

# Wapato Temple #47 Pythian Sisters By-Laws

## Table of Contents

<b>Wapato Temple #47 Pythian Sisters By-Laws</b>	<b>1</b>
Table of Contents	1
<b>Overview of Wapato Temple #47 Pythian Sisters</b>	<b>2</b>
Background:	2
Principles:	2
Objective:	3
Who Is Eligible:	3
Our Mission:	3
<b>By-Laws of Wapato Temple #47 Pythian Sisters</b>	<b>4</b>
Article I	4
Article II - Meetings	4
Article III - Fees	4
Article IV - Dues	4
Article V - Executive Officer Attendance	4
Article VI - Appointed Roles and Committees	4
Article VII - Funds	5
Article VIII - Amendments	5

# Overview of Wapato Temple #47 Pythian Sisters

Sisters to Knights of Pythias Lodge #104 in Gaston, Oregon

## Background:

The Wapato Temple #47 Pythian Sisters, the independent auxiliary of the Gaston Lodge #104 Knights of Pythias, was organized in May 2018 when a group of women in Gaston, Oregon came together to bring the principles of the Pythian Sisters to the Gaston community.

Under the Pythian Sisters, and Oregon Pythian Sisters, we follow what was created in 1888 by a dedicated Knight, Joseph Addison Hill, of Greencastle, Indiana. Mr. Hill prepared the ritualistic forms, the ceremonies and emblems of our Order. The color combinations are arranged according to the strict law of optics which make a complete prism as arranged around the room. He conceived the idea and inspiration for our Order's colors when a raindrop fell upon the window ledge. Looking up from the raindrop, Mr. Hill beheld the beautiful rainbow and in it, he saw our colors: White, representing **Purity**; Red, for **Love**; **Equality** represented by Yellow, and Blue, symbolic of **Fidelity**. These principles are the foundation stones on which the Pythian Sisters have built their Temples.

## Principles:

**Purity** is the stage reached through honorable motive, action and thought and should be a goal we seek to attain.

**Love** represents service, guidance, trust and tolerance. Through Love we are bound together as a band of Sisters.

**Equality** requires sharing with each Sister all rights and responsibilities. As Pythian Sisters we work together for the good of all.

**Fidelity** means being faithful, steadfast and loyal to God and to each other.

These principles provide a pattern for a good and meaningful way of life, the aim and object of all Pythian Sisters.

The Pythian Sisters is a fraternal order with members throughout the United States and Canada. We respect all religions but are aligned with none. The Flags of our two Countries have important roles in our meetings but we have no political agenda.

### Objective:

The Wapato Temple #47 Pythian Sisters focus on activities that support the elderly, the houseless, and the youth in our Gaston, Oregon community.

### Who Is Eligible:

We maintain that friendship, strong family relationships, and community are essential factors for a happy life.

Because Wapato Temple #47 Pythian Sisters is a subsidiary of the larger international Pythian Sisters organization, women aged 16 and older, English speaking and a belief in a Supreme Being are the only three requirements for joining the order.

### Our Mission:

To bring together women of diverse backgrounds and to provide opportunities for them to help themselves and others grow through the principles of Purity, Love, Equality, and Fidelity.

We invite you to join with us - for friendship's sake - and as a basis for serving your community. In addition, an effort to enrich your life, as well as our own, we offer our assistance to you.

# By-Laws of Wapato Temple #47 Pythian Sisters

## Article I

Section 1. This Temple shall be known as Wapato Temple No. 47, Pythian Sisters, located at 210 Front Street, Gaston, Oregon 97119. Our mailing address is PO Box 507, Gaston, Oregon 97119. Officially created on the fourth day in the month of May in the year 2018.

## Article II - Meetings

Section 1. Stated Business meetings shall be the first Thursday of each month and Fun meetings shall be the third Thursday of each month, at 6:00 PM, in the Knights of Pythias Hall in Gaston, Oregon and/or online.

Section 2. Decisions requesting financials and programming must be made during a Leadership or Business meeting with a quorum present of three sisters, including the MEC.

## Article III - Fees

Section 1. The initiation fee for the Ladies shall be \$5.00.

Section 2. The fee for reinstatement shall be \$2.00.

Section 3. The fee for online payments shall be \$1.50.

## Article IV - Dues

Section 1. The annual dues for the Sisters members shall be \$40.00 paid in advance on or before the 31st day of December for the upcoming year. Dues are prorated based on the joining month for the duration of the current year.

(A) Any sister member who is admitted to any rest home or is in custodial care or having attained the age of 85 years after being a Sister for 10 years or more shall receive life membership and be exempt from annual dues and assessments.

## Article V - Executive Officers

Section 1. All executive officers are required to attend monthly business meetings.

## Article VI - Appointed Roles and Committees

Section 1. MEC will appoint members. The Visiting Committee shall consist of the regularly elective officials whose duty it shall be to visit or contact community members who may be reported as sick by Temple members.

Section 2. MEC will appoint members. The Welcome Committee shall reach out to new women to the Gaston community, as reported by Temple members, to welcome them and share information about our Temple.

Section 3. MEC will appoint executive leadership roles that are vacated or if no nominations are made during the election cycle.

## Article VII - Funds

Section 1. In lieu of floral offerings requested for funerals of Temple members or their immediate family, a contribution shall be made to the Oregon Pythain College Education Fund in the amounts of \$10.00 for a member and \$5.00 for one of their immediate family (parent, brother, sister, spouse, children, etc).

Section 2. Every member is bound to vote and serve on committees. Volunteer or Special Committees stand discharged without motion, by virtue of the completion of the work for which they were appointed, after payment of debts contracted by them.

Section 3. Dues of members shall be in at the time of initiation, to be paid at the Temple meeting or online the night of the initiation for balance of the year.

Section 4. The Temple shall set aside one meeting in the month of May to commemorate our Wapato Temple #47 Phythian Sisters anniversary.

## Article VIII - Amendments

Section 1. No part of these by-laws shall be repealed, altered or amended except by a two-thirds vote at a business meeting and not until a resolution setting forth the amendment has been submitted in writing (via letter, email, or text) and read at 2 business meetings previous to the meeting that the vote is taken. Amendments become effective after the approval of the Most Excellent Chief.

\_\_\_\_\_ M.E.C. \_\_\_\_\_ Date

\_\_\_\_\_ Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Date

\_\_\_\_\_ Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_ Date