

April 13, 2023

TO: Governing Board Members

The Governing Board will be voting on seven proposed Constitution and National Bylaws amendments during the August 23, 2023, Governing Board meeting in Gillette, Wyoming. The amendments are enclosed for your review.

In accordance with National Bylaws Article XXI, "Governing Board members shall receive proposed Bylaws amendments no less than 120 days prior to the Governing Board meeting."

Respectfully submitted,



Kathie Balogh
National Secretary



Rett Porter
National President

cc: Chapter Presidents
Alternate National Directors



2023 FMCA CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT

PROPOSAL #1

Amend this article to read:

Article I – Name, Status, and Purposes

1. Name:

The name of this Corporation, as stated in the Articles of Incorporation, is Family Motor Coach Association, Inc., hereinafter referred to as FMCA.

2. [FMCA may choose to operate under an assumed business name for the purposes of public identity, promotion, and normal or customary operations.](#)

3. Organizational Status:

- A. FMCA is organized as a Corporation for an indefinite period under the laws of the State of Ohio.
- B. FMCA is a non-profit corporation having no capital stock whatsoever. If there should be any net earnings from any activities, the same shall accrue solely to FMCA and no part shall inure to any member.
- C. FMCA National Headquarters will be located at such locations within or without the State of Incorporation as the Governing Board may designate.

4. Mission and Purpose:

- A. The Mission of FMCA is to bring together recreational vehicle who share similar interests in congenial traveling, recreational, and social activities in order to preserve and perpetuate the traditional ideals and spirit of friendly and wholesome family fellowship as manifested by the founders of FMCA.
- B. The Purpose of FMCA is:
 - i. Promote good fellowship and cooperation among all FMCA members, represent recreational vehicle owners as a group and promote their best interests, foster the improvement of motor coaches and recreational facilities, promote effective communication for the common good of members, assist in the formation of Chapters, and strive for a high standard of conduct resulting in a favorable public image of FMCA and its members;
 - ii. Acquire real and personal property of every nature and description by purchase, gift, deed, mortgage, lease or by other lawful method; and to develop, improve, and operate and to dispose of by sale, conveyance, or any

other lawful method such property as decided by the Governing Board or as specified in the Bylaws; and

- iii. Enter into contracts, to issue notes, pledges or mortgages of FMCA, to promote the interest of same consistent with the purposes of FMCA; and to perform all acts necessary, incidental, and appropriate for the accomplishment of the purposes stated.
- iv. Other specific purposes shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws.

5. Fiscal Year:

The Fiscal Year of FMCA shall be as specified in the Bylaws.

PROPOSER'S RATIONALE:

In order to reach a broader audience, FMCA seeks to operate under an assumed business name (dba) that identifies with a larger share of RV owners. Utilizing an assumed business name allows the organization to more effectively market itself without changing the underlying formal name of the organization.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDTION:

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee does not recommend sending this amendment to the general membership for a vote.

COMMITTEE RATIONALE:

There needs to be proposed bylaws amendment(s) accompanying this constitution proposal stating the requirements that must be met before recommending a "dba." There should also be P&P proposals to cover the necessary procedures to follow in developing a "dba." This Constitutional Amendment Proposal can be presented for consideration of vote when the other documents are ready.

The Executive Board agrees with the Proposed Amendment, with the proviso that a policy and procedure is developed to address the concerns of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee.

Pro rationale from the Board:

The Executive Board is in favor of the amendment, provided a Policy and Procedure will be developed by the Governing Board meeting that supports how FMCA would develop an assumed business name.

Con rationale from the Board:

None.

PROVISOS:

A new policy and procedure is to be developed prior to the Governing Board meeting.

2023 FMCA CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT

PROPOSAL #2

Amend this article to read:

Article I, 3.A. – Name, Status and Purposes

3. Mission and Purpose:

- A. The Mission of FMCA is to ~~bring together recreational vehicle who share similar interests in congenial traveling, recreational, and social activities in order to preserve and perpetuate the traditional ideals and spirit of friendly and wholesome family fellowship as manifested by the founders of FMCA.~~ educate and empower RV owners so they can enjoy the RV lifestyle.

PROPOSER’S RATIONALE:

The current Mission Statement is wordy, lengthy, and difficult to use for marketing, communication and motivational purposes.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee does not recommend sending this amendment to the general membership for a vote.

COMMITTEE RATIONALE:

We agree our current “Mission” Statement is wordy. We find the proposed statement to not reflect the social nature of this organization. The words sound more political in nature than social. FMCA’s history is as a social and family organization.

The Executive Board agrees with the Proposed Amendment and recommends the agreed upon wording changes that could be made on the floor of the Governing Board meeting.

Pro rationale from the Board:

Reword the Mission Statement as recommended by the Long-Range Planning Committee: “The mission of FMCA is to educate, enable, and encourage RV owners so they can enjoy the RV lifestyle.”

Con rationale from the Board:

None.

2023 FMCA CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT

PROPOSAL #3

Amend this article to read:

Article I, 3. B. i. – Name, Status and Purposes

B. The Purpose of FMCA is:

- i. ~~Promote good fellowship and cooperation among all FMCA members, represent recreational vehicle owners as a group and promote their best interests, foster the improvement of motor coaches and recreational facilities, promote effective communication for the common good of members, assist in the formation of Chapters, and strive for a high standard of conduct resulting in a favorable public image of FMCA and its members;~~Provide services to meet the needs of the RV community.
 - a. Utilize various means of communication, interaction, and involvement to address the needs of RV owners.
 - b. Provide benefits and services to members to enhance the use of their RVs.
 - c. Enable RV owners to gain the best use of their RVs through educational and technical presentations.
 - d. Strengthen the bonds that unite members through chapters, interest groups, activity-focused gatherings, rallies, social media, or other member-identified means.
 - e. Strengthen the relationship of the RV community with vendors and campgrounds to enhance the enjoyment of their RVs.
 - f. Serve as an advocate for RV owners in dealings with manufacturers and with governmental bodies having oversight over RVs.
 - g. Develop a positive image of the organization and its members that will lead to greater growth of the organization.
- ii. Acquire real and personal property of every nature and description by purchase, gift, deed, mortgage, lease or by other lawful method; and to develop, improve, and operate and to dispose of by sale, conveyance, or any other lawful method such property as decided by the Governing Board or as specified in the Bylaws; and
- iii. Enter into contracts, to issue notes, pledges or mortgages of FMCA, to promote the interest of same consistent with the purposes of FMCA; and to perform all acts necessary, incidental, and appropriate for the accomplishment of the purposes stated.
- iv. Other specific purposes shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws.

PROPOSER’S RATIONALE:

The current purpose statement is cumbersome and does not effectively communicate the rationale for FMCA’s activities.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDTION:

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee does not recommend sending this amendment to the general membership for a vote.

COMMITTEE RATIONALE:

We agree the current purpose statement is wordy and only one sentence. However, do such detailed purposes need to be spelled out in our Constitution? We would like to see the current purpose statement rewritten in shorter sentences and updated to include all “RVs.”

FMCA’s Bylaws have the same statement in Article I, Paragraph 2 as is in the current Constitution. Therefore, if this proposal is mailed out to the membership and passes, a proposed Bylaw Amendment will need to be presented to the Governing Board in 2024.

The Executive Board agrees with the Proposed Amendment and recommends the agreed upon wording changes could be made on the floor of the Governing Board meeting to shorten the purpose statement.

Pro rationale from the Board:

The Executive Board agrees that the statement is wordy and should be more concise.

Con rationale from the Board:

The current wording is outdated.

2023 FMCA CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT

PROPOSAL #4

Amend this article to read:

Article VI – FMCA Numbered Identification Emblems

~~**Article VI**~~
~~**FMCA Numbered Identification Emblems**~~

~~The FMCA Emblem is a horizontal, oval design at the center of which is a vintage Flexible motor coach design surrounded by the words "Family Motor Coach Assoc."~~

PROPOSER'S RATIONALE:

A redesign or modification of the emblem/logo should not need to go through the involved process of changing the Constitution and Bylaws. The removal of this section and language specifying an emblem design should be able to be accomplished in accord with procedures outlined in Article X (Amending the Constitution).

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDTION:

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee recommends sending this amendment to the general membership for a vote.

COMMITTEE RATIONALE:

It is not necessary for the Constitution to contain the description of our emblem.

The Executive Board agrees with the Proposed Amendment.

2023 FMCA NATIONAL BYLAWS AMENDMENT

PROPOSAL #5

Amend this article to read:

Article I - FMCA Mission and Purpose

- (1) The mission ~~of Family Motor Coach Association (FMCA) is to bring together recreational vehicle owners who share similar interests in congenial traveling, recreation, and social activities in order to preserve and perpetuate the traditional ideals and spirit of friendly and wholesome family fellowship as manifested by the founders of FMCA.~~ of FMCA is to educate and empower RV owners so they can enjoy the RV lifestyle.

PROPOSER’S RATIONALE:

The current mission statement is wordy, lengthy, and difficult to use for marketing, communication, and motivational purposes.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDTION:

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee does not recommend adoption of this amendment.

COMMITTEE RATIONALE:

The Constitution and Bylaw Committee does not recommend approving this amendment using the same argument we have for the Proposed Constitution Amendment #2. We agree our current “Mission” Statement is wordy. We find the proposed statement to not reflect the social nature of this organization. The words sound more political in nature than social. FMCA’s history is as a social and family organization.

The Executive Board agrees with the Proposed Amendment and recommends the agreed upon wording changes that could be made on the floor of the Governing Board meeting.

Pro rationale from the Board:

Reword the Mission Statement as recommended by the Long-Range Planning Committee: “The mission of FMCA is to educate, enable, and encourage RV owners so they can enjoy the RV lifestyle.”

Con rationale from the Board:

None.

2023 FMCA NATIONAL BYLAWS AMENDMENT

PROPOSAL #6

Amend this article to read:

Article VI – FMCA Emblem – Delete paragraph 1

~~(1) — The FMCA emblem is a horizontal, oval design at the center of which is a vintage Flexible motor coach design surrounded by the words “Family Motor Coach Assoc.”~~

~~(2)~~(1) FMCA shall issue a set of numbered (membership number) emblems to the individual(s) in the Full membership category in accordance with the procedure defined in the FMCA Policies and Procedures. Members shall display the emblem in accordance with such procedure.

~~(3)~~(2) FMCA shall, upon request, issue the original “F” number to sons, daughters, grandchildren or parents of active or former members with the addition of an “S,” “D,” “G,” or “P,” respectively, centered below the number on the emblem.

~~(4)~~(3) FMCA shall incorporate the suitable special attachment plates to be used in conjunction with the FMCA emblem issued to specified individuals in accordance with the FMCA Policies and Procedures.

PROPOSER’S RATIONALE:

A detailed design of an official emblem/logo should not be a part of the Bylaws. Logos change from time-to-time for various reasons. To lock in a specific, dated logo makes it difficult for the organization to make changes to adapt to a changing market and demographic. The process of changing this section can be accomplished in accordance with Article XXI, Amendments and Interpretations.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDTION:

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee does not recommend adoption of this amendment.

COMMITTEE RATIONALE:

We feel that any change to our emblem must come before the Governing Board for a vote and would at that time be accompanied by a proposed change to the bylaws. All can be accomplished at one meeting.

The Executive Board disagrees with the Proposed Amendment.

Pro rationale from the Board:

The first paragraph locks in the description and includes the Flexible motor coach, which is outdated. The current description of the emblem does not represent the current description of the association.

Con rationale from the Board:

The description of the emblem should stay in the Bylaws, and the Governing Board should be involved in changing the emblem. With the earlier discussion, the emblem was removed from the Constitution. It may lose its importance if removed from Bylaws.

2023 FMCA NATIONAL BYLAWS AMENDMENT
PROPOSAL #7

Amend this article to read:

Article III - Membership

- (3) FMCA shall be comprised of ~~seven~~six membership categories: Charter, Full, Life, Full Lifetime, Commercial, ~~and~~ Member Emeritus/Family Associate, and Pathfinder. Chapters may bestow honorary chapter ~~honorary~~ memberships.
- (a) A Charter Member is a Full Member who joined FMCA on or before January 17, 1964. A Charter Member, unless noted otherwise in these Bylaws, has the rights of a Full Member.
 - (b) A Full Member is any family unit or individual(s), each holding at least 1/3 ownership of a recreational vehicle, who has been issued a specific member number. Full Members have the right to: vote (one vote per member number in constitutional matters); hold office in either FMCA, a chapter, or area association; and display the FMCA emblem. Voting rights by individual or by member number (other than in constitutional matters) shall be determined by the chapter.
 - (c) A Full Lifetime Member is a Full Member who elects to pay a single sum determined by the Governing Board. A Full Lifetime Member is not obligated to pay any further ordinary dues, nor is he/she required to own a recreational vehicle. A Full Lifetime Member, unless noted otherwise in these Bylaws, has the rights of a Full Member, except that he/she may attend no more than two FMCA international conventions in each fiscal year without paying all admission or registration fees. The Governing Board may limit the number of Full Lifetime Memberships.
 - (d) A Life Member is a Full Member who has rendered outstanding services to FMCA and has been elected to the Life Member category by a 65% affirmative vote of the Governing Board. A Life Member, unless noted otherwise in these Bylaws, has the rights of a Full Member; but shall not be required to pay ordinary dues or own a recreational vehicle. Each past president of FMCA shall be automatically admitted to Life Membership at the end of the term of service as President.
 - (e) The Commercial Member category includes individuals and businesses providing products or services to Family Members and the RV community in general. There are a number of sub-categories ~~which~~ that are defined in the “FMCA Policies and Procedures.”

A Commercial Member may enjoy membership in an additional FMCA membership category.

Commercial members elect the FMCA Commercial Council.

(f) A Member Emeritus/Family Associate is an FMCA member who no longer owns a recreational vehicle. A Member Emeritus/Family Associate shall be required to pay dues; however, shall not be eligible to vote or hold elected office. An officer converting to associate membership status may be allowed to complete his or her term of office.

(g) A Pathfinder is a prospective RV owner who is in the research phase of RV ownership who plans to own at least one-third of an RV within two years of joining FMCA.

A Pathfinder will have the same benefits as a Family Associate member, except the Pathfinder's sequenced number will begin with a P instead of an F. FMCA won't issue an emblem until the member purchases an RV and updates their FMCA records. At that time, FMCA will issue the next F number in sequence and issue an emblem. FMCA will encourage the Pathfinder to sign up for a two-year membership.

(g)(h) Honorary Member is to be used at the chapter level. It may be bestowed on any person/member who has rendered significant service over an extended period of time.

PROPOSER'S RATIONALE:

All of us have been prospective RV owners at some point in our lifetime, and we know it's hard to learn about the RV lifestyle if we've not lived it. That's why we want to provide prospective RV owners with a place to get information, ask questions, and use FMCA's benefits and discounts. As a result, prospective RV owners will increase our membership and brand, and in turn, FMCA will teach these new owners (Pathfinders) everything they need to know about the RV lifestyle. FMCA is the best in the business, and our reputation alone will attract many potential owners.

A recent RVIA study stated that 20.5 million U.S. households plan to own an RV within the next few years. That number is nearly double the current RV-owning households in the U.S. Adding the Pathfinders membership is a wonderful way to grow FMCA and fill an obvious and urgent need in the RV community. FMCA would market itself as a premier place for people interested in owning an RV to join and gain the information they need before committing to the RV lifestyle.

The pre-buy RV market of 20 million people is a goldmine. Anything we, as an organization, can do to remove FMCA membership barriers and welcome these prospective members is a step toward continuing full membership growth. Keep in mind that our core mission is supporting RV owners and the FMCA Family.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Constitution and Bylaw Committee recommends adoption of this amendment and recommends this proposal be amended to be only the first sentence of the proposal.

COMMITTEE RATIONALE:

We believe adding this category may encourage people who are thinking about the RV lifestyle to actually buy an RV and become a full member of FMCA.

We believe the additional sentences after the first sentence should be in a Policy and Procedure and not in the Bylaws.

The Executive Board agrees with the Proposed Amendment.