

Bylaws of the North Fork Landowners' Association

The North Fork Landowners' Association (formerly the North Fork Improvement Association) is a not-for-profit corporation. It was founded in 1947. The association owns Sondreson Hall, North Fork Road at Whale Creek, which serves as a center for business and social functions on the North Fork. The original bylaws of the association were adopted on June 9, 1947, and have been amended since. The following version of the bylaws incorporates all amendments adopted through August 1, 2009. Original bylaws and amendments are on file with the secretary-treasurer.

ARTICLE I—PURPOSE

The purpose of this corporation, as stated in its certificate of articles of incorporation, is to promote the general welfare of the community of the upper valley of the North Fork of the Flathead River, being that portion of such valley bounded by the international border on the north, and by Big Creek and a line extending east from the mouth of Big Creek through said valley, and to construct, reconstruct, operate, maintain and regulate the use of a community building in which meeting of the corporation and other community functions may be held. The association shall pursue the interests of all North Fork landowners, regardless of permanent residence, and encourage and facilitate their participation in association activities.

ARTICLE II—MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1

Active members shall be those real estate owners and/or resident adult members of their immediate families living in the upper valley of the North Fork of the Flathead River within the State of Montana, as defined in the purposes of this corporation. Associate members shall be any individuals, firms or corporations who are interested in the community. Associate members shall be entitled to all privileges of the members, except that they shall not hold elective office nor shall they vote.

SECTION 2

Persons desiring to become members of this association shall make a written application to the secretary-treasurer. The secretary-treasurer shall determine the eligibility of each applicant for active membership according to the rules in Article II, Section 1 and its amendments.

SECTION 3

Voting rights. Each member shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members, provided such member is in good standing at the time of such voting.

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SECTION 4

Membership in this corporation is not transferable or assignable.

ARTICLE III—MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

SECTION 1

Regular Meetings. There shall be regular monthly meetings of the general membership from June through October. These meetings shall take place on the first Saturday of each month or on another day of each of those months, as scheduled and published by the board of directors.

SECTION 2

Annual Meeting. The meeting for the election of officers shall be the first Saturday in the month of August in each year.

SECTION 3

Special Meetings. Special meetings may be called at any time by the board of directors, members to be notified in writing ten days prior to the date set for the meeting.

SECTION 4

Place of Meeting. The meetings shall be held in the community building, or at such other place as the board of directors may from time to time determine. Special meetings shall be held at such place as the board of directors may determine.

SECTION 5

Quorum. The active members present at any regular or special meeting for which written notice has been given, as aforesaid, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the corporation. A quorum shall consist of three (3) of the elected officers and no less than ten (10) members.

SECTION 6

Proxies. Members shall vote in person and not by proxy.

ARTICLE IV—OFFICERS/ELECTIONS

All officers shall be active members in good standing of the organization. Duly elected officers shall assume duties immediately upon conclusion of the annual election.

President. The president shall be elected at the regular election meeting each year. The president shall serve for one year and be eligible for re-election for a second consecutive term only. Candidates for president may be nominated from the floor and voting shall be by secret ballot. The president shall preside at all

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meetings of the organization and shall serve as chairman of the board of directors.

Vice President. The vice president shall be elected at the same time and in like manner as the president. The term of office shall be one year, and the vice president shall be eligible for re-election for an unlimited number of consecutive or non-consecutive terms. In the absence of the president, the vice president shall assume all duties and responsibilities of the president

Secretary-Treasurer. The secretary-treasurer shall be an appointed position with such appointment being made by the presiding president, with board approval, rather than an elected position, due to the computer and bookkeeping knowledge currently required in filling this position. The voting rights of the secretary-treasurer will not be affected by this amendment.

Duties of the secretary-treasurer shall be to: take and keep minutes of association meetings; write letters, as directed by the president or the board of directors; determine the eligibility of those applying for membership; receive and account for all monies collected and spent by the association; give a financial report at each meeting; prepare an annual financial report for distribution to the general membership; maintain the association's membership, dues, financial and other records, and surrender those records to the succeeding secretary-treasurer. For the purposes of dues collection, budgeting and the annual financial report, the association's fiscal year shall be September 1 through August 31.

The secretary-treasurer shall deposit and retain all association funds in a bank account, certificate of deposit or other secure instrument, as directed by the board of directors. All association bills or reimbursements shall be paid by check.

Past President. Upon completing his term of office, the immediate past president becomes an ex officio member of the board of directors until the term of the president who succeeded him ends.

Directors. Four directors, two from each of two districts (defined below), shall be elected in the same manner as the president. The term of office for each shall be two years, with one director from each district being elected in an odd-numbered year and the others elected in an even-numbered year. There is no limit to the number of consecutive or non-consecutive terms a director may serve.

Definition of Districts: District 1, the South District, shall comprise the area between the source and mouth of Big Creek and a line extending east there from, north to the source and the mouth of Whale Creek and a line extending east there from. District 2, the North District, shall comprise the area between District 1 and the Canadian border.

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Board of Directors. The board of directors shall comprise four duly elected directors plus four ex officio members: the president, vice president, secretary-treasurer and immediate past president. The president shall be chairman of the board of directors and shall vote at a board of directors, regular or special meeting only in case of a tie. Any three members of the board of directors shall constitute a quorum. Meetings of the board of directors may be called at any time by the chairman or by a quorum of members of the board of directors.

Elections. Elections shall take place annually at the August regular meeting of members, at a time and place scheduled and published by the board of directors. Nominations for all directors and officers shall be taken from the floor. All active members in good standing, as defined in these bylaws, shall be eligible to vote. Voting shall be by secret ballot, and shall be conducted by a person appointed by the presiding officer of the August meeting.

ARTICLE V—DUES

Each member shall be in good standing and eligible to vote for one year after receipt of payment of dues. The amount of each year's dues for active and associate members shall be based on the financial requirements of the association, and shall be determined by a majority vote of the board of directors.

ARTICLE VI—CONTRIBUTIONS

To maintain its non-profit status, protect its treasury, and assure that its business is conducted in a fair, orderly and consistent manner, the association will not make monetary contributions to support the work of other organizations.

ARTICLE VII—AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

All amendments to, substitutions for, or alterations of these bylaws, must be presented in writing by an active member in good standing at the July business meeting, and voted on at the August business meeting. Two-thirds of the members present shall be necessary to the final adoption of any amendments to, substitutions for, or alterations of the bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII—EFFECTIVE DATE

These bylaws shall be in full force and effect from and after their adoption. Adopted by the Association at the meeting of July 1, 1978.

End Bylaws