

CONSTITUTION

&

BYLAWS

of the

ALLEGHANY
HISTORICAL-
GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY,
INC.

CONSTITUTION

ALLEGHANY HISTORICAL-GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Article I

Name

The name of this society shall be The Alleghany Historical-Genealogical Society, Inc.

Article II

Purpose

The purpose of this society shall be to bring together those people interested in genealogical and historical material in North Carolina and especially in Alleghany County. Understanding the genealogy and history of our community is basic to our democratic way of life, gives us a better understanding of our state and nation, and promotes a better appreciation of our American heritage.

The society will function so as to discover and collect any material which may help to establish or illustrate the genealogy and history of the area: its exploration, settlement, development and activities in peace and in war; its progress in population, wealth, education, arts, science, agriculture, manufactures, trade, and transportation; and acquaint members with sources of genealogical materials in North Carolina and elsewhere. It will collect printed material such as histories, genealogies, biographies, descriptions, gazetteers, directories, newspapers, pamphlets, catalogs, circulars, handbills, programs and posters; manuscript material such as letters, diaries, journals, memoranda, reminiscences, rosters, service records, account books, charts, surveys, and field books; and museum material such as pictures, photographs, paintings, portraits, scenes, aboriginal relics, and material objects illustrative of life, conditions, events, and activities of the past and the present.

The society will provide for the preservation of such material and for its accessibility, as far as may be feasible, to all who wish to examine or study it, to cooperate with officials in insuring the

preservation and accessibility of the records and archives of the county and of its cities, towns, villages, and institutions.

The society will disseminate genealogical and historical information and arouse interest in the past by publishing historical material in the newspapers or otherwise; by holding meetings, with pageants, addresses, lectures, papers and/or discussions; and by using all available forms of media to awaken and stimulate public interest and support.

The society will cooperate with state and other genealogical and historical societies and commissions to collect and preserve materials of significance so that these materials can be made available to the public.

Article III ***Membership***

Membership shall be of three classes:

- ***Individual Members*** - Any individual interested in the purposes of the society shall be eligible.
- ***Institutional Members*** - Any organization, board, school, or library interested in the history of Alleghany County shall be eligible.
- ***Honorary Members*** - Honorary membership may be conferred upon any individual whose activities have contributed to the objectives of the society. Honorary members shall be elected by a three-fourths vote of members present at an annual meeting, upon nomination by the board of directors.
- ***Life Members*** (*individual only*).

Article IV ***Annual Meeting***

The annual meeting of the society to vote shall be held in February.

Article V
Officers and Board of Directors

Section 1. The officers shall be:

- A ***president*** and a ***vice-president*** elected for a term of one year, a ***secretary*** elected for a term of three years, a ***treasurer*** elected for a term of three years
- Up to nine ***board members***, elected for a term of three years
- ***Institutional members*** from the Sparta Town Council, the Allegheny County Sheriff's Office, and the Allegheny County Commissioners.

Section 2. The officers, board members, and institutional members shall constitute the board of directors.

Section 3. Institutional members of the board of directors are non-voting members, but they are invited to every meeting.

Article VI
Election of Officers and Board of Directors

Section 1. All officers and directors shall be elected by a plurality of votes cast at the annual meeting. Only active members will be eligible to vote in any election. (Active members must be current in dues payments.)

Section 2. The Board recommends a slate of officers at the annual meeting.

Section 3. Nominations may also be made by any member of the society at any time prior to balloting at the annual meeting. Any nomination shall be added to the slate of candidates. A candidate for election shall be an active member.

Section 4. A person who has been elected to the board of directors for two consecutive terms, or elected as president or vice-president for three consecutive terms, shall not be nominated to the same office unless one year elapses between the end of his or her last term and the beginning of the term for which he or she is nominated.

Section 5. Officers and directors shall be installed at the close of the annual meeting at which they are elected and shall serve until their successors have been duly elected and installed. In the event of resignation or incapacity of any officer except the president, or any director, the vacancy may be filled by a vote of the board of directors for the unexpired term of office.

Article VII ***Amendments and Revisions***

This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds vote of those voting, provided notice was given at the previous meeting. Or it may be amended at a special meeting called for that purpose, with previous notice and a two-thirds vote of those attending. All proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing, with copies distributed.

The constitution and bylaws should be revised every three years.

BYLAWS

ALLEGHANY HISTORICAL-GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Article I

Membership and Dues

Section 1. Any individual interested in the history of Alleghany County who applies for membership in any classification of membership and who tenders the necessary dues shall thereby become a member.

Section 2. Annual dues for *Individual Members* shall be twenty dollars (\$20.00).

Section 3. Dues for *Life Members* shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

Section 4. *Institutional Members* and *Honorary Members* will not be required to pay dues.

Section 5. Annual dues shall be payable in advance, by January 31, and members in arrears shall be dropped from membership two months after being duly notified that he or she is in arrears. Membership dues must be paid by April 1 to be considered an active member.

Section 6. Only active members will be eligible to vote in any election. Active members must be current in dues payments.

Section 7. Any member may be expelled, by a unanimous vote of the directors, for acts which, in the opinion of the directors, are detrimental to the interest of the Society or for conduct unbecoming a member.

Article II

Schedule and Quorum for Meetings

Section 8. Regular meetings of the society shall be held monthly, except for December, unless otherwise cancelled by the president.

Section 9. Special meetings may be called by the president.

Section 10. The board of directors shall meet monthly. Special meetings of the board of directors may be called by the President.

Section 11. Eight people shall constitute a quorum at regular meetings of the society.

Article III

Duties of the Officers and Directors

Section 1. The president shall have executive supervision over the activities of the society within the scope provided by these bylaws. He or she shall preside at all meetings. He or she shall report annually on the activities of the society. He or she shall appoint the members of committees and delegates not otherwise provided for.

Section 2. The vice-president shall assume the duties of the president in the event of absence, incapacity, or resignation of the president.

Section 3. The secretary shall be responsible for the minutes of meetings of the society and of the board of directors

Section 4. The treasurer shall be responsible for maintaining a list of members, safekeeping of society funds and for maintaining adequate financial records, depositing all monies received with a reliable bank in the name of the Alleghany Historical-Genealogical Society, Inc., (monies shall be paid out by numbered checks or by use of a debit card), collecting dues and rendering an annual report based on the calendar year. Debit card entries will be recorded on an expense report.

Section 5. Checks shall be signed by the treasurer and counter-signed by the president. These positions are to be bonded.

Section 6. The board of directors shall have the power to conduct all affairs of the society. It shall select candidates for office, pursuant to the constitution. The board of directors shall decide questions of policy that for any reason cannot be acted upon at a meeting of the society and perform such other functions as designated in the bylaws or otherwise assigned to it. At any meeting of the board of directors, four members shall constitute a quorum. The board of directors will elect its own chairman. The society will maintain a directors liability policy for the duration of their terms.

Article IV

Committees

Section 1. At the annual meeting, the board of directors will recommend a list of committees for the upcoming year.

Section 2. The board of directors shall appoint members and chairmen of the standing committees subject to the approval of the board. The board of directors shall be empowered to appoint special committees at any time, as may be deemed necessary for the conduct of the affairs of the Society. The board of directors may declare standing committees active or inactive.

Section 3. Other committees, standing or special, may be appointed by the president as directed by the society or board of directors.

Section 4. All projects of all committees shall be approved by the board of directors.

Article V ***Parliamentary Authority***

The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of the society except in such cases as are governed by the constitution or the bylaws. A parliamentarian should be appointed by the President.

Article VI ***Amendment to the Bylaws***

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds vote of those voting members in attendance, provided notice was given at the previous meeting. Or they may be amended at a special meeting called for that purpose, with previous notice and a two-thirds vote of those attending. All proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing.

Article VII ***Dissolution***

In the event of the dissolution of this society, the society shall make provision for the custody of all materials of historical value received by it by placing it in the custody of a reliable custodian as determined by the board of directors.

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Rev. 06-16-22

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