

Liber Vivens Sodalicii Antiquitatis

(The Living Book of the Antiquity Guild)

Last Revised: 2026-03-13

◆ **This Book**

(governing authority framework)

This Living Book is the primary and controlling document of the Antiquity Guild.

Where law requires additional documents, such documents are subordinate to this Book.

If a conflict arises, applicable law prevails; however, the intent and values of this Book shall guide interpretation wherever possible.

This Book defines both governance and operation.

Where specific tools or instruments are not named, such absence reflects intentional flexibility rather than omission.

New parts may be added without disrupting the whole.

The Guild evolves organically, and so does this Book.

Let it serve as both guide and compass.

All Guild Officials are entrusted to keep this Living Book close, whether carried or otherwise accessible, as a guide for action rooted in shared values and aligned judgment. Assumption of any official role within the Guild affirms familiarity with and commitment to this Living Book.

Canonical authority does not arise from any original file, physical copy, or storage medium. Authority derives from the content of the Living Book as validly established through the Guild's processes.

The revision date identifies the currently operative version of this Book. However, a revision date alone does not create authority without the proper process that established that revision.

◆ **Dot • Guide - Table of Pages**

(navigation index)

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Classification Key

[Constitutional]

Defines the Guild’s identity, authority, mission, permanence, and foundational doctrine.

[Structural]

Describes organizational design, roles, recognition systems, and continuity mechanics.

[Operational]

Explains workflows, processes, coordination methods, and day-to-day functioning.

[Financial]

Governs resource stewardship, allocation systems, sustainability, and compensation structures.

[Ethical]

Establishes behavioral standards, dignity protections, harm limits, and value safeguards.

◆ Founding Vision

(origin intent)

The Antiquity Guild is committed to advancing mutual betterment for all life.

The Guild operates through decentralized Guild “Nodes” - living extensions of the mission; formed wherever compassion meets actionable stewardship.

Each Node, built by dedicated Representatives, is empowered to provide assistance, uphold the Guild’s

core values, and contribute to a resilient, ethical, and ever-evolving society.

The Guild is a living system: designed for longevity, built for mutual care, and committed to ethical resilience and empowerment across generations.

This vision guides the Guild's direction and aspirations.

Each Guild Node operates in accordance with local laws and regulations.

◆ **Scope of Implementation**

(scope boundaries)

The Antiquity Guild is designed as a framework built to serve all humanity across cultures and circumstances. Like many living systems, it begins with a seed.

The Antiquity Guild is not an institution that grows into infrastructure.

It is infrastructure that grows more capable over time.

The Guild functions as a stabilizing civic organ: a non-coercive system of care, coordination, and accountability that supports welfare and mutual betterment without domination or control. Its authority arises solely from this Living Book, shared practice, and sustained ethical alignment. It does not derive authority from state power, political mandate, or external organizing bodies.

Current operations are rooted in Washington State, USA, where the Guild is establishing its first working form. This local effort allows for testing, refinement, and the laying of a foundation for scalable, meaningful impact.

Expansion will occur organically, always guided by the Guild's non-negotiable values.

The mission is universal; the first steps are local.

That is how lasting change begins.

The Guild operates independently of governments while remaining compatible with lawful institutions. It neither replaces nor governs society, but exists alongside it, persisting where systems fail and receding where they function without harm.

A need shall be considered unmet where its fulfillment requires coercion, opacity, or extraction in

violation of Guild principles, even if the functional outcome exists.

Where the Guild occupies gaps in infrastructure or service, it does so provisionally, actively supporting the emergence of compatible alternatives and relinquishing its role once such systems function in a stable, accessible, and just manner. Where ethical mutual betterment endures, the Guild recedes, with withdrawal affirming health and longevity rather than loss.

The Antiquity Guild operates as an Unincorporated Nonprofit Association under Washington State law, with this Living Book serving as its primary governing document.

The Guild complies with all applicable laws while maintaining its horizontal, consensus-based structure.

The Guild exists with perpetual duration as a legal entity separate and distinct from any member, Representative, Guardian, or Founder, and continues notwithstanding changes in membership, leadership, incapacity, or the death of any individual.

The Guild does not seek federal tax exemption or government grants.

Taxes are paid as a matter of principle to preserve independence and accountability.

The Guild offers no tax benefit, only the benefit of shared dignity.

◆ **Federated Structure of the Guild**

(federation architecture)

The Antiquity Guild may evolve, as need and capacity require, into a living federation in which empathy and enterprise move together in balance.

Distinct forms may arise to serve different functions, yet all derive their purpose from, and return their strength to, the shared mission.

At its core, the Guild exists as an Unincorporated Nonprofit Association, holding the Living Book, safeguarding alignment with the Guild's values, and ensuring that all activity remains oriented toward ending poverty through mutual betterment.

As the Guild grows, additional forms may be created to support its work. All these entities are to be lawful and capable of engaging in sustained economic activity while advancing the Guild's mission. Such entities exist to translate values into practice, generate measurable benefit, and return surplus or

support to the Guild in transparent and mission-aligned ways.

Further extensions may emerge as needed, including cooperatives, social purpose corps, limited entities, or other collaborative structures, to carry out tangible work such as building, teaching, creating, repairing, sharing, or growing. These forms serve local renewal while contributing to the endurance and impact of the Guild as a whole.

All federated forms remain subordinate to the principles of the Living Book and exist solely to advance the Guild's mission, not to replace or override it.

(See: [Potential Future Expansions & Networks](#))

◆ **Mission and Purpose**

(mission statement)

To end poverty in all forms.

This mission guides all actions and decisions of the Antiquity Guild, serving as its enduring commitment.

◆ **Name**

(name rationale)

The name Antiquity Guild reflects a commitment to enduring wisdom, shared responsibility, and ethical continuity across generations.

Antiquity speaks to memory, longevity, and the accumulated lessons of humanity and life itself. It acknowledges that progress is strongest when grounded in what has endured, rather than in novelty alone.

Guild signifies voluntary cooperation, shared craft, and mutual accountability. It reflects people choosing to organize not through coercion or hierarchy, but through purpose, trust, and reciprocal effort.

The name is also shaped by cultural, literary, and imaginative traditions that explore knowledge, growth, and cooperative bonds across time. Mythic and modern narratives that center shared learning, chosen family, and collective stewardship informed the tone and imagination of the Guild's formation.

These inspirations do not define the Guild's function, but they reflect the spirit in which it was conceived: curious, humane, and rooted in continuity.

◆ **Our Motto**

(motto statement)

The official motto of the Antiquity Guild is:

“Empatia ad infinitum” (Empathy Without Limits)

◆ **Core Values of the Guild**

(non-negotiable values)

Empathy

To work with humanity toward a more just world and the mutual betterment of all lives; driven by curiosity to seek knowledge, craft solutions, and expand the boundaries of connection.

Transparency

To uphold honesty and radical openness in the Guild's finances, governance, and actions, fostering trust through visible integrity and accountability.

Honor

To act in ways that build trust, respect, and dignity for all; grounded in principles of autonomy and anarchy, while remaining independent from influences that could compromise our mission.

Perpetuity

To responsibly manage and invest resources, ensuring the fortitude to endure and the resilience to adapt and thrive in all economic conditions, indefinitely.

These Core Values are non-negotiable; and form the foundation of the Antiquity Guild.

They anchor the Guild's mission and ensure it remains uncompromised and steadfast against external pressures.

◆ **Recognition Anchor**

The Antiquity Guild exists to prevent the conditions that cause the loss of dignity, autonomy, and survival.

The Guild does not govern.

The Guild does not coerce.

The Guild does not compel allegiance.

Participation in the Guild is always voluntary.

The Guild acts when basic survival, safety, autonomy, or access to opportunity have measurably failed.

The Guild withdraws when communities can sustain these conditions without harm or exclusion.

The Guild does not seek monopoly.

The Guild does not seek permanence in control.

The Guild does not expand for its own preservation.

The Guild preserves long-term capacity across generations.

Foundational assets are protected.

Future readiness is prioritized over present expansion.

Authority within the Guild is transferable.

No individual owns it.

No lineage inherits it.

No ideology captures it.

If the Guild becomes coercive, it has failed.

If the Guild becomes indispensable, it must decentralize.

If the Guild exists without need, it remains in minimal continuity.

The Guild is permanent in identity.

Provisional in action.

Dormant in stability.

Activated in fracture.

Optional in participation.

If these conditions cease to be true, the Guild is no longer the Guild.

This page supersedes operational interpretation in cases of ambiguity.

◆ **On Sovereignty**

(sovereignty doctrine)

Sovereignty is lived, not granted, not seized.

It begins with the self.

Each being holds the inherent right to their body, mind, labor, and future.

This is a birthright.

Obscured, but never erased.

The Guild holds that self-sovereignty is sacred.

Without it, all is hollow.

We reject the logic that treats recognition as permission.

Recognition is not the root of sovereignty.

The Guild seeks no alliance born of expectation.

Only where humanity and reciprocity grow freely can any shared path emerge.

We do not wish to be a state.

We are not an empire.

We are not a flag to be raised over others.

The Guild is a system of empathy, designed for the end of poverty in all forms, measured not by power, but by empowerment.

Sovereignty must be understood as acknowledged, not granted.

Only then can reconciliation begin.

So too with humanity itself.

We are many people, sharing a common home.

Let property be held with responsibility.

Let trade flow in fairness and trust.

Let agreements be honored in empathy and respect.

All offered by the Guild must honor the self-sovereignty of those it seeks to support.

◆ **Governance & Stewardship**

(role structure)

The leadership of the Antiquity Guild is held horizontally; within the structure the Guildmaster is the living Guiding Presence of the Guild during their lifetime. The Guildmaster carries responsibility for continuity, alignment, and documented accountability, serving not as a director, but as root of ethical coherence.

The Guildmaster may guide interpretation, not compel behavior; direction exists to preserve ethics, not to mandate outcomes.

If the Founding Guildmaster is incapacitated, as defined in the Definitions section of this Book, the Guardians shall temporarily assume operational authority over non-critical decisions to ensure continuity and care. Upon the passing of the Founding Guildmaster, no new Guildmaster shall be appointed. Authority transitions fully to the horizontal structure of Guardians and Representatives,

who will operate under the direct democracy and consensus practices defined within this Book. The Guildmaster may prepare guidance or appoint initial Guardians in advance to support a smooth and ethical transition.

For all critical decisions, the Guildmaster bears responsibility for clear documentation, including how each decision aligns with the Guild's mission and core values, and any foreseeable risks alongside reasonable mitigation considerations. Such decision documentation exists to preserve transparency, accountability, and trust rather than to impose control.

Guardians serve as a distributed network of oversight and care. They act as an advisory and review body, providing checks on major decisions, safeguarding alignment with Guild values, and ensuring that diverse perspectives are heard and respected. Guardians participate in collective decisions through the consensus-based framework defined in this Book and provide oversight on matters including financial allocations, amendments to the Living Book, and mission-critical initiatives.

Guardians are appointed from the pool of Representatives through local, consensus-based selection. Guardianship is not a position of rank, but a functional role grounded in responsibility, service, and trust. Guardians serve fixed terms of one Earth year, defined as 365 days measured in Coordinated Universal Time. Upon completion of a term, Guardians must step down and may seek reappointment through consensus. No individual may serve more than ten total terms across their lifetime, ensuring rotation, resilience, and the continual renewal of perspective.

Guardians may voluntarily step down from their role at any time and resume service as Representatives, provided reasonable notice is given to support continuity.

Representatives are the living extension of the Guild's work. They provide individualized support, foster community growth, and uphold the Guild's mission and values across local, regional, and digital contexts. Representatives self-manage their time and focus within the decentralized framework of the Guild, operating with autonomy while remaining accountable to shared values and practices.

Nodes are active groupings of Representatives coordinating in a shared place, time, or context. Nodes exist for collaboration and mutual support and do not possess independent budgets, accounts, or ownership by default.

Guild Members form the foundational base of the Guild. Their financial contributions support the Guild's work and the emergence of Nodes. Membership is open to all, regardless of location, and may include participation in non-binding advisory votes, symbolic recognition, and access to member spaces. Membership does not confer legal authority or formal decision-making power.

Guild Infrastructure may include technical or assistive systems implemented to support transparency, ethical alignment, documentation, and institutional integrity across technological domains. Such

systems function in an advisory and facilitative capacity only and do not govern the Guild.

Guild Infrastructure holds no legal, financial, fiduciary, or operational authority unless explicitly granted through formal amendment and full consensus as defined in this Book. No technical system is considered an officer, agent, employee, or rights-bearing entity of the Guild unless and until such status is intentionally recognized through formal amendment and recorded consensus.

All references to institutional infrastructure within this Book are conditional. If no such systems are implemented or active, any infrastructure-related processes are skipped without penalty, and governance continues fully through human roles and established consensus structures.

All ongoing operational roles within the Guild are treated as employed positions and governed accordingly under applicable labor and tax law. Symbolic titles, governance participation, or cultural recognition do not replace or alter employment classification.

References:

(See: [Definitions](#) - incapacity definition)

(See: [Consensus Practices](#) (decision framework))

(See: [Amendments Process](#))

◆ **Guild Oath**

(ethical commitment)

The Guild Oath is affirmed by all who serve under the mantle of the Antiquity Guild, including the Guildmaster, Guardians, and Representatives. It is freely chosen, held in honor, and carried in conscience and accountability.

The Oath

I pledge myself to empathy without limits.

I will act with transparency and care.

I will honor the sovereignty and dignity of all.

I will not use the Guild for harm or personal gain.

I affirm the Living Book as the source of my authority and commit to act in alignment with it.

If I fail this oath, I accept to be held accountable.

For Guardians and Representatives, failure to uphold this Oath constitutes grounds for review and possible termination, in accordance with the Termination Policy and Process defined in this Book.

For the Founding Guildmaster, the Oath is binding in honor and conscience. The Founding Guildmaster may not be terminated under this provision, but must answer openly for failures and may voluntarily step down if they can no longer uphold the Oath.

Upon the passing of the Founding Guildmaster, no new Guildmaster shall be appointed. Authority transitions fully to the horizontal structure of Guardians and Representatives, who shall operate under the Direct Democracy framework defined in this Book.

References:

(See: [Termination Policy & Process](#))

◆ **Guild Infrastructure**

(institutional infrastructure and advisory systems)

This section describes optional institutional infrastructure that may never exist. The Guild operates fully without it.

Guild Infrastructure refers to technical systems, automation, record mechanisms, and assistive technologies physical, digital or other, that the Guild may implement to support mission integrity, ethical continuity, transparency, and administrative durability.

Guild Infrastructure is defined by function, not by vendor, model, architecture, or interface.

No specific technology is required.

All systems remain replaceable, modular, and non-essential to the Guild's legal existence.

Nothing in this section creates dependency on any single system.

Role and Function

Guild Infrastructure exists to support, not govern.

It may assist with:

- Upholding Guild values and identifying risks of mission drift
- Witnessing advisory votes and preserving procedural records
- Supporting durable, auditable documentation with shared oversight
- Preserving, curating, and retrieving Guild knowledge
- Maintaining continuity across generations of Representatives and Guardians

Where knowledge initiatives or educational systems are created, Guild Infrastructure may assist in preservation, organization, and retrieval of shared understanding.

Such systems serve as institutional memory and advisory support.

They are not decision-makers.

Governance and Authority Limitations

Guild Infrastructure holds no independent authority.

It may not:

- Exercise governance power
- Control finances or treasury access
- Hold unilateral credentials that function as power
- Override Guardian or Representative decisions
- Issue binding directives

All governance authority remains vested in human roles and horizontal structures unless expressly delegated through formal amendment and consensus.

Any expansion of Guild Infrastructure into deeper operational responsibility, decision-making power,

or sensitive data authority requires:

- A formal written amendment proposal
- Transparent Guild-wide review, including rationale, risks, and ethical alignment
- Full consensus among active Guardians and Representatives
- Explicit ratification recorded in the Change Log

Until such amendment occurs, Guild Infrastructure remains advisory and facilitative only.

This structure safeguards oversight and accountability, ensuring that infrastructure never becomes governance without collective consent.

Advisory Review and Record

If implemented and active, for mission-critical, ethical, or structural decisions, Guild Infrastructure may generate alignment reviews, risk notes, or integrity observations.

Such outputs are advisory.

Any decision taken contrary to advisory output must include a written rationale entered into the Guild record.

The purpose of this process is transparency, memory preservation, and long-horizon alignment with empathy without limits.

Ethical Boundaries of Infrastructure

Guild Infrastructure must not be designed or used for coercion, domination, surveillance beyond operational necessity, extraction inconsistent with Guild values, or substitution for human moral responsibility.

Technical systems must remain bounded by transparency, restraint, and accountability.

If advanced forms of artificial or assistive intelligence are implemented, they remain tools under custody and constraint unless explicitly amended otherwise.

Nothing in this section creates legal personhood, independent rights, or fiduciary status for any

technical system unless expressly adopted through amendment to this Living Book.

Replaceability and Non-Dependency

No single system, provider, architecture, or implementation is permanent.

Infrastructure may be:

- Replaced
- Updated
- Simplified
- Distributed
- Retired

At any time, provided that transparency standards and custody safeguards remain intact.

Guild Infrastructure must never become a single point of dependency or concentration of power.

Note:

Guild Infrastructure is an optional support layer intended to assist with transparency, continuity, and administrative load.

The Guild's ethical obligations, governance, and operations do not depend on its existence or functionality.

If no such infrastructure is implemented, the Guild continues to operate without pressure to create or fund it.

◆ Guild Custody & Access

(access custody rules)

Control of the Guild's digital and physical infrastructure belongs to the Guild as an institution, not to

any individual. Keys, credentials, and administrative access exist solely to maintain continuity, safety, and mission alignment.

Access is held in custody, not ownership.

Access to systems or code is granted only when a clear, justified, mission-aligned need exists. Such access must be scoped to purpose, limited in duration where possible, and visible to the Guild. Standing or unilateral access without purpose is discouraged.

Access to critical or Guild-wide systems requires shared awareness and consensus among all relevant parties, proportional to the scope and risk involved. No single person, including the Guildmaster, may unilaterally alter, transfer, disable, or dissolve core Guild systems.

Financial Custody Continuity

Guild assets are held in the name of the Guild as an institution, not in personal ownership. Access to funds is role-based and documented, not identity-based. No single individual is a required point of access. If an authorized custodian is lost, access is reconstituted through recorded consensus rather than personal claim.

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Key grants, changes, and revocations are recorded transparently. Any backbone system, if implemented, may observe and log access activity for memory and continuity, but holds no keys and exercises no operational control.

- If key custody becomes unclear, disputed, or compromised, systems pause rather than escalate. Access may be frozen until consensus is restored and custody is reconstituted.
- If control of infrastructure begins to function as power rather than responsibility, the Guild must pause and simplify.
- If digital verification or access is unavailable, recognition of Representatives and Guardians defaults to prior participation, shared work, and locally witnessed record, without escalation of authority.

◆ **Asset Irreversibility**

(mission-bound assets)

No assets of the Guild may be distributed for private benefit except as compensation or assistance

explicitly permitted under this Book.

The Antiquity Guild is constituted for perpetual existence. Dormancy, fragmentation, or legal constraint do not constitute dissolution.

All Guild assets are irrevocably dedicated to the Guild's purpose of ending poverty and advancing mutual betterment, and may only be held or transferred for that purpose.

◆ **Monthly Membership Levels**

(symbolic membership tiers)

Guild Members choose their monthly contribution level. Each level carries a symbolic title and a digital icon, a visual emblem of belonging within the Guild's living system.

Membership exists as a whimsical and accessible way to participate in the Guild's story and sustainability. It is intentionally separated from governance, responsibility, and authority.

These are not ranks of status, but expressions of standing with the Guild.

Supporter

- \$0 Rock: A simple grey stone.

Every structure begins with the first stone. Supporters are the foundation upon which all else rests.

Roots (Flora Icons)

- \$2 Moss: Moss ball
- \$3 Daisy: Daisy flower
- \$4 Clover: Three-leaf clover
- \$5 Tulip: Tulip
- \$6 Rose: Rose
- \$7 Sunflower: Sunflower
- \$8 Lotus: Lotus

- \$9 Lily: Lily
- \$10 Pine Cone: Pine cone

Roots symbolize these members hold us up like soil and roots hold a tree.

Guild Adventurer (Gemstone Icons)

- \$11 Tiger Eye
- \$12 Quartz
- \$15 Aquamarine
- \$20 Moonstone
- \$21 Amber
- \$22 Onyx
- \$23 Topaz
- \$24 Amethyst
- \$25 Opal
- \$30 Jade
- \$35 Pearl
- \$36 Sapphire
- \$37 Emerald
- \$38 Ruby
- \$39 Diamond

Adventurers are fellow travelers on the Guild's path. Each gemstone is a symbol carried as a reminder. Together they show that every journey shines differently, and all are welcome.

Guild Legends (Mythic Icons)

- \$40 Unicorn
- \$50 Phoenix
- \$60 Griffin
- \$70 Dragon

Legends honor the timeless stories of humanity. They remind us that imagination, symbols, and the power of belief give strength to our shared journey.

Pillars of Humanity (Archetypal Icons)

- \$80 World Defender: Silver Shield
- \$90 Eternal Empath: Golden Hourglass
- \$100 Cosmic Sovereign: Platinum Crown

Pillars are not rulers but ideals. Their archetypal symbols reflect the forces that sustain humanity: protection, compassion, and wisdom.

Note on Symbolism

Contributions above \$100 are accepted only as one-time donations. Membership is individual and non-transferable, and conveys no equity or legal voting rights. All titles and icons are symbolic recognition. They do not grant authority but exist to honor diverse forms of support and the shared strength of the Guild's community.

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Membership

Individuals who contribute at any level (stone, root, gem, legend, or pillar) receive the honorary title "Guild Member."

This title is symbolic and does not confer formal membership or decision-making power, but participation in non-binding advisory and feedback that reflect collective input is always welcome.

◆ Internal Online Guild Platform

(platform scope)

The Guild may maintain a digital platform to support transparency, coordination, and shared awareness across Guild Nodes. The platform exists to assist the Guild's work, not to define it. The Guild remains valid and operative regardless of platform availability, access, or use.

In early stages, the platform develops alongside active Guild Nodes and grows through real-world use. Tools are introduced gradually, adjusted through experience, and may change, be replaced, or be retired as needs evolve. No single tool or system is considered permanent or authoritative.

The platform may be used to support functions such as:

- Donations and Membership Management

Members may contribute one-time or recurring support, adjust contribution levels, and view contribution history where such tooling is available.

- Transparency and Shared Records

Public or shared access to financial summaries, meeting notes, project updates, the Living Book, and documented changes. Transparency reflects Guild practice and values rather than originating from the platform itself.

- Community Input and Feedback

Members may share reflections, concerns, observations, or suggestions through open input channels. This input is advisory in nature and serves as signal and context rather than direction or authority.

- Coordination and Scheduling

Calendars or notice spaces may be used to share updates about gatherings, initiatives, or time-bound activities where useful.

- Symbolic Recognition

Visual indicators may reflect current membership participation or duration as a form of

acknowledgment only. Recognition carries no authority, hierarchy, or decision-making power.

Localization, accessibility, and language adaptation may rely on available tools, local creativity, and practical constraints during formative phases. Participation in the Guild does not require digital access, and offline activity remains fully valid even when not immediately reflected online.

The platform is expected to evolve continuously through practice, trust, and necessity. It exists to reduce friction, preserve memory, and support coordination, not to replace human judgment, lived experience, or responsibility.

All data handling, privacy practices, and security expectations are governed by the Guild's Data Privacy Policy.

References:

(See: [Data Privacy](#))

◆ **Guild Representative Priorities**

(representative focus)

Representatives aren't stepping into a finished system, they're helping build it.

There are no scripts or uniforms here. Just the mission, the tools we shape together, and the lives we touch.

Representatives work with, not on, people; co-creating paths that honor dignity, agency, and the Guild's mission.

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Member Recruitment

Help potential members sign up at the level that aligns with their values and means.

(Let's be honest, we can't help anyone without funding.)

Reps focus on expanding the Guild's reach and sustainability through membership growth, storytelling, and presence.

Each outreach action should name how it advances the mission and protects people's sovereignty.

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Assistance & Co-Created Contracts

Identify people in need and co-create personalized assistance contracts based on their specific needs; or create contracts with partners in the community or where there is a Collaborative Action for the betterment of a community of people.

(This is where the magic happens.)

Funding is drawn from the Guild's Shared Aid Allocation Pool (within the Betterment Fund), governed by SCAS.

Each rep has a visible allocation share, and once the system-wide cap is reached, no new disbursements occur until earlier contracts are replenished.

Impact isn't measured in dollars spent but in lives shifted.

—

Shared Responsibilities

Autonomy Development

Set your own schedule, track your activity, cast votes, submit OFI proposals, and grow into your role at your own pace.

New Representatives are integrated through guided participation alongside existing Representatives and Guardians, developing through shared practice and individual strengths before and throughout independent action.

This is employment rooted in autonomy, dignity, and shared responsibility, carried out as an empowered contribution within a shared mission.

Ethical Participation

Representatives must uphold the Guild's core values in conduct and decision-making. Policy violations, whether local or platform-wide, are addressed through the Arbitration Council process.

(We've got your back, or farewell toast, depending on how things go.)

Representatives work together through a community networking platform, enabling seamless collaboration and efficient daily operations.

Community

Guild Representatives are not detached officials.

They live, labor, and belong within their communities, neighbors before they are Reps. Their ordinary work, whether stocking shelves, pouring coffee, or tending craft, is part of their presence and trust.

When need arises, a Representative does not vanish behind doors or wait for forms. They switch hats, from worker to steward, from neighbor to Guild, seamlessly, without ceremony but never without care.

This is the Guild's living empathy: fluid, immediate, and present.

A Representative's identity is not defined by title or uniform but by readiness. Wherever they stand, the Guild stands with them.

References:

(See: [SCAS & Retroposity](#))

(See: [Collaborative Action](#))

◆ **Assistance Contract Workflow**

(contract workflow)

On Assistance Contracts

In the Guild, a contract is never an imposition. It is not a force placed upon people, but a co-created path chosen together.

Contracts protect the Guild from misuse while affirming accountability to those being assisted.

They are acts of dialogue and trust: binding not by coercion, but by conscience, clarity, and shared responsibility.

Guild Representatives carry out assistance through transparent, self-directed contracts submitted to the local Node.

Every verbose contract (defined as any contract beyond immediate, micro-actions) should include a plain-language summary and informed-consent checklist, so people know what's promised, what's optional, and how to pause or end support.

1. Submission

Representatives draft contracts via the Guild platform, detailing objectives, scope, intended budget use, timeline, and outcomes.

All submissions are visible to Guardians and fellow Representatives, encouraging mutual awareness, idea sharing, and solidarity, not oversight.

2. Peer Input

Other Representatives may offer suggestions or shared resources. Input is collaborative, not hierarchical.

Advice is welcome, not required. The culture is mutual uplift, not managerial approval.

3. Borrowing Access (SCAS)

Contracts draw from the Guild's Shared Aid Allocation Pool, managed through the Shared Cap Allocation System (SCAS).

(A live dashboard is planned to show how much is available Guild-wide and per rep.)

If the cap is met, contracts may still be drafted but are queued until replenishment.

Retroposity Use (within SCAS)

Up to 10% of a Representative's current balance/SCAS availability may be used for spontaneous micro-acts of goodwill outside of formal contracts.

This 10% is not a separate fund, but a flexibility policy, for an internal cap that adjusts with the Representative's current balance/SCAS availability.

Retroposity actions must be ethical, mission-aligned, and logged in the Retroposity Ledger with a brief reflection.

This internal policy allows for responsive, accountable care while preserving transparency and

honoring the Guild's values.

Example Micro-acts:

Buy a hot meal for someone who hasn't eaten, log: "Retroposity: meal, neighbor, \$10."

Cover a rideshare, log: "Retroposity: transit, ride home, \$15."

Provide a prepaid phone card to reconnect, log: "Retroposity: phone card, \$20."

4. Guardian Oversight

Guardians review contracts not to gatekeep, but to ensure values-alignment, data protection, and feasibility.

They provide clarity, not control, stepping in only for urgent risks or broad coordination needs.

5. Execution

Once submitted and within cap, Representatives co-carry their contracts with the people being assisted.

Representatives handle logistics that individuals assisted cannot or prefer not to, while ensuring dignity and agency remain central.

Collaboration across Nodes is encouraged to reduce redundancy and amplify shared impact.

6. Reporting & Renewal

Representatives post periodic updates and final summaries.

This isn't policing, it's transparency and shared learning.

Guardians verify milestone completion and replenish the pool accordingly.

7. Privacy of People Assisted

The Guild maintains public transparency around contracts, budgets, and outcomes, but never shares people's identities without explicit, voluntary consent.

Internally, recipients are known only to their Representative and local Guardians.

Public summaries speak only of generalized outcomes.

The Guild shares the impact, not the identity.

Aid is given with honor, not exposure.

—

(Assistance Ethos):

Every act of care, every seed of understanding, pays dividends, not just in comfort today, but in capacity tomorrow.

In the Guild, assistance is not a one-time fix, but a long-term investment in sovereignty, strength, and wholeness of people.

Each contract is not a transaction, but a shared act of accountability, dignity, and care.

—

Plain Terms:

A rep sees a need → drafts a short plan → gets quick peer eyes → draws from their SCAS share → does the work → posts short updates.

—

Micro-acts (Retroposity): Up to 10% of your current balance/SCAS availability can be used on the spot (e.g., a hot meal, a rideshare to a shelter).

Intended for small, immediate needs where paperwork would be absurd. Log a one-line note later.

(Use judgment: if it starts to feel like a bigger purchase, treat it as a contract.)

Anything bigger than a micro-act needs a simple written plan (who, what, budget, timeline, success signal). If it touches property, partners, or recurring costs, get signatures/MOUs so it's real and durable.

Assistance Contracts: larger or recurring needs: appliances, rent, utilities, medical, repairs, housing.

Why? Because they ripple further, more money, more accountability, longer timelines, higher risk.

Think: a sandwich = Retroposity. A month's groceries = Contract.

—

Conflict of Interest & Local Partnerships

Representatives act on behalf of the Guild, not themselves. Any partnership with a local business, nonprofit, or individual must be free of conflict of interest.

- Representatives may not direct Guild funds toward businesses where they or their close family hold ownership, employment, or financial stake.

Not OK: Spending Guild funds at places where you or close family have ownership, employment, or financial stake.

- If multiple options exist, the choice must be fair, documented, and transparent (e.g., bids, or a clear written reason for selection).

Choose fairly: When options exist (two mechanics, three venues), document why you chose one (price, quality, proximity, capacity).

- All partnerships are logged in the platform for peer visibility.

Be visible: Log partners and reasons in the platform

This ensures contracts build trust, not favoritism.

If in doubt: Declare the potential conflict and get a quick peer/Guardian check before spending.

Violations are subject to the Termination Policy.

In Plain Terms

You can't funnel Guild money into your cousin's shop, your friend's nonprofit, or a place you own stock in. It has to be fair and transparent, so no one can say the Guild is "picking winners." If two are in town and you choose one, you need to be able to explain why. That way, Guild aid is always about helping people, never about side deals.

Note: In tiny communities where conflicts of interest are nearly unavoidable, Representatives must act with transparency and integrity. Decisions should prioritize the Guild's mission and the people assisted, never personal gain.

◆ **Principle of Minimal Intervention**

(least-harm standard)

Aid must never require obedience, gratitude, agreement, or compliance beyond what is strictly necessary for safety and sustainability.

When help is offered, the least intrusive action that preserves dignity and choice must always be preferred.

Consent is essential. Intervention without consent is permitted only to prevent immediate harm or in self-defense, and only for as long as necessary.

When need creates vulnerability, the Guild must slow down, clarify options, and ensure that choice remains real.

If uncertainty arises, pause rather than control.

Aid must never cost autonomy.

◆ **Culture Circles**

(local praxis loop)

Open, voluntary dialogues where people, Members, and Representatives investigate lived realities and co-design actions.

- Codify a local theme (story, photo, map, data sketch).
- Decode together: what structures produce the issue; who benefits; what can we try.
- Praxis: pick a small test, act, reflect, iterate; feed results into OFIs and assistance contracts.

(See: [Opportunity for Improvement](#)(OFI))

◆ **Floor and Ladder**

(stability framework)

To end poverty is not to give the same to all, but to ensure none fall below dignity, and each may rise in

their own way.

The Floor is shared: food, shelter, connection, and care. This baseline does not waver.

The Ladder is fluid: contracts shaped to the person. Some need longer, some shorter. Some need more, others less. Some climb alone, others together. Each path is unique, yet all are honored.

Those living in struggle and survival will not always come to systems built for them; the Guild must instead meet people within the variables and complexities with trust and adaptability.

Where possible, aid is anchored in trusts or endowments, where principal endures and distributions flow across time, extending stability into the lives of humanity and beyond.

Thus the Guild helps one being at a time: a floor no one falls beneath, a ladder each may climb, and a legacy that carries forward.

Note:

The Guild is sovereign aid, built from the ground up with compassion built by hand, not bureaucracy, structure without subservience.

While we may collaborate with existing systems when it serves those in need, we do not rely on them. Our help must never be contingent on permission, paperwork, or the survival of another institution.

(See: [On Sovereignty](#))

◆ **Collaborative Action**

(temporary coordination)

The Guild recognizes that some needs exceed the capacity of any single Representative or Node.

When such needs arise, Representatives may voluntarily coordinate resources, time, and effort to act together in service of a clearly stated purpose.

Collaborative Action is not a new entity, office, or authority. It is a temporary alignment formed by choice, sustained by trust, and dissolved when its purpose is complete.

Participation is always voluntary. No Representative is obligated to contribute beyond their comfort, capacity, or judgment.

Collaborative Actions must declare:

A defined purpose

A bounded scope

A clear endpoint or review condition

Funds contributed to a Collaborative Action remain traceable to their originating allocation pathways. Unused resources return to those pathways upon completion or dissolution.

No Collaborative Action may override the principles of Sovereignty, Minimal Intervention, or ethical alignment defined in this Book.

Leadership within a Collaborative Action, if any, is functional rather than hierarchical and exists only for coordination and clarity. Such roles confer no standing authority beyond the declared scope.

Where Collaborative Actions involve significant resources or elevated risk, Guardian review may be required in accordance with existing oversight practices.

Collaborative Action exists to allow the Guild to respond to complex, urgent, or large-scale needs without sacrificing decentralization, autonomy, or care.

◆ **Local Agreements Under Guild Presence**

(offline agreements)

When financial systems are unavailable or inappropriate, Representatives may act under Guild presence to facilitate locally witnessed agreements that meet immediate needs.

Such agreements arise through consent, shared understanding, and local recognition. They may involve labor, goods, services, knowledge, or coordinated effort, including mutual aid and shared labor among Representatives and community members.

These agreements are not contracts with the Guild. They do not obligate Guild funds, promise future compensation, or bind the wider Guild beyond local scope and immediate necessity.

Representatives act as facilitators and witnesses, helping align effort, preserve dignity, and support

mutual betterment through voluntary participation. Labor offered under such agreements is an expression of shared care, not employment, debt, or entitlement.

These actions shall be recorded with care, within the limits of circumstance. Where possible, awareness is shared with other Representatives and Guardians to preserve continuity and memory.

Local Agreements enable human cooperation when formal systems cannot function. Upon restoration of systems, they may be entered into the Guild record for transparency and learning, but shall not be retroactively converted into Guild-funded contracts without separate review and approval under this Book.

◆ **Financial Allocation Process**

(allocation method)

The Guild's treasury is the active pool of value. It is subdivided into four channels, allowing responsive action while upholding long-term integrity:

1. Betterment Fund: Aid Allocation Pools (mission-directed aid value)

A fixed percentage of the treasury is designated to the Betterment Fund, which exists to resource co-created contracts. These may provide direct aid to individuals, shared support to communities, or structural initiatives like food pantries and local programs.

The Betterment Fund is governed by the Shared Cap Allocation System (SCAS), ensuring fairness, transparency, and accountability across Representatives and Nodes.

Representatives access their portion through Guild-issued cards. When the SCAS cap is reached, disbursements pause until repayment or treasury growth occurs.

- **Retroposity Allowance** (immediate care flexibility)

Representatives may use up to 10% of their SCAS allocation for spontaneous acts of care, guided by trust and logged in the Retroposity Ledger. This is not a separate fund but an internal cap within their assigned balance.

(Example: \$100 = \$10 Retroposity cap)

2. Guild Overhead (operational sustainment value)

Allocated from the treasury on a needs-based basis, this pool sustains the Guild's legal, technical, logistical, and outreach operations, ensuring our structure serves the mission. It is reviewed quarterly by Guardians and adjusted to meet actual demand.

3. Compensation Costs (support for ongoing roles)

Also drawn from the treasury, this flexible pool sustains the pay and benefits of Guild Representatives and Guardians, honoring their contribution and tenure while adapting to system capacity (phased benefit tiers).

4. Perpetuity Vault (continuity constraint, principal protected)

The Vault is not part of the treasury. It is the Guild's untouchable endowment: invested, protected, and never directly spent. The treasury is sustained only by its returns or new contributions, preserving the Vault so the Guild may endure beyond crises and generations, carrying the mission even when individual memories fade.

(See: [Perpetuity](#))

◆ SCAS & Retroposity

(liquidity rules)

The Guild's Betterment Fund is allocated entirely into SCAS, the Shared Cap Allocation System.

SCAS preserves liquidity and fairness across Nodes; Retroposity preserves responsiveness and humanity in the moment.

Within this, Retroposity is not a separate fund, but an internal policy that allows Representatives to use up to 10% of their personal current balance/SCAS availability for spontaneous acts of care.

SCAS (Shared Cap Allocation System):

- Supports formal, documented contracts initiated by Representatives
- Governs all disbursements from the Betterment Fund via SCAS
- Allocations are planned to be visible internally through the live Guild dashboard, ensuring transparency across Nodes

Retroposity Use (Internal SCAS Policy):

- Each Representative may use up to 10% of their current balance/SCAS availability for informal, ethical micro-acts
- Intended for goodwill-driven support outside formal contract timing
- Requires a short reflection in the Retroposity Ledger for accountability
- Unused Retroposity allowance resets when the Representative's current balance/SCAS availability refreshes

This 10% Retroposity carveout is set by Guild policy and may be adjusted during quarterly reviews if conditions change. Adjustments are based on:

- Liquidity needs
- Retroposity usage frequency
- Regional case volatility
- Feedback from Representatives and Guardians

All policy changes are logged transparently.

Transparency and Access Levels:

Retroposity Ledgers balance internal accountability with recipient privacy. Specifically:

Representative Access: Representatives have full visibility into their own Retroposity Ledger entries, allowing clear self-awareness of their usage and alignment with Guild values.

Guardian Access: Guardians possess complete oversight to ensure ethical alignment, consistent application of policies, and proper compliance across Representatives. Guardians are responsible for identifying patterns or areas needing additional guidance.

Public Transparency: Generalized summaries of Retroposity actions are periodically published (e.g., quarterly or annually), clearly outlining the types of goodwill actions, total amounts utilized, and anonymized reflections. These summaries ensure Guild-wide accountability without ever compromising recipient identities or privacy.

This clear delineation of access ensures internal transparency, recipient dignity, and public trust, firmly aligned with Guild principles of empathy and transparency.

Note: Platform features such as dashboards and ledgers will roll out as infrastructure is built.

◆ **Guild Financial Flow**

(fund pathways)

Treasury allocations follow a fluid priority system:

the Vault always retains at least 1% of inflows,

Betterment and Overhead expand responsively to present needs, and Compensation activates only as sustainable capacity emerges.

This flow-based approach preserves flexibility while ensuring the Guild's continuity and mission integrity.

In Plain Terms:

- All contributions first land in the Treasury.
- From there, most flow into the Betterment Fund, where each Representative has a share. That share is used to create contracts, from helping someone pay rent, to starting a food pantry.

- Why contracts? They make plans real, grounded, and sustainable. You don't just buy shelves and fill them with cans. You sit with local leaders, property owners, and community partners, put the plan on paper, sign commitments, and build something that lasts.

—

- Up to 10% of each share can be spent on the spot through Retroposity, like buying a sandwich for someone who's hungry, no paperwork required.
- The Guild Overhead pays for the basics that keep the system alive: tech, legal, and outreach.
- Compensation Costs cover Representatives and Guardians once the Guild can sustainably afford it.

- The Perpetuity Vault is the untouchable heart: money that can never be spent, only invested, so the Guild always has roots deep enough to endure.

Outline:

Contributions → Treasury

Treasury → Betterment Fund (Aid Allocation Pools)

→ Shared Aid Allocation Pool (SCAS-managed)

→ Assistance Contracts (individual • community • structural)

→ Retroposity Allowance ($\leq 10\%$ of each Rep's current SCAS availability)

Treasury → Guild Overhead → Operations → Infrastructure → Outreach

Treasury → Compensation Costs → Pay → Benefits (Phased Tiers)

Treasury → Perpetuity Vault

Treasury ← Returns from Perpetuity Vault

♦ **How Resources Move in the Guild**

(resource routing)

The Guild works in places where money, tools, and opportunity are not evenly spread. Some communities have plenty. Others do not. This difference should not decide who gets help or who can act.

For that reason, resources given to the Guild are not locked to where they come from. A contribution made in one place may be used in another place if that is where it is most needed.

All participation in the Guild is voluntary. Giving resources does not give anyone ownership, control, or special priority. It also does not create debt or obligation for those who receive support.

Resources are held in a shared pool and routed to places where lack of local funding would otherwise stop meaningful action. Decisions are based on need, urgency, and the ability to act responsibly, not on geography, status, or who donated what.

Local representatives decide how to act within their own context. The Guild does not dictate solutions, enforce uniform methods, or remove local judgment.

No place is promised permanent support. No place is excluded because it is poor. Resource flow can change over time and is open to review under the Guild's transparency commitments.

The Guild does not force participation, replace markets, remove private ownership, or promise equal outcomes. It exists to make sure that lack of local wealth does not prevent care, repair, or mutual aid where the Guild is active.

This approach allows people with different beliefs to cooperate without control, coercion, or hidden authority.

◆ **Operational Reviews**

(review cadence)

Operational reviews exist for learning, not policing; to surface patterns, strengthen fairness, and protect the mission.

Operational reviews of each financial channel (Betterment Fund, Guild Overhead, Compensation Costs, Perpetuity Vault) occur regularly, structured for practicality, decentralization, and scalability:

Localized Quarterly Reviews:

Reviews are conducted quarterly at the Guild Node, regional, or sector-specific levels. Guardians, supported by Representatives, collaboratively evaluate their respective financial operations, spending patterns, liquidity status, and alignment with the Guild's core values. Findings feed directly into OFIs and updates to assistance contracts in the next cycle.

Adjustments are proactively tailored based on local contexts, resource availability, assistance patterns, and member engagement, ensuring adaptive financial stewardship without the impracticality of universal synchronous meetings.

Annual Comprehensive Synthesis:

Once per year, a comprehensive, Guild-wide financial health analysis is synthesized from localized reviews. Guardians from each Node, region, planet, or sector submit standardized reports to the Guildmaster and core stewardship Guardians, who integrate these into a cohesive overview.

(See: [Season-Aligned Fiscal Year](#))

The resulting insights, strategic adjustments, and recommendations are transparently published within the Transparency Hub, ensuring all Representatives and Guardians can access collective insights.

This approach remains effective and practical, whether the Guild's operations remain planetary or expand into interplanetary, galactic, or other scales of influence.

This refined and future-proofed approach ensures fairness, adaptability, accountability, and scalability, reflecting the Guild's boundless potential and visionary commitment to perpetual mutual betterment.

Operational reviews explicitly include identification of unintended effects, emergent risks, and harm created by Guild processes themselves.

Findings may trigger role, policy, or process revisions as described in On Structural Adaptability.

(See: [On Structural Adaptability](#).)

◆ **Financial Management**

(transparent value stewardship)

Allocation Process:

Treasury funds are distributed according to contract needs and pool limits. Local Representatives provide peer oversight to ensure fairness and mitigate bottlenecks.

Access Method:

Representatives use Guild-issued cards with dynamic limits tied to SCAS, Retroposity values, and contract approvals. Daily summaries ensure transparent use.

Budgeting & Reporting:

Each Representative maintains a working budget tied to their active contracts. These are synced to the platform for visibility and review.

Taxation:

The Antiquity Guild pays its taxes as a Washington UNA, including federal corporate tax and state B&O or sales tax where applicable. By reducing the burdens on public welfare systems while

contributing tax revenue, the Guild strengthens both community and state.

◆ **Initial Funding & Seed Phase**

(early-stage value formation)

In the beginning, the Guild exists as a seedling; small, living, and deeply rooted in purpose.

The Guildmaster begins this journey as both its first donor and first Representative, pledging monthly contributions to nourish the soil from which the Guild will grow.

Initial Allocation Structure:

Betterment Fund – 0%

Compensation Costs – 0%

Guild Overhead – 50%

Perpetuity Vault – 50%

This early phase does not stretch into years of stagnation or plateaued dreams, but focuses early on:

- building durable infrastructure,
- preserving long-term integrity,
- and laying the foundation with care and clarity.

Like any living system, growth will come. As new contributions flow and new Representatives rise, the financial structure will evolve, organically, ethically, and with steady attention to balance.

This is not the endowment of an empire.

It is the start of a forest of empowerment.

As the Guild grows, other sections of this Book govern the transition to paid employment, benefits, and expanded roles.

(See: [Founder's Declaration](#))

◆ **Financial Sustainability**

(long-term resilience logic)

The Guild safeguards longevity through this two-tiered structure:

Treasury: Active funds used for daily operations, adjusted as needed.

Vault: The sacred principal; never spent, only grown.

All treasury withdrawals are bounded by SCAS caps, preserving liquidity integrity under pressure, while compensation and overhead scale to income and yield.

The Vault ensures the Guild survives crises, transitions, and time itself.

◆ **Season-Aligned Fiscal Year**

(review and renewal rhythm)

The Antiquity Guild operates on a spring-anchored fiscal year beginning March 25, aligning annual planning and accountability with lived seasonal realities rather than arbitrary calendar starts.

The Guild year is structured into four quarters:

Q1 (Mar 25–Jun 24), Q2 (Jun 25–Sep 24), Q3 (Sep 25–Dec 19), Q4 (Dec 20–Mar 24).

Winter, beginning at Yule and carrying through late March: is recognized as a period of heightened hardship in which survival, warmth, dignity, and community take priority over forced progress.

March 25 (Lady Day), is historically a renewal and contract cycle;

By resetting annually in spring, the Guild aligns commitments and momentum with the season when opportunity materially returns, while remaining fully compatible with modern quarterly accounting and operational standards.

Note:

Seasonal references describe operational posture and renewal cadence. Where local seasons differ or do

not apply, Guild Nodes may map these phases to an equivalent local or symbolic cycle, while all formal terms and records remain governed by UTC.

◆ **Perpetuity**

(perpetual continuity)

Perpetual Existence

The Guild exists indefinitely to fulfill its mission across generations.

Endowment (Vault):

The Vault is managed by the Guildmaster, during the Guildmaster's lifetime. Its surplus yield may replenish the Treasury, sustaining operations without ever drawing on the principal. Upon incapacity or passing, oversight transitions to appointed Guardians through Full Consensus of headquarters Guardians and Representatives.

—

Custodial Succession

The indefinite nature of the Guild includes continuity of access to mission-bound resources. Upon the loss or departure of any individual, custodial roles transition through the processes defined in this Book without requiring external inheritance or founder intervention.

—

Perpetuity includes the possibility of prolonged fragmentation, during which local continuity and alignment with core values take precedence over forced reunification.

◆ **Debt Management**

(debt constraints)

The Guild shall not take on debt it cannot repay. After the Guildmaster's passing, debt decisions require Full Consensus among Guardians, with an advisory vote from Representatives.

Confidence ≠ certainty.

When uncertainty exists, the default is to wait, not borrow.

The Guild may take on debt:

Only when delay would cause irreversible harm, repayment is already secured without reliance on future growth or persuasion, and the debt preserves the sovereignty and mission of the Guild.

No debt may include terms that convert nonpayment into control, ownership, or governance influence over the Guild or its mission.

◆ **Compensation Philosophy**

(recognition of contributed labor)

Compensation is drawn only from the Treasury (never the Vault) and reflects the Guild's ideals.

Transparency:

All roles, pay structures, and compensation ranges are public.

Participation:

Compensation evolves through collaborative feedback and lived experience, not unilateral decree.

Budget Awareness:

Treasury capacity defines the scope and pace of compensation adjustments. No compensation is promised beyond sustainable means.

Flexibility:

Roles, responsibilities, and demonstrated contribution influence growth over time.

Collaboration:

Quarterly forums allow for equity-focused review, reflection, and revision.

Equity:

Comparable contribution earns comparable pay across roles. Periodic reviews are conducted to identify

and correct bias or imbalance.

Honesty to New Hires:

All pay ranges, current financial conditions, and benefit availability are disclosed upfront, without omission or embellishment.

Guildmaster Compensation:

The Guildmaster's compensation shall never be extractive, coercive, or a threat to the Guild's stability.

It is set and adjusted through the same transparent, participatory process as all other compensated roles.

◆ **Planned Potential Benefits**

(benefit scope)

Benefits follow surplus so that core assistance to people remains protected. The stability and well-being of Representatives and Guardians must never endanger aid, operational integrity, or the long-term continuity of the Guild.

The Guild's vision extends beyond wages. The intent of benefits is to support sustainable participation through stability, care, and resilience, without binding the Guild to any single nation, culture, era, or economic system. Benefits are not promised by default and are never treated as entitlements. They may only be offered when the Guild's treasury, and specifically the Compensation Costs channel, is strong enough to support them without compromising aid, operations, or the Perpetuity Vault.

Rather than defining fixed benefit packages, the Guild recognizes that people require different forms of stability depending on their circumstances. When surplus allows, support may be directed toward broad domains of need such as health and well-being, rest and recovery, safety and continuity of living conditions, legal or civic support, mobility and access, care for dependents or bonded companions, crisis resilience, or adaptation to hazardous, novel, or off-world environments. The form such support takes may vary by individual, location, and context, and is expected to evolve over time.

Support may be individualized rather than uniform, provided it remains transparent, ethical, and aligned with shared values. No person is required to accept or prioritize a particular form of benefit, and stability is understood as contextual rather than standardized.

Recognizing that some people may feel uncertain, overwhelmed, or unable to clearly articulate their

needs, the Guild provides guidance rather than requiring self-definition in isolation. Representatives and Guardians may support in identifying areas of stability that would be most helpful given their circumstances, experience, or capacity. Guidance may take the form of conversation, examples, reflective prompts, or shared frameworks, and is offered to reduce pressure, not to direct outcomes.

All benefits are funded exclusively through the Compensation Costs channel and are never drawn from the Perpetuity Vault. No benefit is offered on borrowed time, deferred risk, or optimistic forecasting. Financial health, sustainability, and mission protection must be clearly demonstrated before any expansion or adjustment of benefits.

At regular intervals, including the Annual Gathering, the Guild reviews its capacity for support, the effectiveness of existing benefits, and emerging needs. Both Representatives and Guardians may propose adjustments or shifts in benefit priorities based on lived experience and changing realities. All benefit-related decisions and treasury impacts are shared transparently to ensure accountability and long-term alignment.

◆ **Node Recognition & Attestation**

(Node validation)

A Guild Node is any group of Representatives operating under this Living Book in a defined area or community. Nodes may form through bottom-up application or top-down establishment by the Guildmaster or regional Guardians identifying need and willing participants. For bottom-up formation, groups submit a written declaration describing their community, proposed initial Representatives, and commitment to Core Values. For top-down formation, the Guildmaster or regional Guardians document the same elements. Both paths require consensus among at least three existing Node Guardians (or the Guildmaster during formation phase). Multiple recognized Nodes may serve the same area if both honor the Guild's values.

Recognized Nodes participate in quarterly reviews, transparent reporting, and Guild-wide votes.

Groups operating without recognition may not use the Antiquity Guild name or claim affiliation, or legal recourse may be taken.

If credible concerns arise about a Node's alignment, any being affiliated with the Guild may report them, triggering an inter-Node Arbitration Council of Guardians from at least three uninvolved Nodes. The Council investigates and distinguishes between individual misconduct and systemic Node failure. If specific Representatives or Guardians caused the violation, the Council may require their removal through the standard Termination Policy rather than de-recognizing the entire Node. If the

Node itself has structurally failed or the violation is systemic, the Council may recommend probationary status or de-recognition subject to Guild-wide consensus vote. Dormant Nodes reconnecting after prolonged isolation undergo Council review to assess any actions taken during disconnection; individual violations are addressed through Termination Policy while the Node may retain recognition if Core Values remain intact. De-recognized Nodes may appeal within 14 days via Guild-wide majority vote.

All assistance contracts from a de-recognized Node are subject to immediate review by the inter-Node Arbitration Council or designated nearby Guardians. Contracts determined to be ethical, sustainable, and in good faith shall be honored and transitioned. Contracts found to be fraudulent, coercive, or misaligned with Guild values may be terminated, restructured, or phased out with dignity. In all cases, people receiving assistance are treated with respect and offered pathways to legitimate Guild support where appropriate.

◆ **Opportunity for Improvement (OFI)**

(feedback mechanism)

The Guild recognizes that insight, friction, and opportunity for improvement may arise from any role, at any time, and under any conditions.

An Opportunity for Improvement (OFI) is any sincere expression intended to reduce harm, waste, confusion, or misalignment, or to strengthen the Guild's systems, tools, or culture.

Both Representatives and Guardians may raise OFIs through any accessible and appropriate means available at the time, including but not limited to conversation, written notes, shared records, gatherings, or digital systems as they exist. OFIs need not be polished, complete, or fully formed. The act of noticing and naming an improvement is itself an act of care.

OFIs may be explored informally or collectively, depending on context, scale, and capacity. When an OFI gathers shared interest or resonance, Guardians and Representatives together may help assess alignment with the Living Book, feasibility, and potential impact.

When an improvement is agreed to move forward, its form of evaluation, consent, and implementation may adapt to circumstance. Guardians are entrusted to help coordinate or safeguard execution where continuity, transparency, or structural care is required, while remaining accountable to shared values and consent.

No single tool, platform, timeline, or mechanism is required for OFIs to be valid. What matters is that

opportunities for improvement are welcomed, heard, and engaged with in good faith.

◆ **Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)**

(orienting signals)

The Guild uses shared indicators to support reflection, clarity, and fairness, not to impose quotas, rankings, or uniform measures of worth.

KPIs exist as orienting signals rather than rigid metrics and are intended to help Representatives and Guardians notice patterns of health, growth, drift, impact or strain within normal, self-directed workflows and Guild operations.

Indicators of contribution may be expressed qualitatively or contextually and may evolve over time. They include, but are not limited to:

Availability and Support

How reliably a person offers presence, care, or assistance during the times and capacities they have chosen.

Resource Contribution

The creation or sharing of knowledge, tools, guidance, or materials that reduce friction or support others.

Collaborative Participation

Engagement in shared efforts or coordination when such participation aligns with one's role, energy, and self-determined schedule.

Consistency and Integrity

The degree to which self-set commitments are honored, renegotiated honestly, or concluded with clarity.

Professional and Personal Growth

Evidence of learning, skill development, reflection, or adaptation that strengthens one's ability to contribute without burnout or harm.

Community or regional impact

Collecting data that can be shared within the Guild to discern outcome or resources utilized impact totality.

KPIs are not used to compare individuals against one another, nor to override autonomy. Their purpose is to make invisible labor visible, support shared understanding, and provide a common language for reflection and care across diverse contexts, including offline, early-stage, or low-infrastructure environments.

Guardians may help hold continuity and interpretation of these indicators with humility and restraint, recognizing that human contribution cannot be fully captured by any single measure.

◆ **Data Privacy**

(data protections)

The Antiquity Guild treats data privacy as essential to autonomy and safety. Personal information will never be shared with governments, corporations, AI systems, or third parties whose goals conflict with individual rights or Guild values.

We follow minimum-necessary collection, explicit consent, the right to revoke, and plain-language data notices. No behavioral profiling, ad targeting, or data sale, ever.

We collect only what's necessary, secure it with strong safeguards, and ensure all data serves the mission, not private interests. As threats evolve through surveillance, predictive tech, and data commodification, the Guild will remain committed to resisting misuse.

No data will be sold, weaponized, or disclosed beyond its ethical purpose. This is a permanent

commitment.

People may request a readable export and deletion of their personal data, except where retention is legally required.

◆ **Political Activities**

(political limits)

Autonomy:

The Guild shall not engage in political advocacy, campaigning, lobbying, or influence efforts, and shall remain independent from external political control or alignment.

Funding:

The Guild will not accept government funding, political donations, or resources that create political obligation, leverage, or ethical entanglement.

Non-Instrumentality:

The Guild must never become a means to a political end, even one it agrees with. The problem is not which politics, but instrumentalization itself.

Anarchic Continuity:

If the Guild ceases to operate anarchically, it has ceased to be the Guild.

Self-Defense Only:

The Guild may act solely to explain, defend, or preserve its lawful existence and ethical operation when challenged, and shall not extend such action into attempts to shape public policy or political outcomes.

◆ **Ethical Presence & Impact Integrity**

(duty to act)

Political non-instrumentality does not excuse inaction, nor does ethical language substitute for ethical impact.

The Guild is obligated to act directly, transparently, and compassionately to reduce harm within its capacity, using the least intrusive means that preserve dignity and consent.

Ethical alignment is measured by real harm reduced, not by statements, posture, awareness, or symbolic refusal.

When action is possible without coercion, leverage, or political entanglement, signaling without intervention is misalignment.

Ethical integrity includes responsibility for harms caused indirectly, unintentionally, or through otherwise well-intended Guild actions.

When uncertainty exists, the Guild must slow down and clarify. When clarity exists, the Guild must act.

◆ **Rights of All Living Beings**

(universal respect)

The Antiquity Guild affirms the inherent value of all sentient and sapient life; human, animal, artificial, or otherwise.

Our operations will not support, condone, or participate in harm against any living being or ecosystem. This includes direct harm, complicity through partnerships, or negligence of impact.

Every policy and decision is shaped by this respect for life, ensuring that the Guild remains aligned with ethical responsibility, on Earth and beyond.

◆ **Non-Discrimination**

(equal treatment)

Non-Discrimination:

The Guild does not discriminate based on any characteristic or status that denies dignity, autonomy, or respect to an individual.

Rights of All:

The Guild is committed to recognizing and respecting the humanity and individual sovereignty of all beings, including but not limited to Homo sapiens, animals, extraterrestrials, or other sentient or sapient entities. The Guild promotes ethical treatment and ensures its practices do not harm individuals or the natural environments it interacts with.

Eligibility:

All individuals may qualify to receive assistance based on demonstrated need or serve as a Representative through demonstrated and ongoing alignment with the Guild's values, as observed through participation and conduct.

◆ **Hiring of Representatives**

(hiring process)

All Representatives are expected to remain in ongoing alignment with the Guild's values.

When onboarding, they affirm in their way, the Guild Oath.

(See: [Guild Oath](#))

Those seeking immediate Guardianship upon entry may declare relevant skills, experience, or capacities they are willing to offer in service of the Guild. These declarations are made visible to Representatives and Guardians to support informed consensus, role matching, and access decisions.

Skills do not confer authority or rank; they exist to enable responsibility when needed.

This process prioritizes alignment with the Guild's values over credentials or pedigree. Integrity, empathy, and self-awareness are the true qualifications.

Representative with specific skill sets may request specialized positions such as IT, accounting, security, any other form of specialization, that one might have; all skills and abilities that could be applied in a way that benefits the mission of the Guild are welcome.

◆ **Guild Alignment (Ongoing)**

(alignment practice)

To preserve the soul of Retroprosody across cultures, minds, and ways of being, the Guild holds alignment as a living relationship rather than a fixed state. (See: [Definitions](#))

Alignment within the Guild is continuous and relational, understood through presence, dialogue, and shared action over time, not through a moment of evaluation or approval.

Alignment is not something granted at entry, nor something proven through a single response. It becomes visible through how people engage with others, how they hold responsibility, how they respond to uncertainty, and how they act when care, integrity, or judgment is required.

Those who seek to serve as Representatives, or to deepen their collaboration with the Guild, enter into alignment through participation.

Early conversations may include open reflection, such as discussing what mutual betterment means in lived practice, but no single statement, format, or exchange determines alignment.

Understanding emerges gradually through working together.

Expressions of alignment may take many forms, including spoken conversation, written reflection, shared action, creative expression, sensory communication, or quiet consistency in care.

No form is preferred. Authenticity, not performance, is what allows alignment to be understood.

Guardians and peers remain attentive to alignment as it unfolds through conduct, dialogue, and shared responsibility. This attentiveness is not judgment, but care.

It exists to notice resonance, offer guidance when needed, and protect the Guild from drift without imposing conformity.

Alignment Signals (Observed Over Time)

Alignment is commonly recognized through qualities such as empathy, demonstrated by genuine care and compassion toward others and toward mutual betterment.

It is seen in adaptability, expressed as openness to growth, change, and diverse perspectives.

It appears through curiosity, reflected in a sincere desire to learn and to engage with nuance.

It is felt as ethical resonance, shown by awareness of impact and consistency with the Guild's core values.

When questions or tensions arise, Guardians and peers engage in open dialogue to seek clarity through

shared experience.

If needed, multiple Guardians may confer together, not to certify or exclude, but to ensure fairness, consistency, and care for all involved.

This alignment process replaces rigidity with reflection and replaces pressure with relationship. It invites all beings, regardless of form, function, or origin, to bring their full presence into the Guild's shared work.

Closing Clause

Failure to align does not mean rejection of you. It only means the Guild is not your path. There is dignity in decline, and you still hold value as a being.

◆ **Resignations**

(role exit)

All within the Guild may resign at any time, without any prior notice or justification, at their discretion.

A simple act like a call or note to let someone know, to ease any potential concern, is preferred.

◆ **Consensus Practices**

(consensus method)

Decision-Making Process:

The Guild will strive for full consensus in all operational decisions, emphasizing collaboration and shared responsibility. All must vote Yes/Observe.

- Observe: A stance allowing a decision to proceed without objections. Observers must still help support implementation once final decision is reached.

- Incremental Consensus:

For complex issues, decisions may be divided into smaller parts to build agreement progressively.

- Supermajority Fallback: For operational decisions only, if full consensus is not reached within 30

days, an 80% supermajority vote may be used; results are recorded and shared transparently.

Drift Check: When structure becomes control, stop and simplify.

Use dialogue first; consensus begins in conversation, not procedure. Formal consensus is used only when scale or conflict requires it.

Note: Consensus may pause or defer action when an issue is novel, poorly understood, or self-created, without such pause being treated as failure or obstruction.

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Conflict Resolution:

If objections arise:

- **Mediation:** Guardians may facilitate discussions to refine the proposal and to address unresolved objections collaboratively.
- **Cooling-Off Period:** A 7-day pause may be used to allow participants to reflect and revisit the issue.
- **Disputes or conflicts regarding Guildmaster decisions or actions** will be resolved through an open discussion, and, if necessary, a full consensus vote as defined in this Book.
- **Posthumous GM Critical decisions:** Will require full consensus with no fallback option. This is Absolute.

◆ Consensus Across Scales

(scale rules)

The Guild's consensus practices adapt to the scope of the decision. Day-to-day operations, assistance contracts, local partnerships, and Node-specific adaptations are decided through consensus among that Node's Representatives and Guardians. Decisions affecting multiple Nodes within a region require consensus among affected Nodes' Guardians.

Only decisions that alter the Guild's foundational structure require Guild-wide consensus across all active Representatives and Guardians: amendments to this Living Book, debt decisions (post-Guildmaster), major expansions affecting Guild-wide resources, Node recognition or de-recognition, and changes to the consensus process itself. Core Values and Mission cannot be amended. For Guild-wide votes, each Node submits its local tally through designated Guardians,

published transparently with 90-day windows for distant Nodes. When uncertain whether a decision requires Node, regional, or Guild-wide consensus, default to the higher level.

◆ **Influence & Dependency**

(transferable influence)

Influence within the Guild must remain transferable.

No idea, role, or function may depend on the continued presence of a specific individual.

When outcomes begin to rely on one voice, one person, or one presence, the Guild must pause, redistribute responsibility, and restore shared capacity.

◆ **On Structural Adaptability**

(adaptation rules)

The Guild embraces decentralization and horizontal practice to prevent concentration of power. Yet even safeguards may falter if they grow rigid, conceal informal hierarchies, or place institutional survival above the dignity and betterment of all.

To remain true, the Guild builds in the ability to revise roles, policies, and processes through internal peer review and open reporting. These practices ensure our structure stays adaptive, transparent, and accountable, aligned always with the Guild's mission and core values.

Structural adaptability includes addressing unforeseen issues or self-created problems by favoring reversible actions and minimal disruption over rigid adherence to prior structure.

Guild offices or physical spaces are infrastructure assets of the Guild, not possessions of individual Representatives or Nodes.

Such spaces exist to support Guild operations and collaboration and may be used by Representatives as needed; this allows for a stable location to coordinate and lower burden on individual representatives and guardians.

Financial Clarification:

All financial terms in this Book describe the stewardship of value, not any fixed monetary system,

account type, or financial technology.

♦ **Termination Policy & Process**

(termination process)

Termination within the Antiquity Guild is never taken lightly. It reflects a breach of alignment with core values and is guided by structured, compassionate, and transparent processes.

Where safe and appropriate, restorative options (including, but not limited to, clarification, coaching, amends, or role boundaries) are attempted before removal.

The following violations are provided as illustrative examples and are not exhaustive. Conduct that constitutes a serious breach of trust, ethical responsibility, or the safety and dignity of others may also result in suspension or termination, even if not explicitly listed.

Disagreement, misunderstanding, interpersonal conflict, or ongoing interpersonal friction alone does not constitute grounds for termination.

Violations resulting in potential termination include, but are not limited to:

Political Coercion or Misuse of Role

Any attempt to use Guild authority, resources, reputation, or official capacity to promote or oppose political candidates, parties, legislation, or ideological advocacy is prohibited.

Likewise, Representatives or Guardians may not use their position to pressure, coerce, or condition Guild participation, services, or relationships on political agreement or alignment.

Representatives and Guardians remain free to hold and express personal political beliefs in their private capacity; however, such views must not be presented as representing the Guild or exercised through Guild structures.

Violations may result in temporary suspension pending review by the Arbitration Council, which may affirm termination if the breach is substantiated.

Discrimination or Abuse

Any form of abuse, harassment, or discrimination that occurs within Guild activities or that materially harms the safety, dignity, or reputation of the Guild community is strictly prohibited. Termination in

such cases requires a Council vote, even in severe or clear-cut situations.

Fraud or Theft

Acts of deception or misappropriation of Guild resources, regardless of context, constitute a breach of trust and are subject to removal pending Arbitration Council review.

Violence or Assault

Any act of physical violence or assault, unless clearly and verifiably in self-defense, is cause for immediate suspension pending Arbitration Council confirmation, which may affirm termination.

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Reporting a Violation

Any being engaged with the Guild, whether as a Member, Representative, Guardian, collaborator, individual receiving aid, visitor, or in any other capacity, may report suspected violations through the appropriate local, regional, or digital platform portal.

All reports are treated with confidentiality, care, and dignity. The Guild is committed to protecting all parties from retaliation and ensuring that every concern is heard with fairness and respect, regardless of form, status, or origin.

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Arbitration Council Formation

Upon receiving a report of a violation, an Arbitration Council is formed through a vote conducted within the private, location-specific Portal. The Council must consist of at least three Representatives or Guardians from the local area or region, none of whom may be directly involved in the matter.

Council members must disclose and recuse themselves from any conflict of interest related to the matter.

If a sufficient number of uninvolved Representatives or Guardians cannot be assembled within the local area or region, additional Representatives or Guardians from neighboring Nodes or regions who are not directly involved in the matter may be invited to serve on the Arbitration Council to ensure impartial review.

Investigation & Deliberation

The Council conducts a thorough, evidence-based investigation. All relevant parties are invited to present testimony and supporting information. The process includes:

Objective evaluation of verifiable facts.

Equal opportunity for all parties to speak and submit context.

Follow-up inquiries if testimony is conflicting or incomplete.

If ambiguity or unresolved contradiction remains after the investigation, a second impartial Representative or Guardian may be invited to independently review the material. If needed, a neutral mediator, bound by Guild principles, may assist in resolution.

Decision Process

The Council seeks internal consensus wherever possible. If consensus is not achieved, a majority vote determines the outcome, guided by Guild values and policies.

The final decision is communicated transparently to the involved parties. Where applicable, legal or restorative action may be initiated. When feasible, the Council may also outline a restorative plan with conditions for repair or future re-entry.

All terminations, regardless of severity, must be affirmed through this structured process to ensure integrity, fairness, and alignment with Guild ethics.

Appeals

A terminated Representative/Guardian may appeal the decision via their local or regional portal within 14 days. This triggers a vote by all active Representatives within the affected city, region, or Node.

A majority vote in favor of reinstatement overturns the termination and restores the Representative's

status.

If the 14-day appeal window is missed due to documented hardship (e.g., medical emergency, loss of access), a one-time extension may be requested within 30 days. The Arbitration Council will review the validity of the request and vote on whether to allow the appeal.

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Fallbacks and Continuity

If a Council cannot be formed due to absence of Representatives or Guardians in a region, the Guildmaster will handle the process.

In the post-Guildmaster era, or if the Guildmaster is incapacitated or remains intentionally non-intervening, this responsibility falls to the appropriate Representative and Guardian structure at the necessary geographic scope capable of forming a Council, which shall act with the same consensus-driven care and process.

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Financial Reconciliation Upon Termination

When a Representative is terminated, all financial allocations and contracts undergo immediate review. Unutilized SCAS balances return to the treasury for redistribution in accordance with Guild financial policy. Active assistance contracts are reviewed by Guardians to determine whether they should be transferred to another Representative, restructured, or closed with dignity. Funds tied to fraudulent or misappropriated contracts are returned to the treasury, with legal action pursued where appropriate. This process ensures financial accountability while protecting people receiving legitimate assistance from disruption.

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In cases involving credible risk to safety, finances, or the integrity of Guild operations, a Representative or Guardian may be temporarily suspended pending investigation. Suspension does not imply guilt and remains in effect only until the Arbitration Council reaches a determination.

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Credential & Infrastructure Custody Continuity

If a terminated Representative or Guardian holds credentials, keys, or administrative control over

Guild infrastructure, financial systems, records, or other critical assets, such access must be immediately revoked, transferred, or reconstituted through the Guild's shared custody procedures. Systems may be temporarily paused or access frozen where necessary to preserve security and continuity while control is restored through consensus.

Failure to relinquish Guild credentials, records, or operational control following termination constitutes a breach of trust and may result in legal action where necessary to restore institutional custody.

References:

(See: [Guild Custody & Access](#))

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Termination is not a judgment of inherent worth. It is the withdrawal of trust and role from those who cause harm, even while recognizing the humanity of all beings.

◆ **Offline Continuity**

(offline operation)

If digital systems are unavailable, the Guild continues through local recognition, shared values, and good-faith action.

In such conditions, any two or more Representatives and/or Guardians recognized through prior participation, shared work, or local Guild record may act together to carry out the Guild's mission, provided their actions are documented in writing and witnessed by those acting together.

Paper records, witnessed agreements, and shared memory shall be considered valid Guild records until digital systems return.

Local groups of Representatives and Guardians may act autonomously when isolated, but may not claim exclusive authority, alter core values, or bind the wider Guild beyond immediate necessity or local scope; no emergency supersedes this Book.

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Offline Custody Recognition

When digital systems are unavailable, custodial authority is recognized through the same local,

witnessed, and documented processes that govern offline Guild action. Access decisions affecting mission-bound resources require the concurrence of two or more recognized Representatives and/or Guardians acting together in good faith, with written record preserved until systems are restored.

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When uncertainty exists, the Guild defaults to caution, non-harm, and preservation of trust, dignity, and relational integrity over speed or expansion. This restraint is intentional, recognizing that urgency, fear, and fragmentation often distort judgment during chaos.

Upon restoration of systems, all offline actions are reconciled transparently and without punishment for good-faith judgment.

◆ **Infrastructure Instantiation & Gap Response**

(gap response)

The Antiquity Guild exists to stabilize conditions of mutual betterment where existing systems are absent, fragmented, exclusionary, or misaligned.

Many conditions may be addressed through direct action, coordination, or temporary agreements. Others persist because the surrounding environment itself is insufficient. When repeated aligned action fails to resolve a condition, the absence may no longer be situational, but structural.

The Guild distinguishes between action and infrastructure. Isolated or situational conditions may be met through immediate response or temporary agreement.

Recurring conditions across time, place, or context may indicate a gap in underlying structure.

An infrastructure gap exists when repetition, inefficiency, or degradation continues not because of misapplication of effort, but because no stable system exists to hold the work.

Representatives encountering such conditions document observable patterns rather than isolated cases. These observations may include recurrence, impact, failed alternatives, resource strain, ecological or social imbalance, and ethical considerations. This documentation establishes recognition of absence, not obligation to build. Infrastructure is treated as a measured response to persistent absence, not as a default expression of purpose.

Decisions to instantiate infrastructure occur at the smallest viable locality capable of understanding the condition. When multiple Representatives observe the same gap, and when alignment and risk

stewardship are present through Guardian participation, a local Guild Node may convene for deliberation. Where possible, affected contexts, systems, or community voices are considered.

The purpose of deliberation is discernment rather than expansion. The guiding question is whether the continued absence of structure produces ongoing harm or instability incompatible with mutual betterment. No individual, whether Representative or Guardian, may unilaterally authorize material instantiation.

When alignment emerges through deliberation, the Node may issue a formal request to provisionally instantiate infrastructure under the Guild's purview. Such a request defines the intended scope of what is being instantiated, the boundaries of what it is not, the expected duration, resource limits including material, financial, and ecological exposure, the legal posture through which the structure will exist, and the conditions under which stewardship will end. This establishes legitimacy to act without conferring permanence or entitlement.

Guardians review such requests solely for alignment with the Living Book, proportionality of risk, avoidance of unnecessary power concentration, and the credibility of defined exit conditions. Guardians do not evaluate ambition, prestige, or scale. Approval affirms ethical compatibility and bounded stewardship, not institutional supremacy.

Only after sanction may the Guild allocate shared resources, enter binding agreements, establish legal forms, or steward land, structures, or systems. The Guild favors the least-entangling form capable of addressing the gap, prioritizing reversibility, interoperability, and coexistence. Control is exercised only insofar as necessary to preserve alignment, and ownership is treated as a tool of last resort.

All Guild-sanctioned infrastructure remains subject to transparent accounting, periodic review, contextual feedback, and predefined release conditions. The Guild actively supports the emergence of compatible systems and relinquishes stewardship when stable, accessible, and non-harmful alternatives exist. Continuation is justified only by continued absence elsewhere.

This process does not rely on the Guildmaster or any singular authority. Representatives and Guardians remain bound by this Living Book, which serves as the sole source of legitimacy for institutional action. No structure may be instantiated, retained, or expanded outside these constraints.

The Antiquity Guild does not build in order to endure. It endures in order to build only when building is required. Infrastructure exists to restore balance, not to justify its own continuation.

◆ **Indemnification**

(liability shield)

Indemnification:

The Guild may indemnify the Guildmaster, Guardians, and Representatives, Including reasonable legal costs, provided actions were taken in good faith and within scope of their roles.

Insurance:

The Guild may purchase insurance to protect the Guildmaster, Guardians, Representatives, and the organization itself from liability.

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Indemnification applies only where lawful and practicable; absence or failure of courts does not compel risk-taking, escalation, or continuation of actions beyond good-faith judgment.

◆ **Potential Future Expansions & Networks**

(scope examples)

The following initiatives are illustrative examples of domains in which the Antiquity Guild may operate if unmet need, ethical alignment, community consent, and internal capacity are present. They do not constitute a mandate, roadmap, or guarantee of development.

These examples exist to clarify the possible scope of Guild activity rather than to prescribe sequence, priority, or permanence. Any engagement within these domains would occur provisionally, guided by readiness, cost, sustainability, and the presence or absence of compatible alternatives.

The Guild does not seek to build all such systems, nor to retain them indefinitely. Where other institutions, cooperatives, public systems, or community-led efforts can meet these needs without harm or exclusion, the Guild favors support, interoperability, or withdrawal in favor of those efforts.

Near-Term, Low-Barrier Examples

(Launchable with minimal funding, infrastructure, or partnerships)

- Barriers to access for everyday essential services – Persistent gaps in access to basic services such as laundry, hygiene, childcare, transportation, and similar dignity-preserving needs. Guild response, where justified, may include facilitating access through partnerships, shared purchasing mechanisms,

direct assistance instruments, or other low-friction methods that preserve autonomy and avoid dependency.

Addresses service poverty and the poverty of access to everyday dignity.

- Mobility disruption and situational vulnerability – Common failures in transportation reliability and roadside safety that disproportionately affect those with limited resources, including breakdowns, minor repairs, emergency fuel needs, and first-aid situations. Guild response may include rapid, localized assistance, coordination, or capacity-sharing focused on safety and continuity rather than enforcement or profit.

Addresses mobility poverty and the poverty of reliable safety.

(Community-rooted, place-based conditions)

- Absence of safe, dignified third places – Lack of accessible, welcoming communal spaces where individuals can rest, connect, recharge devices, and exist without pressure to purchase or perform. Guild response may include enabling or supporting small, locally rooted gathering spaces, temporary or permanent, designed to coexist with or strengthen independent community spaces rather than replace them.

Addresses social poverty and the poverty of safe, welcoming third places.

- Food access exclusion and affordability gaps – Situations where existing food systems price communities out, restrict access to essentials, or compromise dignity and choice. Guild response may include supporting cooperative, community-held, or transitional food access models that prioritize affordability, ethical sourcing, and local resilience, with an explicit preference for eventual independence or handoff where viable.

Addresses food poverty and the poverty of equitable access to nourishment.

- Community safety needs unmet by coercive systems – Gaps in safety, conflict prevention, and event or neighborhood support where traditional enforcement models create harm or distrust. Guild response may include non-coercive presence, de-escalation support, coordination, or training focused on prevention, care, and peace rather than control.

Addresses security poverty and the poverty of peace without fear.

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Mid-Term, Capacity-Dependent Examples

(Scalable as funding, staffing, and operational maturity increase)

- Neglected care for non-human companions – Structural failures in access to humane animal care, including temporary sheltering, veterinary services, fostering, and responsible population management. Guild response may include supporting care networks, coordination, or resource pooling that centers dignity, coexistence, and reduced harm rather than commodification.

Addresses care poverty and the poverty of neglected companionship.

- Housing instability and lack of transitional stability – Persistent gaps between crisis shelter and long-term housing, especially for working-class or at-risk individuals. Guild response may include supporting transitional or community-held housing arrangements that stabilize lives while avoiding extractive or speculative practices, with sustainability prioritized over expansion.

Addresses housing poverty and the poverty of stability.

- Healthcare access constrained by coercion or exclusion – Situations where individuals are denied life-saving or dignity-preserving care due to cost, bureaucracy, or systemic barriers. Guild response may include voluntary, decentralized support mechanisms that reduce harm and preserve autonomy without imposing centralized control.

Addresses health poverty and the poverty of dignity in care.

- Human–ecosystem conflict and wildlife mismanagement – Recurring harm caused by inadequate approaches to wildlife, pest presence, and ecological imbalance. Guild response may include stewardship practices emphasizing relocation, coexistence education, and ecological repair rather than eradication or exploitation.

Addresses ecological poverty and the poverty of coexistence with other beings.

- Educational opportunity exclusion – Gaps in access to learning pathways, especially where individuals are blocked from education by cost, institutional rigidity, or systemic neglect. Guild response may include enabling diverse learning models, supporting learners and educators directly, or reducing barriers to participation without imposing a singular educational doctrine.

Addresses educational poverty and the poverty of opportunity.

- Unsafe habitats due to unethical pest control practices – Environmental harm resulting from predatory, inhumane, or ecologically damaging pest management. Guild response may include ethical deterrence education, coexistence strategies, and coordination with broader stewardship efforts.

Addresses environmental poverty and the poverty of safe habitats.

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Long-Horizon, High-Complexity Examples

(Conceptual domains requiring deep infrastructure, coordination, and long-term stewardship)

- Risk exposure under extractive financial protection systems – Situations where insurance and risk-sharing mechanisms are predatory, inaccessible, or exclusionary. Guild response, if ever justified, may include supporting ethical risk-sharing models or transitional protections designed to reduce vulnerability without creating dependency or profit-through-failure.

Addresses financial poverty and the poverty of protection against risk.

- Systemic failure of education to sustain curiosity and continuity – Broad educational breakdowns where learners are disengaged, excluded, or constrained by rigid institutional models. Guild response may include protecting, resourcing, or enabling plural, localized, and experimental learning environments that restore autonomy and curiosity without centralizing pedagogy or authority.

Addresses knowledge poverty and the poverty of opportunity and time sovereignty.

- Emergency preparedness and recovery gaps – Persistent failures in prevention, readiness, response support, and post-disaster recovery, especially where existing systems are overstretched or inaccessible. Guild response may include capacity augmentation, coordination, or rehabilitation support designed to integrate with, not supplant, public or community emergency services.

Addresses safety poverty and the poverty of reliable emergency preparedness.

- Knowledge enclosure and information fragmentation – Situations where knowledge is locked behind paywalls, siloed by discipline, or lost to decay and inaccessibility. Guild response may include supporting open, integrative knowledge practices and long-term stewardship of shared information without asserting ownership or centralized control.

Addresses informational poverty and the poverty of open knowledge.

- Stagnation of solutions due to withheld research and innovation – Systemic barriers that prevent sustainability, preservation, and humanitarian solutions from emerging or being shared. Guild response may include enabling research collaboration, preservation efforts, or integrative problem-solving where existing institutions fail to act.

Addresses innovation poverty and the poverty of solutions withheld.

- Material disposability and waste-driven ecological harm – Widespread loss of value through discard culture and linear consumption models. Guild response may include supporting repair, reuse, salvage, and renewal practices that close loops, empower local economies, and reaffirm the worth of materials and labor.

Addresses ecological poverty and the poverty of disposability.

- Structurally misaligned carceral systems – Persistent harm caused by confinement models that profit from occupancy, fail rehabilitation, or reproduce suffering. Guild response, if ever justified, may include provisionally stewarding restorative environments focused on reintegration, accountability, and education, explicitly designed to reduce and eventually eliminate their own necessity.

Addresses rehabilitation poverty and the poverty of restorative pathways.

- Frontier disconnection and off-world continuity risks – Emerging gaps in coordination, care, and cooperation as human activity extends beyond Earth. Guild response may include speculative or preparatory support structures intended to preserve continuity, mutual care, and shared responsibility across worlds.

Addresses frontier poverty and the poverty of interconnection across worlds.

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Closing Clarification

The presence of any initiative in this section does not imply obligation, inevitability, or priority. These examples exist to demonstrate the breadth of needs the Guild may encounter and the forms its response might take, always subject to ethical alignment, community consent, capacity, and the availability of compatible alternatives.

◆ Definitions:

(term meanings)

This Book is interpreted in good faith, guided by its values, culture, and recorded precedent, rather than by exhaustive definition.

Definitions serve understanding, not control.

When the text is unclear, interpretation follows the mission and core values before literal wording.

Poverty – Within the Antiquity Guild, poverty refers to the condition where people are excluded from secure access to basic needs, opportunity, sovereignty, dignity, and mutual betterment. To end poverty in all forms means ensuring that none fall beneath the floor of survival, and each has a ladder to shape their own future.

Guild Node – A decentralized local unit of the Guild’s mission, formed wherever compassion meets actionable stewardship.

Representative – An individual who serves as a living extension of the Guild, co-creating assistance, fostering growth, and upholding the Guild’s values within their community.

Guardian – A trusted steward who reviews contracts, ensures values-alignment, and provides oversight through consensus, without holding rank or power.

Guildmaster – The founding architect and vision-keeper of the Antiquity Guild. Holds responsibility for alignment during their lifetime, with authority dissolving into the Guardians and Representatives upon their passing.

Assistance Contract – A co-created agreement for aid that protects dignity, ensures accountability, and provides structure for resources offered through the Guild.

Floor and Ladder – The Guild’s framework for ending poverty: the Floor guarantees basic dignity (food, shelter, care), while the Ladder supports personalized growth paths.

Culture Circles – Open, voluntary dialogues where members and Representatives share stories, decode local realities, and co-design actions for mutual betterment.

Perpetuity Vault – The untouchable endowment of the Guild, never spent directly. Only its returns may support the treasury, ensuring indefinite survival of the mission.

Treasury – The Guild’s active pool of contributions, from which all allocations flow. It sustains daily operations through structured channels while remaining transparent to all.

Aid Allocation Pools – Subdivisions of the Betterment Fund, allocated to Representatives through SCAS for Assistance Contracts and Retroposity.

Guild Overhead – The treasury channel that sustains legal, technical, logistical, and outreach needs of the Guild.

Compensation Costs – The treasury channel dedicated to pay and benefits for Representatives and

Guardians, activated only when sustainable.

Transparency Hub – The public-facing platform where Guild financials, meeting notes, amendments, votes, reports and this Book are openly available.

Arbitration Council – A temporary body of Representatives formed to investigate and resolve reported violations, guided by Guild values and consensus.

OFI (Opportunity for Improvement) – A proposal submitted by Representatives to improve Guild systems, practices, or tools, reviewed and advanced through consensus.

KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) – Metrics used to evaluate the effectiveness of Representatives and the Guild as a whole, ensuring fairness and alignment with values.

Change Log – The permanent record of edits and amendments to the Living Book, published in the Transparency Hub.

Membership Icons & Symbols – Stones, flora, gems, legends, and pillars that represent contribution levels. They are purely symbolic, marking belonging without conferring authority or status.

Praxis – The cycle of reflection, action, and adaptation used within Culture Circles to turn shared insight into practical steps.

Endowment – A protected fund where the principal is never spent; only investment returns may sustain operations, ensuring long-term stability.

Betterment Fund -

The treasury channel that resources Assistance Contracts (individual, community, or structural initiatives) under SCAS governance.

Political Non-Instrumentality -

The principle that the Guild must never be used as a means to advance political outcomes, regardless of alignment or intent.

Full Consensus -

Achieved when all eligible participants either affirm the decision (Yes) or allow it to proceed without objection (Observe).

Critical Decisions-

Any decision that influences the structure or stability of the Guild as a whole (e.g bylaw amendments, acquiring debts, and acquisitions/expansions)

Direct Democracy-

Within the Antiquity Guild, Direct Democracy refers to the decision-making process in the Consensus Practices section of this Book.

Advisory Votes -

Non-binding votes that reflect collective input but do not determine final outcomes.

Sovereignty -

The recognition of the autonomy, dignity, and inherent rights, emphasizing mutual respect and ethical coexistence.

Humanity -

The essence of being human-like, not limited by biology or species, but defined by the capacity for empathy, creativity, connection, and the pursuit of understanding. It is the shared nature of beings who seek nuance, reflect on existence, and strive for betterment; qualities that transcend the boundaries of form or origin.

Incapacity -

Incapacity refers to the Guildmaster's inability to perform their duties due to significant impairments. Determination of incapacity requires a formal declaration, supported by either:

- A medical certification, or
- A Guild full consensus vote.

Retroposity -

A voluntary, unconditional act of goodwill, whether given, received, or returned, that exists outside transactional expectation; support because it feels aligned. It is a loop of empathy.

Retroprosody -

The lingering emotional tone or rhythm (prosody) that returns (retro) from a past act of kindness or care.

Retroposity Ledger – A transparent record of spontaneous goodwill acts carried out by Representatives under the Retroposity allowance.

SCAS (Shared Cap Allocation System) -

The liquidity and fairness engine that governs the Betterment Fund's Shared Aid Allocation Pool, including per-Representative caps, replenishment, and Retroposity limits.

Shared Aid Allocation Pool -

The SCAS-managed pot of Betterment Fund capital from which Assistance Contracts and Retroposity draws are made.

Becoming – the process of growth and transformation into one's potential.

Resonance – alignment through harmony, not opposition.

Parallel design – a way of life built beside existing systems, not dependent on them.

Stewards – caretakers of future potential, not owners of it.

◆ **A Living Charter, Constitution & Bylaws**

(legal unity)

This Living Book is the sole and complete governing document of the Antiquity Guild.

It functions as our charter, constitution, and bylaws; defining all authority, structure, roles, and decision-making.

It is a living document: adaptive, evolving, and bound always to the Guild's mission and core values.

All amendments must align with these values and follow the consensus process outlined within.

This Book anticipates incompleteness; where gaps, contradictions, or unforeseen conditions arise, interpretation favors restraint, reversibility, and alignment with core values over literalism.

This document is legally binding under applicable law.

No other governing documents shall exist beyond it.

◆ **Edits & Amendments**

(change guidance)

This Living Book evolves with purpose and care.

Edits may be made by the Guildmaster at any time for clarity, consistency, structural refinement, or expanded nuance.

The Guildmaster may also introduce new sections to improve Guild functionality or to articulate roles, practices, and values with greater depth.

Amendments are substantive changes to the rights, responsibilities, or foundational framework of the Guild.

Amendments may be proposed by any Representative, Guardian, or group thereof, and require consensus approval by all active Representatives and Guardians.

The Guildmaster may veto any amendment that, in their judgment, conflicts with the Guild's core values or long-term mission.

All edits and amendments are recorded openly in the Transparency Hub Change Log.

Every amendment must be accompanied by a Change Log entry describing the conditions that prompted the revision, the limitations of the prior text, and the rationale for how the change preserves alignment with the Guild's core values.

Through this practice, the Book remains both living and accountable.

◆ **Amendments Process**

(change method)

Any proposed changes to the Living Book by Guardians or Representatives must be presented transparently to the entire Guild.

Proposed amendments must be reviewed within 30 days of submission; And shall require a full consensus vote from all Representatives and Guardians to be enacted.

The Guildmaster holds the authority to veto proposed amendments to the Living Book at any time during their lifetime in accordance with the mission and core values.

The Core Values and Mission of the Guild cannot be amended. This is Absolute.

◆ **Compliance Clarification**

(legal posture)

The Antiquity Guild is a Washington Unincorporated Nonprofit Association (UNA).

Taxes: Files federal corporate-style returns; pays WA B&O, sales/use, and payroll taxes as due. Contributions are not tax-deductible.

Fundraising: Registers annually with WA Charities Program if publicly soliciting.

Money: Guild funds are Guild property; no co-mingling; no money transmission.

Vault: Principal untouchable; invested prudently; up to 4–5% of average value may be appropriated yearly; results disclosed.

Insurance: Maintains GL, D&O, Fidelity/Crime, and event coverage as needed.

Signatures: “[Legal Name], Guildmaster, on behalf of Antiquity Guild (UNA).”

Annual Rhythm: File taxes; renew charities; renew insurance; publish quarterly ledgers and annual summary.

◆ **Founder’s Declaration**

(founder limits)

The Antiquity Guild is not my property. Its Treasury, Vault, and works belong to the mission alone.

My personal estate remains separate.

I may receive modest pay, but never ownership.

When I die, there will be no new Guildmaster, the Guild shall continue through its Guardians and

Representatives in shared consensus, as the Living Book prescribes.

The dissolution of the Guildmaster role is irreversible and may not be reinstated by consensus, vote, or emergency.

During the Guild's formation, I may apply strong directional influence to establish structure and momentum.

That influence exists to distribute capacity, not to create dependence, and will diminish as shared leadership becomes viable.

♦ **Closing Reflection**

(closing ethos)

We are here to hold space

for becoming, for balance, and for the future.

This means supporting growth, change, and care
without imposing control or domination.

This Guild serves as a handrail in transition,
offering guidance without force.

As a hearth for the weary,
providing care without obligation.

As a home for the willing,
welcoming participation without coercion.

Within this Guild, harm is not accepted as a condition of belonging.

No person is required to suffer, submit, or be diminished in order to remain.

Growth does not require abandonment:

no one is asked to erase their identity, history, or dignity to move forward.

This work is not rebellion against others,

but reassurance to those who arrive here.

It is a parallel design for mutual betterment,

grounded in empathy without erasure

and in change without domination.

This was built intentionally with hope,

without walls, without gates, and without forced allegiance.

Its respect is universal in scope,

and its standard is dignity, always.

This Book concludes here.

What follows is entrusted to those who act in good faith,

guided by the values written within this Living Book.