

# **The South End Neighborhood Association**

## **By-laws**

### **Article I - Name and Purpose**

#### **Section 1**

The name of this Association shall be the South End Neighborhood Association.

#### **Section 2**

The purpose of the South End Neighborhood Association will be exclusively social and civic; to promote, coordinate and implement all aspects of community planning through neighborhood participation and advice to the City Commission, the Planning Commission and other planning and advisory bodies; to provide a vehicle for maximum citizen participation in promoting the livability and environment of the neighborhood; to participate together in their mutual interest and to promote and coordinate communication among its members and between neighborhood and City government, all of which is not for profit.

This association shall be nonpartisan and will assist in the dissemination of information on all matters affecting the growth and development of the above described neighborhood.

#### **Section 3**

The South End N/A shall comply with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.

### **Article II - Boundaries and Membership**

#### **Section 1**

The area served by the association shall include the following boundaries - see attached map.

#### **Section 2**

All persons, 18 years or older who reside, own property, or operate a business in the area described above in Article II, Section 1, shall be eligible for membership.

### **Section 3**

There will be no dues or other requirements imposed which would in any way prevent any person who meets the description above in Article II, Section 2 from becoming or remaining a member of this N/ A. Contributions, contracts, grants or paid advertisements in the neighborhood newsletter may be used as sources of association income.

### **Section 4**

The privileges and responsibilities of membership are:

- a) To participate in a civil manner related to all business conducted by the N/A.
- b) To attend meetings and to speak from the floor on any issue which is being considered by the N/ A.
- c) To vote (if of voting age, see Article VII. Section 1.) on motions placed before the general membership at regular or special meetings, including participation in the election of officers and to run for any office of the N/A.
- d) To serve on committees of the n/ A.

### **Section 5**

Any and all organized efforts to raise funds for the N/ A shall be approved by the Steering Committee and ratified by a majority vote of the General Membership.

## **Article III - Accountability and Grievances**

### **Section 1**

The association shall be accountable to the people of the neighborhood, defined by the attached map. The association shall provide notification to the neighborhood of meetings, elections, action taken on issues, and other pertinent events as specified in these by-laws.

### **Section 2**

The association and its elected officers shall be responsible for seeking the views of the residents affected by proposed policies or actions before adopting any recommendations, through a regular and orderly process.

### **Section 3**

Dissenting views on any issue considered by the neighborhood association shall be transmitted along with any recommendations submitted for governmental review. Resolution of any grievances concerning the activities, policies or recommendations of the association shall be determined by majority vote of the members present at the association's meeting during which the grievance is scheduled for resolution. Both dissenting views and grievances shall be noted in the minutes.

### **Section 4**

The names, addresses and telephone numbers of the chief officers shall be filed with the appropriate governmental agencies responsible for notifying neighborhood associations of matters which affect them, and the association shall undertake to keep this listing correct.

## **Article IV - Steering Committee and Quorum**

### **Section 1**

There shall be a steering committee composed of the four elected officers currently serving, the immediate past chairman of the Association, and a minimum of four (4) and maximum of eight (8) members elected at large.

### **Section 2**

Members-at-large shall be elected by membership at the annual meeting of the N/A.

### **Section 3**

Any member of the Steering Committee who misses three (3) unexcused consecutive meetings shall be deemed to have vacated his/her position.

### **Section 4**

When a vacancy occurs, the Steering Committee may make a temporary appointment to serve until the next general election.

## **Section 5**

The duties of the Steering Committee shall be to:

- a) Coordinate all activities of the association by acting as its spokesperson through review, discussion and by referring issues for a vote by the membership. Members of the Steering committee shall make regular reports to the membership at general meetings, concerning all of the Steering Committee activities.
- b) Investigate thoroughly and keep the membership informed about issues of concern to the association and neighborhood.
- c) Recruit members to serve on standing committees.
- d) Facilitate the above purposes by each member-at-large of the Steering Committee acting as chairperson for one or more of the following standing committees (once the committee(s) become activated):
  1. Transportation, Automobile, Bicycle and Traffic Committee;
  2. Government, budgets, ballot measures and election issues, candidate fair or forum (representing all sides of issues)
  3. Comprehensive Planning and Land Use;
  4. Crime Prevention/Safety (Neighborhood Watch, Block Homes, and street lighting);
  5. Energy Conservation and Resource Efficiency;
  6. Neighborhood History Committee;
  7. Housing and Care Facilities;
  8. Membership and Neighborhood Activities;
  9. Newsletter and Publicity Committee;
  10. Pedestrian and Handicapped Barriers
  11. Parks and Recreation, Landscape and Trees Committee;
  12. Neighborhood Assets (individuals, social organizations, churches, schools, etc.); and
  13. Programs and Speakers
  14. Citizens Involvement Committee
  15. Police Advisory Committee

## **Section 6**

Four (4) members present at any regularly scheduled meeting of the Steering Committee shall constitute a quorum.

## Article V - Officers

### Section 1

Officers shall be elected at the annual meeting for terms of two years and shall perform the following duties:

- a) **Chairperson** - Presides at all general meetings of the membership and meetings of the Steering Committee; prepares the agenda for general membership and special meetings, shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee; performs such other duties as shall be delegated by the Steering Committee. The Chairperson may appoint members to serve on special projects (i.e. The South Fork Water Board Citizen Advisory Committee, the Oregon City Rate Review Committee, Transportation Advisory Committee, and other committees of the City of Oregon City and other jurisdictions such as Tri-Met, Metro, etc.).
- b) **Vice Chairperson** - Performs the duties of the Chairperson in his or her absence, and performs other duties as shall be delegated by the Steering Committee.
- c) **Secretary** - Records minutes and keeps records of attendance of all general meetings and meetings of the Steering Committee, provides copies of the minutes to each member at the general meeting or in the association's newsletter. Keeps records of attendance of all general and Steering Committee meetings. Coordinates and maintains files of all association related correspondence on behalf of the general membership, the Steering Committee and the standing committees. Maintains accurate and up-to-date files of all correspondence and minutes and stores them at the Secretary's home address. The Secretary also provides that copies are on file with City of Oregon City (see Article X. Section 2.).
- d) **Treasurer** - Prepares and presents an annual balanced operations budget for approval by the membership at the annual meeting. Accounts for the receipt of contributions and other sources of funding. Disburses approved expenditures. Authorizes payment of bills within the limits of the approved budget as directed by the Steering Committee. Makes available an up-to-date financial statement at all Steering Committee and membership meetings.

### Section 2

Authorized Signatures - All officers will be authorized as co-signers on expenditures and payment vouchers, all of which require two signatures. Checks will also require signatures of two officers. If officers are of the same household, they shall not be co-signers on the same

voucher. All financial statements will be mailed to the chairperson from the institution. Chairperson shall review and forward to treasurer for reconciliation.

## **Article VI - Committees**

### **Section 1**

Committees shall have responsibilities such as their names indicate and as may be assigned to them by the Steering Committee. Each committee shall develop a statement of organization and purpose to be approved by the general membership.

### **Section 2**

Special committees may be created by the Steering Committee, or by vote of the membership, as needed to expedite the work of the N/ A. Members of standing committees shall elect their own committee Chairman and Vice Chairman. Any members of the N/ A may serve on the standing or special committees. Members of the standing committees shall be appointed by the Steering Committee.

### **Section 3**

The standing committee chairperson may appointment subcommittees or work groups to assist the committee in its responsibilities provided, however, that the chairperson of any subcommittees or work group is a member of the standing committee.

### **Section 4**

A majority of the committee members present shall constitute a Quorum. Committee action shall be by a majority of those present and voting.

### **Section 5**

Committees shall make recommendations to the Steering Committee for action. Committees shall not have the power to act on behalf of the association without specific authorization from the general membership or Steering Committee.

## **Article VII - Meetings**

### **Section 1**

The annual General Membership meeting for the election of officers and approval of the budget shall be held on the third Thursday of May at 7 p.m., at a place determined by the Steering Committee.

### **Section 2**

General Membership meetings shall be held on the third Thursday of the month in the months of January, March, May, August and October at 7 p.m., at a place determined by the Steering committee unless otherwise noted in the N/ A's newsletter.

### **Section 3**

A quorum for any General Membership or Special meeting of the N/ A shall be the number of members in attendance. Unless otherwise specified in these by-laws, decisions, with the exception of amendments to the by-laws, shall be made by a majority vote of those members present at any meeting.

### **Section 4**

The chairperson shall prepare the agenda for general and special meetings of the membership subject to the approval of the Steering Committee. Any person may add an item to the agenda by submitting the item in writing to the chairperson at least seven (7) days in advance of the membership meeting. Any member of the N/ A may make a motion to add an item to the Steering, general or special meeting agendas. That motion requires a second and majority vote.

### **Section 5**

Meetings of the Steering Committee shall be held as scheduled by the Steering Committee.

### **Section 6**

Special meetings may be called by the chairperson or by members (any three (3) members for a meeting of the Steering Committee and any ten (10) members for a meeting of the membership) provided the Steering Committee members or membership (as appropriate) is notified of the special meeting at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting.

## **Section 7**

All meetings of the association shall be open to the public.

# **Article VIII - Elections**

## **Section 1**

Members 18 years of age and older shall be able to vote in all regular and special elections of officers.

## **Section 2**

Any member 18 years of age or older, may run for any vacant office by simply declaring his or her intention to do so. Any member may be nominated for any vacant office by any other member of the association

## **Section 3**

A Nominating Committee shall be elected at the regular meeting of the general membership prior to the election. Members of the Nominating Committee are not barred from becoming nominees for office themselves. The Nominating Committee shall nominate at least one candidate for each office. Before making its report, the Nominating Committee will contact each person whom it wishes to nominate. The Nominating Committee is automatically discharged when its report is formally presented to the membership.

## **Section 4**

Regular elections of officers shall be held at the annual May meeting. Special elections may be held at any regular meeting, for the purpose of filling vacant positions, provided the membership is notified of the special election, at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting.

## **Section 5**

A vote by proxy, an absentee vote, a vote by mail and a secret ballot of the members in private after which only the result is announced to the public will not be allowed.

## **Article IX Conflict of Interest**

### **Section 1**

A conflict of interest exists for a member or Steering Committee whenever the Steering Committee member holds a personal financial interest which will be impacted by the action or inaction by the N/ A on a proposal before the membership or Steering Committee. A personal financial interest shall include a financial interest held by the member or Steering Committee member and or by members of their immediate family. Examples of personal financial interest would include: ownership of property, the use or control of which is being considered by the N/ A, plans to purchase property the use or control of which is under discussion by the N/A, etc.

### **Section 2**

Whenever a general member or Steering Committee member determines that they have a conflict of interest relating to an item under discussion, they may still vote, however, must inform the body (membership or Steering Committee) hearing the proposal that the conflict of interest exists. However, they may still vote.

## **Article X - Public Meetings/Public Records Requirements**

### **Section 1**

The N/ A shall abide by all Oregon statutes relative to public meetings and public records.

### **Section 2**

Official action(s) taken by the N/A must be on record and part of the minutes of each meeting. The minutes shall include a record of attendance and the results of any vote(s) taken. A summary of dissenting views should be transmitted along with any recommendation made by the N/A to the City.

## **Article XI - Non-Discrimination**

### **Section 1**

The N/A must not discriminate against individuals or groups on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, national origin, income, or political affiliation in any of its policies, recommendations or actions.

## **Article XII - Parliamentary Authority and Amendments**

### **Section 1**

The most current edition of The Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern the procedures of the association when the procedure is not otherwise covered by these by-laws.

### **Section 2**

These by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of a minimum of 15 members present and voting at any regular meeting of the association, provided that notice of the proposed amendment shall have been read at the previous regular meeting and the membership is notified of the intent to amend the by-laws in writing at least thirty (30) days in advance of the meeting.

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