



ABODE OF THE MESSAGE TRANSITION TO NEW LEADERSHIP OVERVIEW & NEXT STEPS

OVERVIEW

During the Sufi Order International North America Board of Trustees (SOINA BOT) Meeting on November 9, 2015, a motion was approved to begin the process of transitioning governance and management of the Abode of the Message, Inc. (the “Abode”) to an independent Board of Trustees (“Abode BOT”), beginning with the establishment of the Abode Steering Committee, a subcommittee of the SOINA BOT, which shall be formed for the purpose of assuming full fiscal, managerial, and functional responsibility for the Abode campus, operations and property over the course of a transition period to be determined by the SOINA BOT.

THE ABODE STEERING COMMITTEE

As a next step, the SOINA BOT is inviting nominations for an Abode Steering Committee. The Abode Steering Committee will serve as a subcommittee of the SOINA BOT, collaborating with the SOINA on aspects of the Abode’s ongoing operations for 2016 and serving as the lead on business planning and development for 2017.

The Abode Steering Committee shall initially consist of 3-5 members, one of which shall be a member of the SOINA BOT, and may be expanded at a future date depending on the committee's evolving operational needs. Candidates must demonstrate the ability to work harmoniously and collaboratively in a group setting with the SOINA BOT, and should have exceptional leadership ability, experience and judgment, and one or more of the following areas of expertise: non-profit board of trustee, non-profit executive management, business development, finance, communications, technology, program design, property management and operations. Due to conflict of interest considerations, staff members of the SOINA and the Abode, work study (khidmat) and work exchange participants are not eligible to serve on the Abode Steering Committee or the Abode BOT.

Depending on the achievement of the Abode Steering Committee of certain milestones (to be established by the SOINA BOT in consultation with the Abode Steering Committee), the Abode Steering Committee will be formally installed as the Board of Trustees of the Abode of the Message, Inc. once those milestones are achieved. The SOINA BOT will continue to fulfill its duty as trustees of the Abode until a time that a healthy transition to a new Abode BOT can take place.

ABODE OF THE MESSAGE – ORIGINAL PURPOSE

Abode Steering Committee members and subsequent Abode Board of Trustees would be tasked with upholding the original purpose of the Abode, which is set forth in the Abode's organizational documents as follows:

“The purpose for which the Corporation is formed is to perform the functions of, and carry out the purposes of, the Sufi Order, by:

a. Establishing one or more in-residence economically self-sustaining spiritual centers, which will perform the following functions:

i. Promoting the religious teachings of the Sufi Order; and

ii. Being a center for the teaching and performance of the Universal Worship Service and other forms of worship taught by the Sufi Order; and

iii. Exploring and developing methods by which persons may live in a manner most harmonious with the forces of nature, consistent with the teachings of Pir-o-Murshid Hazrat Inayat Khan and other Sufi masters;

b. Doing any other act or thing incidental to or connected with the foregoing purposes or in advancement thereof.”

THE NOMINATION PROCESS: NOMINATIONS WILL BE PUT FORWARD BY--THE ABODE CORE TEAM, AND THE SOI NA BOT

****NOMINATIONS ARE DUE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2015***

Please email Abode Steering Committee nominations to Huzur Nawaz German, SOINA BOT Executive Committee Member, at board@sufiorder.org.

Please include in a Microsoft Word document:

- Your name, email and phone number and relationship to the Abode.
- The name, address, email, and phone number of the person you are nominating and her/his relationship to the Abode.
- A statement of why your nominee would be an excellent person to guide the future of the Abode, naming specific qualities, skills and experience relevant to the following required areas of

expertise: business development, finance, communications, technology, program design, property management and operations.

- A digital copy of your nominee's most recent resume.

Successful candidates will be announced by the end of 2015 following the SOINA BOT's December meeting.

CONTACT

Please email all nominations and direct any questions to Huzur Nawaz German, SOINA BOT Executive Committee Member, at board@sufiorder.org.