Constitution of Hillel Jewish Student Organization at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville

The Hillel Jewish Student Organization at the University of Tennessee is established to provide facilities, guidance, and organization, both on campus and with the Jewish community, for religious cultural, social, educational, and social welfare, involving Jewish students in accordance with the goals and objectives of the Knoxville, Jewish Community and other supporting organizations.

Article I Membership

Section A. Membership is open to all students, and faculty/staff members where appropriate, regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, or covered veteran status.

Section B. Every member of Hillel shall have the right to participate in all Hillel activities.

Section C. Each member shall be requested to register in Hillel and there is no registration fee.

Section D. If in the case of reinstating a registration fee, the director can choose to waiver the registration fee in some hardship cases when needed.

Section E. Failure to register shall not deprive any student of the right to participate in Hillel activities; however, the right to vote and hold office is extended only to those students who are members.

Article II The Hillel Council

Section A. The Hillel Council shall be the student representative governing body of Hillel.

Section B. The Hillel Council shall be composed of all officers, committee chairpersons, and members-at-large elected or appointed in accordance with this constitution.

Section C. The term of office of the council members shall be one year, beginning one week after the annual election and continuing until one week after the following year’s elections.

Section D. Each member of the Council, regardless of the number of positions held, shall be entitled to only one vote at Council meetings.

Article III The Hillel Director

Section A. There shall be a Hillel Director to advise members.

Section B. The director may be selected by the Knoxville Jewish Alliance in consultation with local students and community leaders.

Article IV Elections and Offices

Section A. The student officers shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and chair people.

Section B. The election of officers shall be held at a time designated by the Hillel Council.

Section C. All members shall be notified of the election at least one week in advance, and all members shall be allowed to vote.

Section D. The President shall read Article V. of this constitution before the election of officers.

Section E. Election of officers shall be held in the following order: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer.

Section F. All members of Hillel shall be eligible to hold office. The Presidential and Vice Presidential positions shall be filled by individuals who have been members of Hillel for at least ½ year, and the President should have been a member of the Hillel Council. If no people fulfilling these criteria wish to be elected, then any member shall be eligible to become President and Vice President with the approval of the Hillel Director.

Section G. Two or three people may run for a single office together. If elected they shall be responsible for fulfilling their duties by dividing the duties in a manner to be determined by them.

Section H. The term of office for all officers shall be one year, beginning one week after the annual election and continuing until one week after the elections of the following year.

Section I. All vacancies in offices shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by election of the Council, with the exception of the President. A vacancy in the Presidency will automatically be filled by the Vice President.

Section J. Removal of any officers for sufficient cause may be done by a 2/3 vote of either the membership of the Council.

Article V. Duties of Officers

Section A. The duties of the President shall be to reside at the meetings of the Hillel Council, to be the students administrative head of Hillel and to perform all functions pertaining to that office, including informing council members of meetings.

Section B. The duties of the Vice President shall be to assist in the administration of the President’s duties, to substitute for the President whenever necessary, to take over the Presidency, should it be vacated and to serve as an ex-officio member of all committees, to appoint committee chairpersons as designated by this Constitution, and to perform all other functions pertaining to that office.

Section C. The duties of the Secretary shall be to notify members of all general meetings and activities, to coordinate any publicity for Hillel, to maintain complete and permanent records of both general and Council meetings, to handle the correspondence of the organization and to perform all other duties pertaining to that office.

Section D. The duties of the Treasurer shall be to maintain complete and permanent financial records of the organization, to assemble and update regularly a list of all members including the date of membership expiration, to collect fees and to perform all other duties pertaining to that office.

Section E. Any officers have the option to find another member to fulfill their tasks if they are not able to do them. (Short term only), with approval of Hillel Director.

Article VI Committees

Section A. The programming committees shall be as follows: Religious, Social, Educational, Cultural, and such others as the Council shall establish.

Section B. Each Programming Committee will consist of a chairperson and any members wishing to serve on the committee…

Section C. The Chairmen of the standing committees shall be selected by the council.

Section D. Programming committees shall assist the Vice President in planning activities.

Section E. Committee chairpersons shall hold their positions until one week after the next general election, unless they resign or are removed by a 2/3 voted by the council.

Section F. There shall also be a publicity committee, the chairperson of which shall be the secretary.

Section G. A constitution Review Committee shall be organized once a year by the council to review this constitution and prepare amendments if necessary.

Article VII Members-at-Large

Section A. Any members who attends three Hillel Council Meetings shall become a Member-at-large at the beginning of the third meeting attended.

Section B. Members-at-Large shall retain their office until one week after the next general election and shall not be removed from the Council earlier as long as they remain members in good standing of Hillel.

Section C. All officers and committee chairpersons who are removed or resign from their positions shall become Members-at-Large if they have attended two Council meetings and are members of good standing.

Section D. The past President shall automatically become a Member-at-Large if remaining a member in good standing.

Section E. Members who hold positions on the Hillel Council immediately before elections, shall become temporary Members-at-Large for the first 3 council meetings of the next Council. They afterward will be eligible for Member-at-Large status according to the guidelines of this constitution.

Section F. Members expressing a desire to become Members-at-Large shall be notified about council meetings by the President.

Section G. A constitutional Review Committee shall be organized once a year by the council to review this Constitution and prepare amendments if necessary.

Article VIII Meetings

Section A. There shall be at least two general meeting of the membership of the organization each year; the exact date to be fixed by the Hillel Council.

Section B. The Hillel Council shall meet the first week of the school year. Meetings shall be called thereafter on a regular basis by the President or by agreement of the Council.

Section C. The quorum for general meetings shall be 50% of the total membership.

Section D. The quorum for meetings of the Council shall be ½ of the Council membership plus one.

Section E. It shall require 2/3 vote at those present at a Council meeting in order to repeal a motion previously adopted by the Council.

Article IX Amendments

Section A. Amendments to this Constitution must be approved by a 2/3 vote of those present at a Council or general meeting.

Section B. Notice of proposed amendments shall be given at least one week prior to the meeting at which they are to be voted upon.

Article X Financial Statement

Section A. Membership dues will consist of a one-time payment of $5 and can be waived by the advisor or the Hillel Director.

Section B. Funds will be handled through the treasurer and the Hillel Director.

Article XI Advisor

Section A. A full-time faculty or staff member at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, will fill the Advisor position.

Section B. The selection process of an advisor will include review of applicant’s resumes by the Hillel Council and the Hillel Director.

Section C. Along with the Hillel Director and the Council, the Advisor will be responsible to review the budget and financial statements.