

# **Constitution and By-laws**

*As amended 2010*

## **Article I Name**

This club shall be known as the Boxford Village Garden Club.

## **Article II Object**

Its object is to promote active interest in gardening, floral design, horticulture and conservation within our community.

## **Article III Meetings**

Regular meetings shall be held on the third Friday of each month, unless otherwise arranged.

## **Article IV Officers**

The Officers shall be President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary and Treasurer, and other such officers as the Executive Committee may deem necessary. They shall be elected at the annual meeting in May and serve for two years. No officer shall hold the same office for more than one term with the exception of the Treasurer.

## **Article V Executive Board**

The Executive Board shall consist of the elected officers of the club and be empowered to conduct the business meetings of the club and administer its affairs between meetings.

## **Article VI Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee of the Club shall consist of the Executive Board, the immediate Past President and all the committee chairpersons. Eight members shall constitute a quorum.

## **Article VII Membership**

There shall be three classes for membership, Regular, Honorary, and Associate. The qualification for membership is an active interest in gardening.

Persons wishing to join the club must be sponsored by a Member and may be elected by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. The **regular** membership will be limited to one hundred.

**Honorary** members shall be elected only at the suggestion of and by the vote of the Executive Committee.

- They shall not be required to pay dues and may attend all meetings.
- Past Presidents, and other individuals as the Executive Committee shall determine, may also be offered Honorary Membership.

At the discretion of the Executive Committee, a Regular member who has served the Club actively for 25 years or more and is a member in good standing may become an **Associate** member by notifying the Membership Chairperson in writing that she/he wishes to do so.

- Associate members will pay the regular dues and will have all the privileges of Regular Membership, including the right to vote, but may not hold elective office, and shall have no obligation of attendance.
- The Associate member will pledge at least three areas of continuing service to the club as indicated by her associate membership application.
- The Associate Membership in the Club shall be limited to fifteen percent of the membership.

### **Article VIII Dues**

The annual dues shall be determined by the Executive Committee, subject to a vote of the membership at any regular scheduled meeting, payable on or before the annual meeting, and not later than June 15th.

### **Article IX Elections**

The Nominating Committee shall present the names of the officers for the ensuing years at the Annual Meeting.

Nominations may also be made from the floor. A candidate to be elected must receive a majority of the votes cast. Thirty-five members shall constitute a quorum at the meeting.

#### **Article X Attendance**

The Executive Committee may, at its discretion, vote for the resignation of a member who has not met the requirements of Standing Rule #6.

#### **Article XI Amendments**

The by-laws may be amended at any meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, provided that notice of the proposed amendment has been given to each member at least one month before the meeting.

#### **Article XII Parliamentary Authority**

The rules contained in the latest edition of Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern the Club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the by-laws or standing rules of the Club.

#### **Article XIII Dissolution Clause**

In the event of dissolution, all of the remaining assets and property of the organization shall, after payment of necessary expenses, be distributed to such organization as shall qualify under section 501C (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent Federal Tax Laws or to the Federal Government, a State or local government for public purpose, subject to the approval of a court of competent jurisdiction within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

#### **Article XIV Nondiscrimination Clause**

The Boxford Village Garden Club shall not permit in their conduct of club affairs, any restriction or limitations whatsoever based upon race, color, creed, gender, national origin or employment status.