

Constitution of Friends of the Lancaster Parks and Recreation

Article 1- Definitions

As used in this Constitution, unless the context otherwise clearly requires, the words in this article shall have the following meanings:

- 1) Organization: The Friends of the Lancaster Parks and Recreation
- 2) Board: The Board of Directors of this Organization.
- 3) Bylaws: The Bylaws of this Organization.
- 4) Trustee: A member of this Organization's Board of Directors.
- 5) Member: A member of this Organization.
- 6) Year: The twelve-month period following the Annual Membership Meeting.

Article 2- Name

The name of this Organization shall be known as Friends of the Lancaster Parks and Recreation and is classified as a 501(c)(3) tax exempt Organization under the rules and regulations as set forth by the Internal Revenue Code (or similar statutes hereafter enacted).

Article 3- Locality of this Organization

The locality of this Organization is as follows: Lancaster, Ohio 43130

Article 4- Object

The object of the Organization shall be to maintain an association of persons interested in parks and recreation; to support, promote, encourage parks and recreation services, activities and facilities and to focus public attention to scholarships, endowments and/or gifts and bequests. ~~with the approval of the Lancaster Board of Park Commissioners.~~

Article 5- Meetings

Section 1- Regular Meetings.

- a) *Date and Time.* This Organization shall hold a Regular Board Meeting once each month on the day and time provided in the Bylaws.
- b) *Change of Meeting.* For good cause, the Board may change a Regular Board Meeting to any day during the period commencing with the day following the preceding regular meeting and ending with the day preceding the next regular meeting or to a different hour of the regular day or to a different place.
- c) *Cancellation.* The Board may cancel a Regular Meeting if it falls on a legal holiday, including a commonly recognized holiday, or in case of the death of a Member, or of an epidemic or of a disaster affecting the whole community, or an armed conflict in the community which endangers the lives of any/all members of the community.

Section 2- Annual Meeting. An Annual Membership Meeting for the election of Officers and Trustees and any other business shall be held each year with notification to all Members as provided in the Bylaws.

Section 3- Special Meetings. A Special Meeting may be convened by the Board at any time as provided in the Bylaws.

Article 6- Membership

Section 1- Membership in this Organization shall be open to all individuals, businesses and representatives from organizations that are in accord with the object of the Organization as provided in the Bylaws.

Section 2- Membership shall entitle each individual, business or representative from an organization to a vote as provided in the Bylaws.

Section 3- Forfeiture of Property Interest

Any person whose membership has terminated in any manner shall forfeit all interest in any funds or other property belonging to the Organization if, under local laws, the Member may have acquired any right to them upon joining/contributing to the Organization.

Article 7- Attendance

Section 1- General Provisions. Each Trustee should attend this Organization's Regular Board Meetings and all Regular Board Meetings shall be open, to observe the Board's function, to those individuals, businesses and representatives from organizations whose members are in good standing.

Section 2- Excused Absences. A Trustee's absence shall be excused if:

- a) The absence complies with the conditions and under the circumstances as approved by the Board.
- b) The Board may excuse a Trustee's absence for which it considers to be good and sufficient.
- c) Such absence shall not extend for longer than twelve (12) months.
- d) The Trustee has notified the Organization's President or Secretary of the Trustee's desire to be excused from attendance and the Board has approved.

Article 8- Officers and Trustees

Section 1- Governing Body. The governing body of this Organization shall be the Board constituted as provided in the Bylaws.

Section 2- Authority. The Board shall have general control over all Officers and Trustees and, for good cause, may declare any office vacant.

Section 3- Officers. The Organization's Officers shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer and, prior to being elected as an Officer, these persons shall have served on the Board as provided in the Bylaws.

Trustees. There shall be fifteen (15) Trustees, including the four (4) Officers, and any vacancies shall be elected by the Members at its Annual Membership Meeting.

Section 4- A Nominating Committee shall be formed by the Board for the purpose of bringing a single slate of nominees to the Members for election as provided in the Bylaws.

Section 5- Election of Officers.

- a) *Terms of Officers.* Each Officer shall be elected as provided in the Bylaws. Each Officer shall take office following election by the Members and shall serve for the term as provided in the Bylaws.
- b) *Term of President.* The President shall be elected as provided in the Bylaws and shall serve as President upon election. The President shall take office following the election of the Members at the Annual Membership Meeting and the duties of the President shall be as provided in the Bylaws.
- c) *Qualifications.* Each Officer and Trustee shall be a Member in good standing of this Organization.

Article 9- Admission Fees and Dues

Every Member shall pay annual dues as provided in the Bylaws.

Article 10- Types and Duration of Membership

- a) The types of membership are as provided in the Bylaws.
- b) The duration of membership shall continue during the existence of this Organization but shall automatically terminate when a Member no longer meets the membership qualifications as provided in the Bylaws.

Article 11- Acceptance of Object and Compliance with the Constitution and Bylaws

By payment of dues, a Member accepts the object of the Organization as provided in this Constitution and the Bylaws of the Organization.

Article 12- Bylaws

This Organization shall adopt Bylaws consistent with its Constitution and such Bylaws may be amended from time to time as therein provided.

Article 13- Interpretation

Throughout this Constitution and adjoining Bylaws, the terminology "mail", "mailed or "mailing" will include utilization of electronic mail (e-mail), fax and any other internet technology to reduce costs and increase responsiveness.

Article 14- Amendments

This Constitution may only be amended by the majority of Members present at the Annual Membership meeting and any and all proposed amendment(s) shall have been mailed to the Members at least fourteen (14) days prior to the Annual Membership Meeting.

Article 15- Property and Dissolution

The interest of a Member in the property of the Organization is limited as provided in the Bylaws.

(Proposed) September 2, 2014

(Adopted) November 6, 2014

(Proposed) July 7, 2015