

# **NON-PROFIT BYLAWS OF COUNTRYWOOD HIGHLANDS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

## **PREAMBLE**

The following Bylaws shall be subject to, and governed by, the Non-Profit Corporation Act of Alabama and the Articles of Incorporation of Countrywood Highlands Neighborhood Association. In the event of a direct conflict between the herein contained provisions of these Bylaws and the mandatory provisions of the Non-Profit Corporation Act of Alabama, said Non-Profit Corporation Act shall be the prevailing controlling law. In the event of a direct conflict between the provisions of these Bylaws and the Articles of Incorporation of Corporation/Organization, it shall then be these Bylaws which shall be controlling.

## **ARTICLE 1 – NAME**

The legal name of the Non-Profit Corporation/Organization shall be known as Countrywood Highlands Neighborhood Association, and shall herein be referred to as the "Corporation/Organization."

## **ARTICLE 2 – PURPOSE**

The general purposes for which this Corporation/Organization has been established are as follows:

The purpose for which the Non-Profit Corporation is formed is set forth in the attached Articles of Incorporation.

The Corporation/Organization is established within the meaning of IRS Publication 557 Section 501(c)(7) Organization of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code and shall be operated exclusively for tending to the community and a social organization for the neighborhood.

In addition, this Corporation/Organization has been formed for the purpose of performing all things incidental to, or appropriate in, the foregoing specific and primary purposes. However, the Corporation/Organization shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, engage in any activity or the exercise of any powers which are not in furtherance of its primary non-profit purposes.

The Corporation/Organization shall hold and may exercise all such powers as may be conferred upon any nonprofit organization by the laws of the State of Alabama and as may be necessary or expedient for the administration of the affairs and attainment of the purposes of the Corporation/Organization. At no time and in no event shall the Corporation/Organization participate in any activities which have not been permitted to be carried out by a Corporation/Organization exempt under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code").

### **ARTICLE 3 – OFFICES**

The principal office of the Corporation/Organization shall be located in the Countrywood Highlands neighborhood in Vestavia Hills, Alabama 35243.

The Corporation/Organization may have other such offices as the Board of Directors may determine or deem necessary, or as the affairs of the Corporation/Organization may find a need for from time to time.

### **ARTICLE 4 – DEDICATION OF ASSETS**

The properties and assets of the Corporation/Organization are irrevocably dedicated to and for non-profit purposes only. No part of the net earnings, properties, or assets of this Corporation/Organization, on dissolution or otherwise, shall inure to the benefit of any person or any member, director, or officer of this Corporation/Organization. On liquidation or dissolution, all remaining properties and assets of the Corporation/Organization shall be distributed and paid over to an organization dedicated to non-profit purposes which has established its tax-exempt status pursuant to Section 501(c) of the Code.

### **ARTICLE 5 – BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### **General Powers and Responsibilities**

The Corporation/Organization shall be governed by a Board of Directors (the "Board"), which shall have all the rights, powers, privileges and limitations of liability of directors of a non-profit corporation organized under the Non-Profit Corporation Act of Alabama. The Board shall establish policies and directives governing business and programs of the Corporation/Organization and shall delegate to the Executive Director and Corporation/Organization staff, subject to the provisions of these Bylaws, authority and responsibility to see that the policies and directives are appropriately followed.

#### **Number and Qualifications**

The Board shall have up to 4, but no fewer than 2, Board members. The number of Board members may be increased beyond 4 members or decreased to less than 2 members by the affirmative vote of a simple majority of the then serving Board of Directors.

#### **Board Compensation**

The Board shall receive no compensation other than for reasonable expenses. However, nothing in these Bylaws shall be construed to preclude any Board member, neighbor, or family member of a Board member from serving the Corporation/Organization in any other capacity and receiving compensation for services rendered.

#### **Board Elections**

The neighborhood may present nominations for new and renewing Board members immediately following dues collection in an election year. New and renewing Board members shall be approved by a majority of those voting in the neighborhood.

#### **Term of Board**

All appointments to the Board shall be for a term of 2 year(s). No person shall serve more than 2 consecutive terms unless a majority of the Board, during the course of a Board meeting at which a quorum is present, votes to appoint a Board member to additional

year(s). No person shall serve more than 6 consecutive years. After serving the maximum total number of consecutive years on the Board, a member may be eligible for reconsideration as a Board member after 1 year has passed since the conclusion of such Board member's service.

### **Vacancies**

A vacancy on the Board of Directors may exist at the occurrence of the following conditions:

- a) The death, resignation, or removal of any director;
- b) The declaration by resolution of the Board of a vacancy in the office of a director who has been declared of unsound mind by a final order of court, convicted of a felony, found by final order or judgment of any court to have breached a duty pursuant to the Corporation Code and/or Act of the law dealing with the standards of conduct for a director, or has missed a total of 4 meetings of the Board during any one calendar year;
- c) An increase in the authorized number of directors; or
- d) The failure of the directors, at any annual or other meeting of directors at which director(s) are to be elected, to elect the full authorized number of directors.

The Board of Directors, by way of affirmative vote of a majority of the directors then currently in office, may remove any director without cause at any regular or special meeting, provided that the director to be removed has been notified in writing in the manner set forth in Article 5 – Meetings that such action would be considered at the meeting.

Except as provided in this paragraph, any director may resign effective upon giving written notice to the chair of the Board, the president of Corporation/Organization, the secretary of Corporation/Organization, or the Board of Directors, unless the notice specifies a later time for the effectiveness of the resignation. If the resignation is effective at a future time, a successor may be designated to take office when the resignation becomes effective.

Any vacancy on the Board may be filled by vote of a simple majority of the directors then in office, whether or not the number of directors then in office is less than a quorum, or by vote of a sole remaining director. No reduction of the authorized number of directors shall have the effect of removing any director before that director's term of office expires.

A Board member elected to fill a vacancy shall be elected for the unexpired term of his or her predecessor in office.

### **Resignation**

Each Board member shall have the right to resign at any time upon written notice thereof to the Chair of the Board, Secretary of the Board, or the Executive Director. Unless otherwise specified in the notice, the resignation shall take effect upon receipt thereof, and the acceptance of such resignation shall take effect upon receipt thereof, and the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

### **Removal**

A Board member may be removed, with or without cause, at any duly constituted meeting of the Board, by the affirmative vote of a simple majority of then-serving Board members.

### **Meetings**

The Board's regular meetings may be held at such time and place as shall be determined by the Board. The Chair of the Board or any regular Board members may call a special meeting of the Board with 5 days' written notice provided to each member of the Board. The notice shall be served upon each Board member via hand delivery, regular mail, email, text, or call. The person(s) authorized to call such special meetings of the Board may also establish the place the meeting is to be conducted, so long as it is a reasonable place to hold any special meeting of the Board.

### **Minutes**

The Secretary shall be responsible for the recording of all minutes of each and every meeting of the Board in which business shall be transacted in such order as the Board may determine from time to time. However, in the event that the Secretary is unavailable, the Chair of the Board shall appoint an individual to act as Secretary at the meeting. The Secretary, or the individual appointed to act as Secretary, shall prepare the minutes of the meetings, which shall be delivered to the Corporation/Organization to be placed in the minute books. A copy of the minutes shall be delivered to each Board member via either regular mail, hand delivered, emailed, or faxed within 5 business days after the close of each Board meeting.

### **Action by Written Consent**

Any action required by law to be taken at a meeting of the Board, or any action that may be taken at a meeting of the Board, may be taken without a meeting if consent in writing setting forth the action so taken shall be signed by all Board members. The number of directors in office must constitute a quorum for an action taken by unanimous written consent. Such consent shall be placed in the minute book of the Corporation/Organization and shall have the same force and effect as a unanimous vote of the Board taken at an actual meeting. The Board members' written consent may be executed in multiple counterparts or copies, each of which shall be deemed an original for all purposes. In addition, facsimile signatures and electronic signatures or other electronic "consent click" acknowledgments shall be effective as original signatures.

### **Quorum**

At each meeting of the Board of Directors or Board Committees, the presence of 11 persons shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. If at any time the Board consists of an even number of members and a vote results in a tie, then the vote of the President shall be the deciding vote. The act of the majority of the Board members serving on the Board or Board Committees and present at a meeting in which there is a quorum shall be the act of the Board or Board Committees, unless otherwise provided by the Articles of Incorporation, these Bylaws, or a law specifically requiring otherwise. If a quorum is not present at a meeting, the Board members present may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice until a quorum shall be present. However, a Board

member shall be considered present at any meeting of the Board or Board Committees if during the meeting he or she is present via telephone or web conferencing with the other Board members participating in the meeting.

### **Voting**

Each home shall only have one vote.

### **Proxy**

Board members shall be allowed to vote by written proxy.

## **ARTICLE 6 – OFFICERS**

### **Officers and Duties**

The Board shall elect officers of the Corporation/Organization which shall include a President (Executive Director), a Secretary, a Treasurer (Chief Financial Officer), and such other officers as the Board may designate by resolution. In addition to the duties in accordance with this Article, officers shall conduct all other duties typically pertaining to their offices or any other office as needed.

It shall be the responsibility of the President, when present, to preside over all meetings. The President is authorized to execute, in the name of the Corporation/Organization, any and all contracts or other documents which may be authorized, either generally or specifically, by the Board to be executed by the Corporation/Organization, except when required by law that the President's signature must be provided.

### **President (Executive Director)**

It shall be the responsibility of the President, in general, to supervise and conduct all activities and operations of the Corporation/Organization, subject to the control, advice and consent of the neighborhood. The President shall keep the Board of Directors completely informed, shall freely consult with them in relation to all activities of the Corporation/Organization, and shall see that all orders and/or resolutions of the Board are carried out to the effect intended. The Board of Directors may place the President under a contract of employment where appropriate. The President shall be empowered to act, speak for, or otherwise represent the Corporation/Organization between meetings of the Board. The President shall be responsible for the hiring and firing of all personnel, and shall be responsible for keeping the Board informed at all times of staff performance and for implementing any personnel policies which may be adopted and implemented by the Board. The President, at all times, is authorized to contract, receive, deposit, disburse and account for all funds of the Corporation/Organization, to execute in the name of the Corporation/Organization all contracts and other documents authorized either generally or specifically by the Board to be executed by the Corporation/Organization, and to negotiate any and all material business transactions of the Corporation/Organization.

**Secretary**

The Secretary, or his/her designee, shall be the custodian of all records and documents of the Corporation/Organization, which are required to be kept at the principal office of the Corporation/Organization, and shall act as secretary at all meetings of the Board of Directors, and shall keep the minutes of all such meetings on file in hard copy or electronic format. S/he shall attend to the giving and serving of all notices of the Corporation/Organization and shall see that the seal of the Corporation/Organization, if any, is affixed to all documents, the execution of which on behalf of the Corporation/Organization under its seal is duly authorized in accordance with the provisions of these bylaws.

**Treasurer (Chief Financial Officer)**

It shall be the responsibility of the Treasurer to keep and maintain, or cause to be kept and maintained, adequate and accurate accounts of all the properties and business transactions of the Corporation/Organization, including accounts of its assets, liabilities, receipts, disbursements, gains, losses, capital, retained earnings, and other matters customarily included in financial statements.

The Treasurer shall be responsible for ensuring the deposit of, or cause to be deposited, all money and other valuables as may be designated by the Board of Directors. Furthermore, the Treasurer shall disburse, or cause to be disbursed, the funds of the Corporation/Organization, as may be ordered by the Board of Directors, and shall render to the Chair of the Board, President, and directors, whenever they request it, an account of all the Treasurer's transactions as treasurer and of the financial condition of the Corporation/Organization.

The Treasurer shall give the Corporation/Organization a bond, if so requested and required by the Board of Directors, in the amount and with the surety or sureties specified by the Board for faithful performance of the duties of the Treasurer's office and for restoration to the Corporation/Organization of all its books, papers, vouchers, money and other property of every kind in the Treasurer's possession or under the Treasurer's control upon the Treasurer's death, resignation, retirement, or removal from office. The Corporation/Organization shall pay the cost of such a bond.

**ARTICLE 7 – COMMITTEES****Committees of Directors**

The Board of Directors may, by resolution adopted by a majority of the directors then in office, provided that a quorum is present, designate one or more committees to exercise all or a portion of the authority of the Board, to the extent of the powers specifically delegated in the resolution of the Board or in these bylaws. Each such committee may also include persons who are not on the Board but whom the directors believe to be reliable and competent to serve at the specific committee. The Board of Directors may also designate one or more advisory committees that do not have the authority of the Board. However, no committee, regardless of Board resolution, may:

- a) Approve of any action that, pursuant to applicable Law, would also require the affirmative vote of the members of the Board if this were a membership vote.
- b) Fill vacancies on, or remove the members of, the Board of Directors or any committee that has the authority of the Board.
- c) Fix compensation of the directors serving on the Board or on any committee.
- d) Amend or repeal the Articles of Incorporation or bylaws or adopt new bylaws.
- e) Amend or repeal any resolution of the Board of Directors that by its express terms is not so amendable or repealable.
- f) Appoint any other committees of the Board of Directors or their members.
- g) Approve a plan of merger, consolidation, voluntary dissolution, bankruptcy, or reorganization; or a plan for the sale, lease, or exchange of all or considerably all of the property and assets of the Corporation/Organization otherwise than in the usual and regular course of its business; or revoke any such plan.
- h) Approve any self-dealing transaction, except as provided pursuant to law.

Unless otherwise authorized by the Board of Directors, no committee shall compel the Corporation/Organization in a contract or agreement or expend Corporation/Organization funds.

## **ARTICLE 8 - STANDARD OF CARE**

### **General**

A director shall perform all the duties of a director, including, but not limited to, duties as a member of any committee of the Board on which the director may serve, in such a manner as the director deems to be in the best interest of the Corporation/Organization and with such care, including reasonable inquiry, as an ordinary, prudent, and reasonable person in a similar situation may exercise under similar circumstances.

In the performance of the duties of a director, a director shall be entitled to rely on information, opinions, reports, or statements, including financial statements and other financial data, in each case prepared or presented by:

- a) One or more officers or employees of the Corporation/Organization whom the director deems to be reliable and competent in the matters presented;
- b) Counsel, independent accountants, or other persons, as to the matters which the director deems to be within such person's professional or expert competence; or
- c) A committee of the Board upon which the director does not serve, as to matters within its designated authority, which committee the director deems to merit confidence, so long as in any such case the director acts in good faith, after reasonable inquiry when the need may be indicated by the circumstances, and without knowledge that would cause such reliance to be unwarranted.

Except as herein provided in Article 8 - Standard of Care, any person who performs the duties of a director in accordance with the above shall have no liability based upon any failure or alleged failure to discharge that person's obligations as a director, including, without limitation of the following, any actions or omissions which exceed or defeat a

### **Preparation of Annual Financial Statements**

The Corporation/Organization shall prepare annual financial statements using generally accepted accounting principles. Such statements shall be audited by an independent certified public accountant, in conformity with generally accepted accounting standards. The Corporation/Organization shall make these financial statements available to the Alabama Attorney General and members of the public for inspection no later than 5 days after the close of the fiscal year to which the statements relate.

### **Reports**

The Board shall ensure an annual report is sent to all directors within 5 days after the end of the fiscal year of the Corporation/Organization, which shall contain the following information:

- a) The assets and liabilities, including trust funds, of this corporation at the end of the fiscal year.
- b) The principal changes in assets and liabilities, including trust funds, during the fiscal year.
- c) The expenses or disbursements of the Corporation/Organization for both general and restricted purposes during the fiscal year.
- d) The information required by Non-Profit Corporation Act concerning certain self-dealing transactions involving more than \$50,000 or indemnifications involving more than \$10,000 which took place during the fiscal year.

## **ARTICLE 11 – FISCAL YEAR**

The fiscal year for this Corporation/Organization shall end on December 31.

## **ARTICLE 12 – AMENDMENTS AND REVISIONS**

These bylaws may be adopted, amended, or repealed by the vote of a simple majority of the directors then in office. Such action is authorized only at a duly called and held meeting of the Board of Directors for which written notice of such meeting, setting forth the proposed bylaw revisions with explanations therefore, is given in accordance with these bylaws. If any provision of these bylaws requires the vote of a larger portion of the Board than is otherwise required by law, that provision may not be altered, amended or repealed by that greater vote.

## **ARTICLE 13 – CORPORATE/ORGANIZATION SEAL**

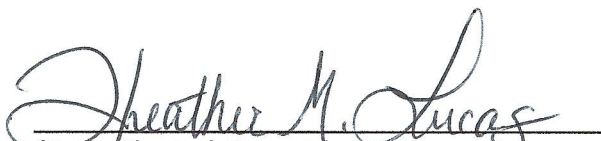
The Board of Directors may adopt, use, and alter a corporate/organization seal. The seal shall be kept at the principal office of the Corporation/Organization. Failure to affix the seal to any corporate/organization instrument, however, shall not affect the validity of that instrument.

## **ARTICLE 14 – CONSTRUCTION AND DEFINITIONS**

Unless the context otherwise requires, the general provisions, rules of construction, and definitions contained in the Non-Profit Corporation Act as amended from time to time shall govern the construction of these bylaws. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing,

Corporation/Organization, and the above bylaws are the bylaws of this Corporation/Organization as adopted by the Board of Directors on June 16, 2021, and that they have not been amended or modified since the above.

**EXECUTED** on this day of 6/16/21, in the County of Jefferson in the State of Alabama.

  
(Duly Elected Secretary)