

BYLAWS OF THE GERMANS FROM RUSSIA HERITAGE SOCIETY AND ITS AFFILIATED CHAPTERS

NAME AND LOCATION

The name of this organization shall be GERMANS FROM RUSSIA HERITAGE SOCIETY, also referred to as GRHS. The Headquarters of GRHS shall be in Bismarck, North Dakota.

PURPOSE

These Bylaws, when adopted, shall be applicable to the Germans from Russia Heritage Society, an international organization and its affiliated chartered Chapters. These Bylaws as revised, amended, and adopted on 14 August 1998 shall give governing authority and guidance to the GRHS membership, its Board of Directors, Executive Committee, officers and committees as described herein for the purpose of providing a coherent working relationship between all Chapters, members and the GRHS in its entirety.

PREAMBLE

We recognize the need to bring together those people interested in the collection, publication and preservation of our heritage as Germans from Russia. We will foster the preservation of folklore, songs, literature, objects of art, genealogies, photos, documents and cemetery records and do all other necessary work to carry out the objectives of this Society. We shall unite and work as one body in achieving the goals as set forth in our Articles of Incorporation and in accordance with the following Bylaws.

STRUCTURE

Germans from Russia Heritage Society shall be a non-profit, non-partisan, non-sectarian organization whose members shall have the sole right to govern and control all activities through their duly elected international officers. GRHS shall be composed of an International Board of Directors and Chapter affiliates.

DURATION

The duration of Germans from Russia Heritage Society shall be perpetual and geographical jurisdiction unlimited.

AFFILIATED CHAPTERS

An affiliated Chapter is any group of persons organized according to the rules set forth herein to further the work of our Germans from Russia Heritage Society, who has read

and adopted the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws as prescribed and who is legally Chartered under the auspices of the GRHS.

AFFILIATED TASK AND REGIONAL INTEREST GROUPS

An affiliated Task Group or Regional Interest Group is a body of persons organized according to the rules set forth herein to further the work of our Germans from Russia Heritage Society, which has examined and adopted the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws as prescribed, and which is legally chartered under the auspices of the GRHS. Task and regional interest groups are characterized by their project orientation and research focused on fixed locales, districts, regions or topics as they relate to our Germans from Russia heritage. Group membership may be local or global.

ARTICLE I

CHARTERING AND REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER

SECTION 1-A. CHARTERING A CHAPTER

Any group of persons may petition for a charter if:

- a. At least 15 paid memberships have signed the petition.
- b. The group has chosen a name and a mailing address for the proposed chapter.
- c. After examination of the GRHS Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation, petitioners will by resolution accept them as written.

SECTION 1-B. CHARTERING TASK AND REGIONAL INTEREST GROUPS

Any group of persons may petition for a charter if:

- a. At least 15 paid members have signed the petition.
- b. The group has chosen a name and a mailing address.
- c. The group provides a mission statement explaining its purpose and goals.
- d. The group submits either a list of duly elected officers or an appointed spokesperson.
- e. The group designates a technical liaison person if needed.
- f. After examination of the GRHS Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation, petitioners will by resolution accept them as written.

SECTION 2. SUSPENDING OR REVOKING A CHARTER

An affiliated Chapter, Task Group or Regional Interest Group may be suspended or revoked by the GRHS Board of Directors if, after careful examination, the body has not met any one of all of the following minimum criteria:

- a. It is found by the GRHS Board of Directors that the Chapter, Task Group or Regional Interest Group has no intent of working toward the same common goals as set out in the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation.
- b. The Chapter, Task Group or Regional Interest Group has not had a meeting for one year.
- c. The Chapter, Task Group or Regional Interest Group has not retained the required 15 paid memberships in the previous year.

The GRHS Board of Directors, after examining any or all discrepancies, must notify the respective Chapter officers or Group officers or spokesperson of record, of the intent to suspend or revoke, including the reasons. The Chapter, Task Group or Regional Interest Group shall be given a one-year probationary period from date of notification to rectify such discrepancies. If after one year the minimum criteria have not been met, it shall be assumed that a Chapter, Task Group or Regional Interest Group has no desire to continue and, therefore, the charter shall, at the discretion of the GRHS Board, be suspended or revoked. The respective Chapter officers or Group officers or spokesperson must be notified of such action. Reinstatement can be accomplished by petitioning for reinstatement in the same manner as for a new Chapter, Task Group or Regional Interest Group, including the signatures of 15 or more paid members to accompany the petition.

ARTICLE II

SECTION 1. MEMBERSHIP IN GRHS and/or A CHAPTER, TASK GROUP, REGIONAL INTEREST GROUP

Any person who is a member in good standing with the GRHS may indicate in writing to GRHS Headquarters a preference for affiliation with the Chapter, Task Group or Regional Interest Group of his/her choice, if so desired. A person may, however, remain a member of the GRHS without being affiliated with any Chapter, Task Group or Regional Interest Group. A person in good standing with the GRHS may affiliate with any number of Chapters, Task Groups or Regional Interest Groups without restriction.

A person cannot be a legal voting Chapter, Task Group or Regional Interest Group member without being a member of GRHS. A membership includes all persons regardless of age, within the same household. More than one membership card can be issued with a single membership payment. A husband and/or wife, sister, brother or any dependent child over legal voting age living in the same household or using the same address, is entitled to full voting privileges. A membership is limited to two votes, i.e. a five-card membership is limited to two votes. However, the two eligible voters must be present. A single-card membership is entitled to one vote.

SECTION 2. OPTIONAL CHAPTER, TASK GROUP OR REGIONAL INTEREST GROUP ASSESSMENT

Chapters, Task Groups or Regional Interest Groups may assess their members beyond the GRHS International dues for qualifying their members and for supporting their budgets.

SECTION 3. CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

The GRHS shall have three classes of memberships with the amount of each class established or adjusted by the GRHS members at the annual meeting or any special meeting called for that purpose. They are as follows:

- a. **Regular membership:** This membership shall include any person/persons regardless of age from within the same household. More than one membership card can be issued with this membership payment. A membership is limited to two votes (i.e. a five-card membership is limited to two votes). However, the two eligible voters must be present. This membership shall entitle the household to one year's subscription to the *Heritage Review*, including the *Stammbaum*, and to all issues of the newsletter. It will grant eligibility to all cardholders to be officeholders and will grant all other benefits which may accrue as a result of GRHS membership. This membership is renewable annually. New members will pay dues beginning in the quarter of the calendar year in which they join. A member joining in March would pay dues for one full year while a member joining in July would pay half the annual dues, etc. New member households will be entitled to one copy of all publications of the *Heritage Review*, *Stammbaum*, and *GRHS Newsletter* published in the quarter of the new membership and the remainder of the calendar year. A membership which has lapsed due to nonpayment of dues is not entitled to pro-ration upon reinstatement. A new member wishing publications for the entire year may receive them by paying full membership.
- b. **Educational membership:** This membership shall be specifically for libraries and other educational institutions. A membership card will be issued to the library or institution and will entitle the holder to one year's subscription to the *Heritage Review*, including the *Stammbaum*, and to all issues of the newsletter. This is not a voting membership. This membership is renewable annually.
- c. **Life membership:** This membership shall be issued in the names of two persons only with one card issued to each. The membership shall be for the life of the persons involved. These persons must be living in the same household. Each person shall have one vote. This membership shall entitle the household to a subscription to the *Heritage Review*, including the *Stammbaum*, and to all issues of the newsletter for the term of the membership. It will grant eligibility to the two cardholders to be officeholders and will grant all other benefits which may accrue as a result of GRHS membership. Should it become necessary that said household is terminated by death, the surviving member shall continue as a member for the rest of his/her life with only one card issued. Should said household be terminated by other means, both cardholders will continue to share the membership, each receiving a card, however, who shall be entitled to the GRHS publications shall be, determined by the parties involved. The cost of the membership may be paid in yearly installments not to exceed five years. All annual membership dues shall be due on January 1 of each year and shall be payable in advance. Persons in arrears following two notices as of January 31 of each year, shall be removed from the active membership list.

SECTION 4. DETERMINING VOTING ELIGIBILITY

The Board of Directors shall be responsible for determining the eligible voters at all meetings as described in the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.

ARTICLE III

SECTION 1. GRHS AND CHAPTER FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the GRHS and all affiliated Chapters, shall be from January 1 through December 31 of each year.

ARTICLE IV

ANNUAL AND SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE GRHS AND AFFILIATED CHAPTERS, TASK GROUPS AND REGIONAL INTEREST GROUPS

SECTION 1. GRHS ANNUAL MEETING

The GRHS annual meeting shall be held during the Annual GRHS Convention. The dates of the meeting shall be determined by the GRHS Board of Directors. Official written notice of the annual meeting shall include the date, time and place and must be sent to all members not less than 30 days prior to such meeting. Notice shall also appear in the GRHS publication mailed prior to such meeting, if possible.

All meetings shall be held in conformity with civil laws and the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the GRHS.

A quorum for the conducting of business at all GRHS General Membership meetings shall consist of those present at a LEGALLY CALLED MEETING.

All matters, unless otherwise stated in these Bylaws, shall be decided by a majority vote of those present and eligible to vote.

All persons shall be elected by receiving the highest number of votes cast, i.e. five vacancies will be filled by the five persons receiving the most votes. The Annual Meeting shall:

- a. Conduct any business deemed necessary in the best interest of the society.
- b. Elect members to the Board of Directors.
- c. Ratify appointments to the Board.
- d. Act on proposed changes to Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws. (See Article X).

In the following cases voting shall be by ballot:

- a. To elect the individual members to the Board of Directors when more than one member is nominated.
- b. To adopt or amend the Articles of Incorporation, and/or the Bylaws of the GRHS.
- c. When requested by any eligible voting member present.

SECTION 2. GRHS SPECIAL MEETING

Special meetings of the GRHS may be called by the president, vice president in the absence of the president, a majority of the Board of Directors, or by petition of at least 25 of the individual legal voting members. All special meetings shall state in writing the time, place and purpose of such meeting.

Notices in writing shall be given to all members at least 10 days prior to the calling of such meeting.

SECTION 3. CHAPTER MEETINGS

The annual meeting of any Chapter affiliated with the GRHS shall be held no later than June 30 nor before April 1 of each year. Any business deemed necessary may be conducted at the annual meeting providing the meeting has been legally called. Notice of the annual meeting must be delivered at least 30 days prior to such meeting. Notice of any special general membership meeting must be delivered not later than 10 days prior to such meeting. Annual or special meeting of the membership shall be called by the president, the vice president in the absence of the president, by a majority of the Board or Directors or by petition of at least 10% of the eligible membership.

The official notice for all annual and/or special meetings of this or any Chapter shall state in writing the time and place of the meeting and with respect to a special meeting, shall state the purpose of the meeting.

Certain procedures not specifically addressed in Section 3, Article IV, shall be governed by Section 1 and 2 in Article IV.

SECTION 4. MEETINGS AND REPORTING - TASK AND REGIONAL INTEREST GROUPS

An annual meeting, which may be held on-line, shall be a requirement. The official notice for all annual and/or special meetings of any Task Group or Regional Interest Group shall state in writing the time and place of the meeting and its purpose.

The chartered Task Group or Regional Interest Group shall on an annual basis provide a written report to the Society president. The report shall outline the group's activities and accomplishments of the preceding year.

ARTICLE V

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GRHS

SECTION 1. DIRECTORS AT LARGE AND CHAPTER DIRECTOR

The number of members of the GRHS Board of Directors shall be 15, elected at large at a legally called GRHS meeting. The term of office shall be 3 years and directors may be reelected. The terms shall be established so as to elect or reelect 1/3 of the directors each year. In addition, each chartered Chapter shall elect a director from its chapter to serve on the GRHS Board of Directors. The Chapter director shall be granted the same rights and privileges on the GRHS Board that is shared by all directors. The term of office for the chapter director shall be determined by the Chapter, but shall be at least one year and shall begin after the election of directors at the annual convention of the Society, to coincide with the terms of the directors elected at large.

SECTION 2. DUTIES OF THE GRHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The GRHS Board of Directors shall:

- a. Conduct the affairs of the GRHS.
- b. Decide questions of policy that affect the Society and its operation.
- c. Adopt guidelines that affect the Society and its operation.
- d. Reorganize immediately following the annual meeting.
- e. Elect a member to the Executive committee at the reorganizational meeting who shall serve a one-year term but may be reelected.
- f. Be bound by the decision of the Executive committee when the committee acts on behalf of the board on unfinished business, or when it is not possible to call the full board, or to have a quorum present at a regularly called Board of Directors meeting.
- g. Not be paid a director's fee for attending meetings unless authorized by the general membership at a legally called meeting.
- h. Be paid only such expenses as deemed necessary upon approval of the Board of Directors.
- i. Be empowered to establish an annual budget.
- j. Be allowed to conduct business at any regularly called meeting attended by a minimum of 25% of the Board of Directors.
- k. Fill any vacancy on the board (except a chapter elected board member) and have such appointment ratified at any general membership meeting.
- l. Appoint necessary committees.
- m. Meet at least four times each year.
- n. Begin their terms of office after the election of directors at the annual convention of the Society.

ARTICLE VI

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AN AFFILIATED CHAPTER

SECTION 1

The number of members of the Board of Directors shall be not less than five. The term of office shall be three years and each may be reelected. Terms of office shall be established to allow approximately one-third of the directors to be elected or reelected each year.

SECTION 2

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held at least twice annually and may be called by the president, the vice president in the absence of the president, or a majority of the board of Directors.

SECTION 3

The Board of Directors shall:

- a. Be empowered to conduct the affairs of the Chapter.
- b. Decide questions of policy that affect the Chapter and that for any reason cannot or were not acted upon at any annual or special meeting of the Chapter.
- c. Establish guidelines where necessary.
- d. Designate, if necessary, an executive committee to function in the interim between meetings of the Board of Directors. The number of persons on this committee shall always be a majority of the board.
- e. Empower the Executive Board to make decisions that could bind the full board by such decisions.
- f. Approve committee appointments.
- g. Establish committees as necessary.
- h. Appoint directors to fill any vacancy to the Chapter board or, the GRHS board as well, when it is not possible to have a general membership meeting. All such appointments must be ratified at the next annual or general membership meeting.
- i. Determine what shall constitute an official notice for a directors' meeting.
- j. Not legally conduct business unless a majority of the board members are present.

ARTICLE VII

OFFICERS AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES

SECTION 1

The officers of the GRHS and its affiliated Chapters shall be president, vice president, secretary, and a treasurer. The office of the chapter secretary and treasurer may be combined.

All the above officers shall be elected by the Board of Directors at the reorganizational meeting of the board immediately following the annual meeting. Each officer is elected

for a one-year term and may be reelected. Each shall begin their term after their election at the annual meeting.

SECTION 2 - THE PRESIDENT

The president of the GRHS and/or this chapter shall have executive supervision over the activities and conduct of the Society and its chapters within the scope of these Bylaws and the rules and regulations which are now or hereinafter established by the Germans from Russia Heritage Society. The president shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and general membership meetings, shall have the responsibility for appointments subject to Board approval, and shall name the chairperson of each.

The president shall report annually the activities of the Chapter/GRHS to its membership. The chapter president shall be responsible for accounting annually to the GRHS on an established reporting form (Chapter President's Report) while the Chapter holds a charter with GRHS. The GRHS president or someone appointed by him or her in writing and approved by the Board of Directors shall co-sign all checks. The president shall serve on and be chairperson of the Executive Committee, should one be established. By virtue of the office, he/she shall be an ex-officio officer of all committees.

SECTION 3 - VICE PRESIDENT

The vice president shall assume the duties of the president in his/her absence. The vice president may be assigned specific duties to be performed as authorized by the Board of Directors. The vice president shall also act as vice president of the Executive Committee, should one be established.

SECTION 4 - THE SECRETARY

The secretary shall be charged with the responsibility of accurately recording minutes of all board of directors and general membership meetings and shall be responsible for their permanent safekeeping.

The GRHS secretary shall:

- a. Make reports, send correspondence, notices, etc., as required by the GRHS Board of Directors.
- b. Send copies of the minutes of all GRHS meetings to each GRHS board member, to each chapter president and any society member upon such request.
- c. File one copy of the minutes with the GRHS office to be part of its permanent records.
- d. Be a member of the executive committee, should one be established.
- e. Receive a salary upon proper action taken at an annual meeting.

The Chapter secretary shall:

- a. Maintain and file a current list of all members affiliated with the chapter including their current addresses. The list shall be on file at the GRHS headquarters office.
- b. Make reports as required by the chapter Board of Directors and/or the GRHS Board of Directors.
- c. Work in harmony with the GRHS office manager and with the GRHS secretary.
- d. Be responsible for necessary correspondence and notices to members as required by the chapter or the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5 - TREASURER

The treasurer shall be responsible for the safekeeping of the Chapter and/or Society funds and for maintaining adequate financial records. The treasurer shall keep the funds in a reputable financial institution as designated by the Board of Directors and shall make investments and pay out funds as authorized by the Board of Directors.

The GRHS Treasurer shall:

- a. Co-sign all checks along with the president or his/her designated representative as directed by the Board of Directors. The treasurer may also designate a representative in writing that shall be approved by the Board of Directors.
- b. Prepare a financial report for each Board of Directors meeting and general membership meeting.
- c. Receive a salary set by the Board of Directors.
- d. At the discretion of the board of directors, be authorized to pay the bills. At the board's discretion, shall list all bills paid during the period between meetings for the board's review and list the unpaid bills that require board approval, including any expense vouchers.
- e. Prepare a preliminary budget for the budget and audit committee and shall, by virtue of his office, be a member of that committee.
- f. Be bonded as designated by the Board of Directors.
- g. Be a member of the executive committee, should one be established.
- h. File all state and federal reports and the returns, if necessary.
- i. Be accountable to the Board of Directors.
- j. Acquire a financial report from each Chapter treasurer as soon following the end of the fiscal year as practical.

The Chapter Treasurer shall:

- a. Sign all checks.
- b. Prepare a financial report for all meetings.
- c. File necessary state and federal reports and tax returns, if necessary.
- d. Prepare an annual financial report for the Chapter (on a pre-designated form) for the calendar year and file it with the treasurer of the GRHS as soon after January 1 as possible.
- e. At the discretion of the Board of Directors, receive a salary.
- f. At the discretion of the Board, be bonded.

- g. Be accountable to the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII

SECTION 1 - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE GRHS

The Executive Committee shall consist of five members as follows:

- a. President of the GRHS.
- b. Vice President of the GPHS.
- c. The Secretary of the GRHS.
- d. The Treasurer of the GRHS.
- e. One member of the GRHS Board of Directors who shall be elected at the reorganizational meeting of the Board of Directors.

The Executive Committee shall:

- a. Meet during the interim period of the regular Board of Directors meeting. Act on behalf of the Board in situations deemed an emergency and/or where empowered by the Board to act on behalf of and bind the GRHS Board whenever it is not possible to call a full board meeting.
- b. Review the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation from time to time and make recommendations as to any proposed changes therein.
- c. Be responsible for establishing necessary guidelines for the supervision and operation of our headquarters, and review and update those guidelines from time to time, making recommendations for changes to the GRHS Board of Directors.
- d. Be responsible for establishing and reviewing necessary guidelines for officers, committees, the GRHS Board and others as may be required and make recommendations for changes to the Board of Directors.
- e. Have the authority to act if at least four members are part of the decision-making process.
- f. Shall serve as part of a steering committee, which committee shall also include as many past presidents as agree to serve.

ARTICLE IX

SECTION 1 - COMMITTEES

The Board of Directors of this Chapter and the Board of Directors of the GRHS shall approve of any or all of the following committees and/or subcommittees as may from time to time be necessary and appointed by the president:

- a. FINANCE. The finance committee shall be responsible for fund raising activities and projects, shall review financial reports prior to their presentation at Board of Directors meetings and membership meetings, and shall act as an advisory committee to the GRHS Treasurer. The committee shall prepare an annual budget

- for approval by the Board of Directors. The committee may from time to time submit budget amendments for approval by the Board of Directors. The Chapter committee shall act at the discretion of the Board of Directors of the Chapter.
- b. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE. The membership committee shall seek methods of locating persons eligible for membership in the Germans from Russia Heritage Society and this Chapter. The Chapter committee shall coordinate its efforts with the membership committee of the GRHS. The membership committee shall annually review the membership cards and notices and other material and make recommendations.
 - c. PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE. The public relations committee shall be responsible for publicizing activities of the Chapter and/or the GRHS through news media, newsletter, or any other means. It may discharge its duties by delegating such authority to publicity chairpersons of various events. It shall review brochures and other publicity material annually and make recommendations.
 - d. PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE. This committee shall be assigned the duty of publishing the Heritage Review, collecting, accumulating, interpreting, preserving books, publications and information of all kinds and types pertaining to the lifestyle of Germans while living in Russia or elsewhere. It shall also keep searching to collect all materials and objects illustrative of the life of such German colonists in their life times and travels and of their descendants and all such undertakings. The Chapter research committee shall correlate with the research committee of the GRHS.
 - e. BIBLIOGRAPHY COMMITTEE. A bibliography committee shall be in cooperation with the research committee in the collection of materials, including cemetery records, their cataloging and maintenance pertaining to the past and contemporary history of Germans from Russia in order that such items may be accessible to students, researchers, writers, members and all other interested persons.
 - f. REPOSITORY COMMITTEE. A repository committee shall be responsible for the preservation of the records and materials accumulated by committees of this chapter or the committee of the GRHS.
 - g. FAMILY HISTORICAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE. Shall be responsible for on-going, genealogical research and provide assistance to members of the Society who are engaged in genealogical work. This committee shall also recommend fees to be charged for such research and shall be responsible for the handling and storage of records developed by the committee.
 - h. PROGRAM COMMITTEE. A program committee, if one be appointed, shall arrange suitable programs for the meetings of the Chapter.
 - i. BUILDING FUND AND MEMORIAL GIVING COMMITTEE. Shall be responsible for soliciting gifts to the society as memorials, tax deductibles, etc. Promotional literature may be designed and distributed for this purpose by the committee and submitted to the GRHS Board of Directors for approval. Shall also be responsible for facility care and maintenance.
 - j. CONVENTION COMMITTEE. Shall serve as liaison between GRHS Board of Directors to hosting Chapters in planning annual conventions. Shall assist, when

- necessary, in securing convention sites, guest speakers and workshop topics. Shall assist public relations committee in promoting the annual event.
- k. NEW CHAPTERS AND CHAPTER LIAISON COMMITTEE. Shall be responsible for the assistance in forming new chapters of the Germans from Russia Heritage Society. Shall be responsible for maintaining liaison between the Board of Directors and local chapters which will include soliciting of information from local chapters and publishing a periodic news bulletin to be distributed between GRHS Board members and officers of local chapters. Shall determine methods of further distribution for this news bulletin and present them to the GRHS Board of Directors for approval.
 - l. NOMINATING COMMITTEE. The committee shall present to the annual meeting, or other meeting called for that purpose, a list of one or more nominees for each vacancy on the Board of Directors. In addition, nominations may be taken from the floor. This committee shall consist of at least five members appointed by the president and approved by the Board of Directors.
 - m. BYLAWS COMMITTEE. This committee would periodically review the Society Bylaws and bring any recommendations thereto to the Board of Directors.

The duties of the above committees or any other committees deemed necessary to establish by the Board of Directors, shall be to discharge the duties and responsibilities assigned to them by the Board of Directors. The committees of all Chapters are urged to cooperate and work with the counterpart -committee of the Germans from Russia Heritage Society.

SECTION 2 - ENDOWMENT FUND

The Society shall maintain a permanent endowment fund to insure the financial stability of the organization.

- a. ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE. There shall be appointed by the President of the Society, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, a committee of four members. In addition, the Treasurer of the Society shall serve as an ex-officio and voting member of the committee. The four appointees of the President shall serve for annual terms and shall be eligible for reappointment.
- b. DUTIES OF ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE. The Endowment Fund Committee shall be responsible for soliciting and collecting donations to the endowment fund. It shall also be responsible for formulating investment policies with respect to the assets of the Endowment Fund.
- c. CUSTODY OF FUNDS. The Treasurer of the Society shall have custody of the Endowment Fund assets and shall invest the same as he or she shall be directed by the Endowment Fund Committee.
- d. DISTRIBUTION OF INTEREST. The Endowment Fund Committee shall cause all income earned on fund assets to be remitted to the Society at least annually which fund shall then be disbursed as directed by the Board of Directors of the Society.

- e. DISTRIBUTION OF PRINCIPAL. It is the intention that this Endowment Fund shall be permanent and that there shall be no expenditure of principal. However, the principal may be expended by the action of a majority of members of the Society present and voting at a regular membership meeting for such purposes as shall be directed by such membership meeting.

ARTICLE X

SECTION 1 - AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS AND ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

These Bylaws and the Articles of Incorporation may be amended by action taken at any legally called GRHS general membership meeting or any GRHS special meeting duly called for that purpose. Care will be taken that changes to the Bylaws do not conflict with the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation. Any proposed change must be presented in its correct terminology to the GRHS Board of Directors first, after which it is mailed to all members not less than 30 days prior to the meeting at which it is to be considered. All such changes must receive a 2/3 vote of those present and voting. Such changes, upon proper passage, shall be binding to all Chapters affiliated with the GRHS.

ARTICLE XI

SECTION 1 - PARLIAMENTARY RULES

The rules contained in Roberts Rules of Order Revised Seventy-Fifth Anniversary Edition, or any later edition, shall govern the proceedings of any meeting of the GRHS members, its Chapters, Board of Directors of the Chapters and Board of Directors of the GRHS.

Includes Amendments Approved during GRHS 2007 Annual Meeting