

Bylaws of the Heritage Neighborhood Association
Amended March 2014

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of the organization shall be the Heritage Neighborhood Association.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The Association shall be a nonprofit organization within which the residents of the Heritage Neighborhood can promote and protect the quality of life, safety and residential characteristics of the neighborhood primarily and all neighborhoods generally.

ARTICLE III. TERRITORIAL BOUNDARIES

The boundaries of the Association shall be:

East side of Lamar Boulevard,
West side of Guadalupe,
North side of West 29th Street,
South side of West 38th Street, within the City of Austin, Texas.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership shall be open to any adult (18 years or older) residing in the neighborhood.
 - a. Annual dues shall be fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per household or ten (\$10.00) per individual due in January of each year.
 - b. Each adult in a member household present at any general meeting shall be entitled to one (1) vote, provided no household shall have more than two (2) votes (a household shall be a unit that contains sleeping accommodations, kitchen, a bath and separate access).
 - c. Anyone becoming a paid-up member for the first time must wait 30 days before being entitled to the privilege of voting.
 - d. A member household that has been delinquent in payment of dues less than 2 years may be reinstated to voting rights upon payment of current dues, with no waiting period.

ARTICLE V. OFFICERS

There shall be three (3) officers of the Association. These shall be a President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

1. The duties of the officers in addition to those prescribed by the parliamentary authority shall include the following provisions:
 - a. The President shall with the advice and consent of the Steering Committee be the principal representative for the Association at public functions or shall appoint

other representatives as necessary. The President shall be ex-officio member of all committees except the Bylaws and Nominations Committee. The President shall share all mail received relating to the neighborhood with the Steering Committee for their consideration and needed action.

- b. The Secretary in the absence of the President shall take on the duties of the President.
 - c. The Secretary shall record information concerning the Association.
 - d. The Treasurer shall collect, disburse and safely keep all Association monies and shall maintain a membership roster of voting households.
 - e. No officer may speak or act on behalf of the Association's position unless there has been a vote on the issue.
2. Officers shall be elected by the general membership at the annual meeting.
 - a. The Steering Committee may submit a list of nominees for the officers.
 - b. Nominations may be made from the floor by members of the Association at the annual meeting provided they have consulted the persons they wish to nominate and that person has consented to serve if elected.
 3. The officers shall take office at the close of the meeting at which they are elected. The term shall extend for one year until the close of the next election meeting or until their successor is elected.
 - a. If an officer vacancy should occur, a new officer may be elected at the next general meeting.
 - b. Vacancies occurring in the other offices or in other Steering Committee positions shall be filled by the Steering Committee, which shall name persons to complete unexpired terms.
 4. Election of an officer shall be by secret ballot if there is more than one candidate for the office.

ARTICLE VI. STEERING COMMITTEE

The Steering Committee shall be the principal governing body of the Association.

1. It shall consist of at least nine (9) members in good standing, including the three (3) officers.
2. Members of the Steering Committee shall be elected for one-year terms at an annual meeting. As in the case of the election for the officers, Art. V, 2a. and 2b., the Steering Committee shall submit nominees and members may nominate from the floor people who have consented to serve if elected.
3. The Steering Committee shall meet as called by the President or by any 30% of its members. There shall be at least two (2) days' notice of any special meeting. All Steering Committee meetings will be announced and open to the general membership.
4. The Steering Committee may designate a member of the organization to represent the Association at meetings of the Austin Neighborhood Council and CANPAC.

5. The Steering Committee shall be empowered to conduct the business of the Association between membership meetings. It shall make recommendations for action and policy to the general membership. In case of necessity it shall be empowered to determine policy positions by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Steering Committee membership.
6. The Steering Committee shall approve expenditures at its discretion. All expenditures shall be reported by the Steering Committee to the membership at the next general meeting.
7. In addition to the regular members of the Steering Committee the chairpersons of special committees may vote on matters that relate to the business of their committee, as determined by the Steering Committee.
8. A member of the Steering Committee with three (3) unexcused absences in a term may be removed from the committee by a majority vote of the Steering Committee. Members are vested with the responsibility for preserving and enhancing the good name and reputation of the Association and for achieving the purpose stated in Article II. Members may be removed for unbecoming conduct by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Steering Committee.

ARTICLE VII. MEETINGS

1. General membership meetings shall be convened as determined by the Steering Committee, but no fewer than three (3) times a year including an annual meeting.
2. The annual meeting shall be the first meeting of the calendar year and shall include election of members to the Steering Committee and annual reports by the existing committees to the membership. Date to be set by the Steering Committee.
3. Notice of special or general meetings shall be made to the membership no less than four (4) days in advance of the meeting.
4. A quorum shall consist of twenty (20) percent of the voting members.
5. A special meeting of the general membership must be called upon receipt by the Steering Committee of a petition requesting and stating the reason for such a meeting and bearing the signatures of no fewer than fifteen (15) voting members of the Association. Only business specified in the call may be transacted. The meeting shall be called within fourteen (14) days unless a scheduled regular meeting shall intervene, in which case the business of the special meeting shall be considered at the general meeting. The petitioners shall deliver the meeting notices.

ARTICLE VIII. COMMITTEES

There may be two (2) classes of committees within the Association, Standing Committees and Special Committees. Committees do not take action; they only make recommendations.

1. Members of the Standing Committees shall be elected by the general membership or

steering committee. Standing committees may be formed upon recommendation of the Steering Committee and approved by the general membership

2. Special Committees may be formed as necessary by the Steering Committee or by motion from the floor at a general membership meeting.
3. Committees shall be dissolved upon completion of their respective tasks, or after one year, whichever comes first. They may be reinstated by majority vote of the general membership, which shall periodically review the need for such Committee.

ARTICLE IX. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

Neither the Association nor any member purporting to speak for the Association shall endorse any candidate for public office or any political party. Membership rosters of the Association shall not be used for political, commercial, or other activity not directly related to the Association.

ARTICLE X. POLICY DETERMINATION

Policy includes actions and positions for the Association including those relayed to City Council, boards, staff, developers, and/or the media. All policy actions and positions shall be determined by 60% majority vote of the membership present at a meeting of the general membership or in case of necessity, between membership meetings, by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Steering Committee. When the Steering Committee votes on a policy position, the general membership shall be notified within 2 days. Failure by the Steering Committee members to represent this majority view shall be considered unbecoming conduct.

ARTICLE XI. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Bylaws.

ARTICLE XII. AMENDMENT

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at any meeting of the general membership, provided that written notice has been given to all members at least four (4) days in advance or announced at the preceding general meeting.

ARTICLE XIII. DISSOLUTION

Upon the dissolution of the Heritage Neighborhood Association no class of member shall have any right nor shall receive any assets of the Association. The assets of the Association shall be permanently dedicated to a tax-exempt purpose, as determined by the membership. In the event of dissolution, the Association's assets after payment of debts shall be distributed to an organization that is tax-exempt under the provisions of Section 501 c (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.