed by the Master and one by the Overseer, who shall take the application in charge and report at the next regular meeting.

ARTICLE III.

OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. The officers of this Grange shall be ranked and titled as follows: Master, Overseer, Lecturer, Steward, Assistant Steward, Chaplain, Treasurer, Secretary, Gate Keeper, Ceres, Pomona, Flora, and Lady Assistant Steward. It is their duty to see that the laws of the order are carried out.

SEC. 2. How chosen: The officers shall be chosen annually at the first

regular meeting in December, and installed at the first regular meeting in January, or as soon after as possible. All elections shall be by ballot.

ARTICLE IV.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. Master: It shall be the duty of the Master to preside at all the meetings of the Grange, to see that all officers and members of committees, perform their respective duties as enjoined by the several charges, and these By-Laws; to inspect and announce the result of all balloting and other votes of the Grange; see that all the laws and usages of the order are duly understood and obeyed; to sign all orders drawn on the Treasurer, with the consent of the Grange; and perform such other duties as may be required by the ritual or Grange.

SEC. 2. Overseer: It shall be the duty of the Overseer to assist the Master

in preserving order and decorum in the Grange; to preside in the absence of the Master; and perform all duties properly devolving upon that office.

SEC. 3. Lecturer: It shall be the duty of the Lecturer to be prepared with some useful information; to read or cause to be read short addresses when no regular business is before the meeting; and see particularly that all addresses, lectures, and other information provided for the good of the order and members of this Grange, are distributed to them.

SEC. 4. Steward: It shall be the duty of the Steward to preside in the absence of the Master, Overseer, or Past Master; to have charge of the inner gate; to see that the field is properly prepared for labor; the working tools in their places; to conduct the ballot, and provide for the introduction and accommodation of candidates.

SEC. 5. Assistant Steward: It shall be the duty of the Assistant Steward to have charge of the candidates during initiation and to give all due assistance to the Steward.

SEC. 6. Treasurer: It shall be the duty of the Treasurer, to receive all moneys from the Secretary; to keep an accurate account of such moneys and pay out the same only on the order of the Master and Secretary with the consent of the Grange; to submit his books and a statement of his accounts with the Grange to the Finance Committee when called upon to do so; and to deliver to his successor all moneys, books, vouchers, etc., having reference to the finances of the Grange. He shall be required to give bonds in such sums as the Grange upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee may from time to time determine. He shall deposit all funds of the Grange, to the

credit of the Grange, in such bank as shall be designated by the Finance Committee of this Grange, and shall only draw the same upon an order endorsed by the Master and Secretary of this Grange.

SEC. 7. Secretary: It shall be the duty of the Secretary to record accurately all the proceedings of the Grange, to make out all necessary returns for the State and National Grange; to keep accurate accounts of members with the Grange; to receive and pay over to the Treasurer all moneys at the close of each meeting, taking his receipt therefore to draw and countersign all orders voted by the Grange, and to perform such other duties as may devolve upon that office. He shall at the end of each quarter make out duplicate reports of the amounts due the State Grange for membership dues, and fees for said quarter. These duplicates shall be signed by the Master and

Secretary, and stamped with the seal of the Grange; one copy to be filed with the papers of the Grange and the other to be forwarded to the Secretary of the State Grange within three days after the close of the quarter. He shall also draw the money due the State Grange, from the Treasurer of this subordinate Grange, and transmit the same with the report to the Secretary of the State Grange.

SEC. 8. Gate Keeper: It shall be the duty of the Gate Keeper to see that the gates are properly guarded and to perform such other duties as may be required.

ARTICLE V.

TRUSTEES AND COMMITTEES.

SECTION 1. At the first regular meeting in the year 1903 there shall be elected by ballot, three trustees for the term of one, two and three years respectively, and annually, thereafter, there shall be elected in the same manner, one Trustee

for three years, and these Trustees shall have charge of all property of the Grange as well as all business in which the Grange shall have an interest.

SEC. 2. Filling of Vacancies: In case of a vacancy in the committee of Trustees, the Master shall give notice of the same, and at the next regular meeting, the Grange shall elect one to fill the unexpired term of office.

SEC. 3. Special Committees: All Special Committees unless otherwise ordered shall consist of three members each.

SEC. 4. Finance Committee: The Master on the night of his installation, shall appoint a standing committee on Finance to consist of three members.

SEC. 5. Duties of Committee on Finance: It shall be the duty of the Committee on Finance to audit all bills

and accounts, previous to their being passed upon by the Grange; they shall be authorized to examine the books and accounts of any officers or member of any committee of the Grange whenever they think proper and shall report as speedily as possible on all matters they may have on hand. The Committee on Finance shall report at the first regular meeting of the Grange after the installation of the officers of the Grange, the name of the bank that the Treasurer shall deposit the funds of the Grange in.

SEC. 6. Library and Relief Committee: The Master, Lecturer and Chaplain shall constitute a Committee on Library and shall have charge of the same, the Lecturer acting as Librarian. They shall also constitute a committee of the Grange charged with the especial duty of making provision for the relief of members in affliction and distress.

SEC. 7. Nominating Committee: At the regular meeting of the Grange previous to the election of officers, the Master, Overseer and Steward shall appoint a committee of three, to be termed the Nominating Committee, whose duty it shall be, to recommend to the Grange the names of members of the Grange whom they deem suitable to fill the respective offices.

ARTICLE VI.

FEES AND DUES.

SECTION 1. The minimum fees for conferring four degrees on men in this Grange shall be three dollars, and for women, one dollar. For persons between fourteen and twenty-one years of age, the fees shall be one dollar for males, and for females, fifty cents, the money in all cases, to accompany the application for membership.

SEC. 2. The regular dues of this Grange shall be ten cents per month for each member.

SEC. 3. A member failing to pay his or her dues, for the period of three months shall be notified of the same by the Secretary and if the amount is not paid or remitted by vote of the Grange one month thereafter the member may be suspended.

SEC. 4. A member having been suspended for the non-payment of dues shall be notified of the same with the amount stated upon the notice; and if payment is not made within three months the name of the delinquent shall be dropped from the roll.

SEC. 5. A member having been suspended or dropped from the roll for the non-payment of dues, may upon the payment of all their indebtedness, be restored

to good standing in the Grange, by a majority vote of the same.

SEC. 6. A suspended or expelled member, or one dropped from the roll, shall not be entitled to any of the advantages or privileges of the order nor to attend the meetings of any Grange.

ARTICLE VII.

CHARGES.

SECTION 1. If at any time it shall appear that a member, by his or her general conduct, either morally or otherwise, shall be working against the best interests of the order, charges may be preferred against the offending member in accordance with the provisions of the Digest of the National Grange, and they may be expelled or subjected to such penalties as a majority of the Grange may direct.

SEC. 2. In no case shall members

enter into litigation with each other, until they shall have presented a plain statement of their differences to the trustees of this Grange and shall have allowed them an opportunity to adjust them if possible.

ARTICLE VIII.

Any member desirous of withdrawing from this Grange, must pay all indebtedness to the Grange up to the close of the quarter in which they desire to withdraw, and the sum of 25 cents extra to the Secretary for a withdrawal card.

ARTICLE IX.

AMENDMENTS.

All propositions for amending or repealing these By-Laws or any part of them shall be presented in writing at a regular meeting and shall lie over until the next regular meeting when they may be acted upon if approved by two-thirds of the members present and voting.



