

# **Genealogical Society of Vermont**

## **BY-LAWS**

### **ARTICLE I**

#### **NAME.**

The name of this organization shall be the Genealogical Society of Vermont, Incorporated.

### **ARTICLE II**

#### **PURPOSE.**

The purposes of this Society shall be:

1. to foster genealogical interest and activities in and about the State of Vermont;
2. to provide education in genealogical research techniques;
3. to publish and make available genealogical material;
4. to ensure public access to records and promote records preservation.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **MEMBERSHIP.**

1. Membership in the Society is available to anyone interested in genealogy who intends to further the business and purposes of this Society and to abide by the rules thereof. Membership requires payment of current annual dues as determined by the Board of Directors and shall be terminated automatically for non-payment of dues following notification of arrears.
2. Membership may be terminated for cause pursuant to a hearing before the Executive Committee.
3. Libraries, societies, and other organizations may become non-voting members by paying an amount equal to individual membership dues for the purpose of receiving the Society's regular publications and mailings.

### **ARTICLE IV**

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**

The Board of Directors of this Society shall consist of the members of the Executive Committee and the chairs of the Standing Committees.

### **ARTICLE V**

#### **OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES.**

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer.
2. Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected at the annual business meeting of this Society in each even-numbered year.
3. Vacancies in the Executive Committee may be filled by the Board of Directors.
4. The duties of each Executive Committee members shall be:
  - a. President. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and shall generally oversee the work of the Society.
  - b. Vice-President. The Vice President shall take the place of the President during the President's absence and shall perform such duties as the President may delegate.
  - c. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep a full record of all the meetings of the Society, report on each meeting, and hold all Society records and papers.
  - d. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall oversee and report on the financial affairs of the Society.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **STANDING COMMITTEES.**

1. The chairs of the Standing Committees shall be appointed by the President with the consent of the Executive Committee. The chairs of such committees will choose additional committee members as needed with the consent of the President.
2. The Standing Committees shall be: Finance; Membership; Publications; Educational Programs; Publicity; and Website.
3. Ad hoc committees may be created from time to time as the need arises, the chairs and members of which shall be selected as in the manner of the Standing Committees.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **NOMINATION AND ELECTION PROCEDURES.**

1. A Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the President at least six months prior to the annual business meeting in even-numbered years. No more than half the members of the Nominating Committee may be currently serving on the Board of Directors.
2. Ballots shall be distributed to all voting members at least one month prior to the annual business meeting at which the election is to be held.
3. Provisions shall be made on the ballots for write-in candidates.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **MEETINGS.**

1. There shall be at least one general business meeting held each year with adequate notice given in the Society's newsletter. A quorum shall consist of at least thirty current voting members.
2. The annual business meeting will normally be the autumn meeting of the Society.
3. The Board of Directors shall meet at least twice each year, or as needed. A quorum of at least four Board members, two of whom must be members of the Executive Committee, shall be required to hold a valid Board meeting.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **AMENDMENTS.**

These by-laws may be amended at the annual business meeting after adequate notification in the Society's newsletter. Amendments may be proposed by the Board of Directors or upon petition by at least five percent of the current voting members. Proposed amendments shall be distributed to the membership in the Society's newsletter at least one month prior to the annual business meeting.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **DISSOLUTION.**

In the event the Society is discontinued, its assets, including its Permanent Fund, after a period of one year of non-existence, shall automatically become the property of the Vermont Historical Society for the purpose of purchasing genealogical materials for its library.

Adopted 21 May 1994.

Amended 19 Oct 2002.

Amended 20 Oct 2007.