

**ARTICLE I
ORGANIZATION**

The name of the organization shall be Friends of the Franklin County Library. It shall be an unincorporated not for profit organization serving under the auspices of the Franklin County Library Board which is appointed by the Franklin County Commissioners Court.

**ARTICLE II
PURPOSE**

The Association is organized exclusively for the charitable, educational, religious or scientific purposes within the meaning of section 501 ©(3) of the Internal Revenue.

**ARTICLE III
OBJECTIVES**

While “Friends of a Public Library” is a nationwide organization, locally its purpose is to support the Franklin County Library as a cultural and educational center in Franklin County. Specifically, the local “Friends” shall have the following objectives:

1. To create public support to an expanding library program.
2. To encourage gifts, endowments, and memorials for the library.
3. To provide direct financial assistance by purchasing special items and supplies which are needed but not available within the library budget.
4. To work for library legislation, appropriations, and grants.
5. To sponsor programs designed to add to the cultural life and interests of the community.
6. To assist in the sale of surplus books.

**ARTICLE IV
MEMBERSHIP AND DUES**

A. Any person interested in the promotion of the Franklin County Library and who pays specified annual dues shall be eligible for membership in this organization.

B. There shall be the following classes of membership with the membership code indicated in brackets.

1. Students (S): Any person enrolled as a full time student as defined by the educational facility. Dues are \$3
2. Regular (R): Any person who wishes to show support for the library. Dues are \$10.
3. Sustaining Family (F): Any family which wishes to support the library. Dues are \$30.
4. Corporate (C): Any corporation or business supporting the library. Dues are \$75.
5. Supporting Member (SM): Any person, family, or business who wishes to provide extra support. Dues are \$100.
6. Patron (P): Any person, family or business who wishes to provide extra, extra support. Dues are \$250.

7. Benefactor (B): Any person, family or business wishing to support the library to this unusual degree. Dues are \$500 or more.

C. All members shall be notified of membership meetings and invited to participate.

D. Names and addresses of all members shall be contained in the annual report.

ARTICLE V MEETINGS

A. There shall be at least one membership meeting annually. The annual meeting shall be held at a time and place determined by the President. Other membership meetings may be called by the President or two members of the executive board. Five members present at the membership meeting shall constitute a quorum.

B. The executive board normally will meet monthly as determined by the board. The schedule of such meetings shall be made available to all members. Five members of the executive board shall constitute a quorum. The president may call special meetings.

C. All meetings shall be conducted generally in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order, Newly revised.

ARTICLE VI ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AND OFFICERS

A. The executive board shall consist of the following:

President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and a minimum of 2 and maximum of 8 members at large.

B. The President shall appoint a nominating committee which shall present to the membership at its annual meeting a slate of nominees for election of officers of the executive board. Nominations may be made from the floor. Vacancies which occur due to resignations, death or for any other reason during any year may be filled by election of the remaining members of the executive board. Terms of office begin and end at the annual meeting.

ARTICLE VII DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

It shall be the duties of the executive board to:

A. Keep a complete record of all its action and present a statement thereof to the members at the annual membership meeting.

B. Supervise all officers, agents, and committees of this organization and to see that their duties are properly performed.

C. Exercise all powers, duties, and authority vested in or delegated to this organization and not reserved for the membership by provisions of these by laws.

D. Purchase (or otherwise accept, mortgage, sell, rent, dedicate, or otherwise dispose) of any property, personal or real which may be appropriate.

E. Establish a mailing address and bank account. Collect dues, gifts, memorials, wills, grants or other funds which may become available. Pay all indebtedness which may be due. Purchase operating supplies and other needed items. Render funds to the account of the Library Board of Directors for funding of library needs as requested.

F. The executive board shall serve without compensation. However, they may be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses.

G. Any member of the executive board with three consecutive absences at a regular meeting shall be removed from the board.

ARTICLE VIII DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

A. PRESIDENT

1. The president shall be chairperson of the executive board and preside at all meetings of the Friends.

2. The President shall be ex-officio member of all committees except for the nominating committee and shall represent or name a representative of the Friends to the meetings of the Franklin County Library Board of Directors.

3. The President shall appoint the chair person of all committees. In the event of resignations or inability to serve as an officer, the President, with the approval of the executive committee, shall appoint a replacement.

4. The President shall present or cause to be presented an annual report at the annual membership meeting.

B. FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

The First Vice-President shall be chair person of the Membership Committee. Upon resignation or removal from office of the President, this officer shall become President for the remainder of the year.

C. SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

The Second Vice-President shall be chair person of the Special Activities Committee.

D. TREASURER

The Treasurer shall collect all dues, receive all monies and keep an accurate account of all receipts and expenditures, and shall sign checks whenever possible. The Treasurer shall prepare an annual budget and present a financial report at the annual membership meeting.

ARTICLE IX STANDING COMMITTEES AND DUTIES

The following standing committees shall be composed of a chair person and one member with the privilege of soliciting more members if needed.

A. PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

This committee shall be responsible for keeping the community advised of the activities, projects and accomplishments of the Friends by publicizing them in the various news media.

B. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

This committee shall be responsible for the continuing expansion of the membership and maintaining a current listing of all the members, the status, address and phone number of each.

C. YEARBOOK COMMITTEE

This committee shall compile a yearbook with names, addresses and telephone numbers of all members. The yearbook shall contain a copy of the bylaws and other appropriate data.

D. VOLUNTEER PLACEMENT COMMITTEE

This committee shall solicit and schedule Friends to work in the library whenever needed and for assistance to the library in such events as book sales.

**ARTICLE X
ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS AND BYLAWS**

A. Adoption of these bylaws may be made by a 2/3 vote of the initial executive board and may be amended by a 2/3 vote of that board during the initial year of operation.

B. Beginning on January 1, 1998, amendments may be made by a 2/3 vote of the members voting at a membership meeting provided that the proposed amendments have been approved by the executive board and the membership has been notified of the proposed amendments prior to the meeting at which they are to be voted.

**ARTICLE XI
STANDING RULES**

A. The fiscal year shall be January 1 through December 31.

B. Dues shall be paid on the basis of the fiscal year. However, new members joining the organization after 15 July may do so at one half the normal price of membership for that year.

C. Officers and members of the Executive Board shall be indemnified for all actions with respect to their offices except in the event of deliberate misconduct.

**ARTICLE XII
INUREMENT OF INCOME**

No part of the earnings of the Association shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its other members, trustees, officers or other private persons except that the Association shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered.

**ARTICLE XIII
LEGISLATIVE OF POLITICAL ACTIVITIES**

No substantial part of the activities of the Association shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation and the Association shall not participate in or intervene (including the publishing of or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

**ARTICLE XIV
OPERATIONAL LIMITATIONS**

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, the Association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an Association exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by an Association, contributions to which are deductible under section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

**ARTICLE XV
DISSOLUTION CLAUSE**

Upon the dissolution of the Friends of the Franklin County Library, the Association shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the Association, render all assets of the Association exclusively for the purpose of the Association to the Franklin County Library Board.

Original bylaws approved on January 21, 1997, and amended and approved on July 3, 1997, March 1, 2007, and March 24, 2009.