

Rock Garden Charter

accepted on 2/7/2012

I. Vision

1. We are a **community** of people choosing to support our common values and spend our lives together with those we love, as a tribe.
2. We **value** real sustainability, honesty, clear communication, a safe and healthy natural environment, an empowered work ethic, communal responsibility, respect, justice, sharing, love and fun.
3. We are choosing to intentionally and consciously create a **culture** expressing our values to create a better world directly and through our example.
4. We are creating and maintaining a sustainable and diverse **infrastructure** to provide materially and emotionally for ourselves and future generations, honoring those with whom we are interdependent.

II. Governance

1. Our decision-making body is a weekly open **Council**.

- a. Decisions are made by a consensus of the partnership in attendance.
- b. Absent partners will be contacted when possible, in regard to major decision.
- c. If the partnership has reached consensus minus only one partner, the decision can be passed with consensus minus one of the entire Council.
- d. It is the responsibility of the interested party to present his or her agenda in a forthright manner to the Council.
- e. It is the responsibility of all present on the land to attend Council regularly.
- f. We understand that all will miss Council occasionally and agree not to do so for reasons of avoidance or manipulation.
- g. We specifically welcome our neighbors to participate in our council.
- h. We carefully consider situational exceptions to our agreements.

III. Membership

1. When referenced in this charter, membership consists of partners, pilgrims, and currently-residing players. Everyone present in our home, however, is responsible to abide by all our community agreements.
2. We are open to **visitors**.
 - a. Visitors are required to submit our visitor questionnaire prior to arrival.
 - b. All visitors and the dates of their visit are agreed to, and an advocate, rotating bi-monthly, is agreed to.
 - c. Those that happen to be here without prior approval can be asked to leave, or be allowed to submit the questionnaire and find an advocate at their first Council.
 - d. Visitors are welcome to petition the Council for an extension of their visit.
 - e. When the agreed-upon visit ends, visitors are required to leave.

3. Those that are known and invited by one of our members are known as **guests**.
 - a. Guest stays should have prior approval and require an advocate.
 - b. If staying longer than expected, guests shall be treated as visitors.

4. Those who have been successful visitors may, in their absence, request to return as **players**.
 - a. Applicants will be reviewed in Council.
 - b. Players can visit for extended periods, coming and going without pre-approval.
 - c. Monthly reviews and rotating advocacy is required for all players while present.
 - d. Players are allowed to introduce visitors and guests, advocating for them only initially.

5. We are open to **pilgrims** who wish to join our partnership.
 - a. At least six months of resident participation as a player, a statement of intention to become a partner, a personal review by feather, and consensus of the partners are required for pilgrim-ship.
 - b. Pilgrims may advocate for visitors, guests, and players.
 - c. Pilgrims are reviewed bi-annually and their status is confirmed by the panel.
 - d. At least one year of successful pilgrim-ship and consensus of the partners are required for partnership.

6. We do establish a **partnership** committed to the vision and manifestation of this community.
 - a. Our partners agree to be leaders, *fully* engaged in the creation of this generational home and in their own self-care, becoming a people indigenous to this place.
 - b. Partners may advocate for visitors, guests, and players.
 - c. Partners are responsible annually for initiation of a personal review and discussion.
 - d. The partnership together is responsible for developing and annually reviewing the plans of this community.
 - e. The status of a partner may be changed by two consecutive consensuses of the partners minus one.

IV. Further Documents

1. council process
2. values
3. membership
4. goals
5. visitor questionnaire
6. pet policy
7. equipment usage policy
8. labor policy