# **BY-LAWS**

# BY-LAWS OF THE BOULEVARD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

## ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of the Association shall be the "Boulevard Neighborhood Association" hereinafter referred to as the Association. Its boundaries shall be the CSX railroad tracks and Cleveland Avenue on the north, the north side of Prince Avenue on the south, both sides of Pulaski Street and Standard Oil Street on the east and both sides of Pound Street on the west.

## ARTICLE II. PURPOSE AND GOALS

The purpose and goals of the Association shall be to preserve and enhance the character of the area defined in Article I as a desirable downtown neighborhood; to maintain the integrity, aesthetics, and predominately residential character of the area and its historic structures; to protect the environment and natural features of the area; to encourage persons to buy, restore, and improve homes in the area; to prevent intrusions which are destructive to the character of the area and to promote neighborliness.

## ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Membership may be extended to any person or organization that shares the goals of the Association outlined in Article II and pays the annual dues established by the Steering Committee for the following membership categories: Individuals or Families residing within the Association's boundaries, Businesses located within the Association's boundaries, and Friends who are located outside its boundaries. Each household, organization or business shall count as one member and shall have one vote. Membership is for one year beginning in January and ending in December. Membership must be renewed within 60 days of the new year or membership is automatically terminated but can be re-instated upon receipt of payment. Persons who have resided within the Association's boundaries for 25 years or more may, upon verification and approval of the Steering Committee, be exempted from the requirement to pay dues and designated Life Members of the Association. Any member may resign by notifying the Steering Committee of this desire. Membership fees are not refundable or transferable. Any member may be suspended or expelled by a majority vote of the Association or majority vote of the Steering Committee. Only members who reside or own businesses within the Association's boundaries shall have voting privileges.

# ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

The officers of the Association shall consist of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary-Archivist, and Treasurer. Officers shall be elected by a plurality vote of the Association membership for a term of one year. Officers may succeed themselves.

CHAIRPERSON. The Chairperson shall preside at Association meetings and meetings of the Steering Committee, shall preserve order and regulate debate, shall supervise the affairs of the Association and shall attend to its executive matters. He/she or an alternate so

designated shall represent the Association as the liaison to the Federation of Community Associations.

VICE-CHAIRPERSON. The Vice-Chairperson shall preside over meetings when the Chairperson is absent and shall assist the Chairperson as needed. The Vice-Chairperson shall succeed the Chairperson in the event that position is vacated.

TREASURER. The Treasurer shall have general charge of the funds of the Association and shall make reports of all receipts and disbursements. The Treasurer, under the direction of the Steering Committee, shall pay all properly certified bills in a timely manner. In the event of the temporary absence or disability of the Treasurer, his or her duties shall be performed by a person designated by the Chairperson.

SECRETARY-ARCHVIST. The Secretary-Archivist shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Steering Committee and the general membership and shall notify the members of the time and place of all such meetings. The Secretary-Archivist shall be responsible for receiving, filing, and retaining all Association records, including relevant newspaper clippings and other materials pertaining to the work of the Association. In the event of the temporary absence or inability of the Secretary-Archivist, his or her duties shall be performed by a person designated by the Chairperson.

#### ARTICLE V. STEERING COMMITTEE

The Association shall be governed by a Steering Committee, also known as the Board of Directors. The Steering Committee shall be composed of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson, the Treasurer, the Secretary-Archivist, the chairpersons of the Association's standing committees, and between two and six additional members of the Association. Steering Committee members, including officers, shall be elected for a term of one year by the membership at the annual business meeting with terms beginning in January and following the calendar year. Steering Committee members may succeed themselves. Steering Committee members may resign by tendering their resignation to the Steering Committee, or a member may be removed by majority vote of the other members. In the event of absence or disability of a member of the Steering Committee, the Chairperson shall have the right to nominate a successor subject to confirmation by a majority vote of the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee may establish such accounts with banks, trust companies or other financial institutions, as it deems appropriate. All written contracts or obligations shall be signed by the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and the Treasurer.

The Steering Committee is authorized to take public positions on behalf of the Association on issues that affect the neighborhood, based upon a majority vote of 3/4 of the Steering Committee members attending a meeting, provided a quorum is present, or of a 3/4 majority of all Steering Committee members in the event of a telephone or e-mail vote. Any such decision by the Steering Committee will be disclosed to the Membership at least one week prior to any announcement to the general public on behalf of the Association. The Membership shall have the right to over-ride any such action of the Steering Committee by submitting a petition signed by a simple majority of Association members whose current dues are paid in full as of the submission date.

#### ARTICLE VI. STANDING COMMITTEES

Association Standing Committees shall be: MEMBERSHIP/FINANCE, PROGRAMS, NEWSLETTER/PUBLICITY, NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH, and PRESERVATION/ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY. The chairperson of each committee shall be responsible for appointing committee members. The Steering Committee may establish

temporary committees as it deems appropriate. Association members may serve on more than one committee.

MEMBERSHIP/FINANCE. This committee shall be responsible for recruiting new members and organizing the Association's membership meetings. The Treasurer shall serve as vice-chair of this committee. The committee shall oversee the fiscal operations of the Association.

PROGRAMS: This committee shall be responsible for organizing social gatherings and other neighborhood events.

NEWSLETTER/PUBLICITY. This committee shall produce the Association's newsletter, coordinate all publicity deemed necessary by the Steering Committee, and notify Steering Committee members of the time and place of Committee meetings.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH. This committee shall coordinate and execute events normally involved with crime prevention including the designation of block captains, workshop attendance, inviting speakers, and monitoring crime prevention programs.

PRESERVATION/ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY. This committee shall coordinate the encouragement and promotion of preservation of old structures in the community and work with other organizations in Athens interested in preservation. It shall be responsible for all environmental monitoring and improvement projects of the Association including a biennial neighborhood cleanup and maintenance of neighborhood signs.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK/PUBLIC GREEN SPACE. This committee shall coordinate with appropriate county departments and other organizations to manage and maintain Boulevard Woods. The committee shall fulfill the Association's park-related obligations as described in any agreements or memorandums of understanding with Athens-Clarke County and Athens Land Trust.

#### ARTICLE VII. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

The initial officers of the Boulevard Neighborhood Association shall consist of those officers elected by the Historic Boulevard Neighborhood Association in 1991. These officers shall appoint a temporary Steering Committee to serve until the annual business meeting in 1993. Prior to the annual business meeting, the Vice-Chairperson shall appoint a nominating committee to recommend a slate of officers and other Steering Committee members for the upcoming year. This slate shall be approved by a majority vote of the Steering Committee and then presented to the general membership for a vote at the annual business meeting. Nominations for all positions on the Steering Committee may be made from the floor by the general membership provided prior consent of the nominee has been expressed. The nominee for each Steering Committee position who receives plurality vote shall be elected. A quorum shall consist of 1/3 of the Association's membership.

## ARTICLE VIII. MEETINGS

OF THE MEMBERSHIP. There shall be at least two meetings of the membership of the Association each year, at a time and place determined by the Steering Committee. One of these meetings shall be the annual business meeting for the election of the Steering Committee, reports by officers and standing committee chairpersons, and recognition of special members and friends. Special gatherings of the membership also may be called by

the Steering Committee. Notice of such gatherings shall be mailed or hand delivered no less than two weeks prior to such gatherings.

OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE. The Steering Committee shall meet at the end of each membership meeting to transact any pending Association business. Special meetings of the Committee may be called by the Secretary upon the request of any two Steering Committee members with not less than 24 hours notice. The quorum for transacting Association business shall consist of a majority of Committee members. When an event requires immediate action and time does not permit a formal convening of the Committee, action may be taken with the phone call and/or e-mail approval of a majority of the Committee.

OF STANDING AND TEMPORARY COMMITTEES. Standing and special committees shall be convened at the call of the committee chair.

## ARTICLE IX. FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year for all business transactions shall be the calendar year.

## ARTICLE X. AMENDMENTS

These by-laws may be amended by a majority vote of 2/3 of the membership in attendance at a membership meeting. Proposals to amend the by-laws shall be in writing and approved by a majority of the Steering Committee. Notice of any proposed amendments shall be mailed or hand delivered at least thirty days prior to any membership vote on same.

## ARTICLE XI. NOTIFICATION

The primary means of disseminating information to the membership of the Association will be via e-mail. While this method may be supplemented by other means of communication, an e-mail notice to an Association member's last known e-mail address will be deemed sufficient notice.

Adopted the 24th day of February, 1993. Amended the 20th day of November, 2003. Amended the 12th day of November, 2007. Amended the 4th day of December, 2011.