

Metropolitan Patchwork Society

By-Laws

Article I - Purpose

Our purpose is to provide an opportunity for quilters to gather for inspiration, education and fellowship. The society supports and encourages individual growth in skill and craftsmanship. We celebrate quilting as a Great American art form.

Sec 1 The Metropolitan Patchwork Society, hereby referred to as “organization” is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and/or scientific purposes under section 501c(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Sec 2 No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purpose set forth in the purpose clause hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Notwithstanding any other provision of the document, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501c(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170c(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Article II – Meetings

Sec. 1 The regular meetings of the Metropolitan Patchwork Society will be held on the fourth Tuesday evening of each month.

Sec. 2 When the regular meeting night falls on a holiday, the meeting may be rescheduled by the board.

Article III – Membership

Sec. 1 Membership in The Metropolitan Patchwork Society is open to anyone who is 18 years of age or older and who has an interest in quilting.

Sec. 2 To ensure a viable organization, Society members are expected to regularly attend monthly meetings and to serve, where able, in the areas of leadership, education, or Society special projects.

Members are also expected to participate in Society quilt shows (or other area quilt shows), by exhibiting quilts or volunteering in show duties.

Sec. 3 To retain the benefits of a small guild, membership will generally be held at 140 members. A waiting list will be maintained if needed.

Article IV – Dues

Sec. 1 Annual dues shall be determined by the Board.

Sec. 2 Annual dues will cover membership from September 1 to August 31. Dues shall be payable by the September meeting. Members joining after March 1 may be given an adjusted rate for dues until the start of the next fiscal year.

Article V – Officers, Standing Committees and Governing Board

Sec. 1 The following Officers will be a part of the Governing Board with Chair-Elect, Scribe and Finance officer to be elected each year by the membership:

- Chair
- Chair-elect (This is a three-year commitment: first year will act as Vice-Chair, second year will become Chair and the third year will act as Past-Chair).
- Finance Officer
- Past Chair
- Scribe

Sec. 2 Standing Committees shall be appointed by the Chair annually and may include the following:

- Membership
- Programs and Workshops
- Quilt Show
- Retreats
- Vicky Arnold Memorial Program Fund
- Website

Changes to Standing Committees may be made by the Chair with voted approval of the Governing Board.

Sec. 3 Guild Assignments shall be appointed by the Chair annually and may include the following:

- Equipment Manager
- Greeter
- Historian
- Inspirations
- Meeting Set-up and Take-down
- Newsletter
- Photographer
- Quarterly Winnings
- Raffle Quilt
- Small Quilt Groups
- Sunshine and Shadow

Changes to Guild Assignments may be made by the Chair.

Sec. 4 The Governing Board shall be comprised of the Officers and the Standing Committee Chairs. The Board will meet monthly at the discretion of the Chair.

Decisions needing a vote at board meetings require a quorum. A quorum consists of representation of two-thirds of the Officers and the Standing Committees. In the case where multiple persons hold an Office or lead a committee, only one person in each position counts toward the quorum. A vote will pass if two-thirds or more of the quorum vote affirmatively. Again, in the case where multiple persons hold an Office or lead a committee, only one vote will be counted for each position.

Article VI – Election of Officers

Sec. 1 A nominating committee shall be appointed by the Chair at the January general meeting.

Sec. 2 At the May meeting, the Nominating Committee shall present names of one or more members for each office. At that meeting there shall be an opportunity for further nominations from the floor preceding the election of officers. Election shall be by ballot; however, if the slate of officers as presented by the Nominating Committee is accepted unanimously, the vote may be taken by voice vote. The terms of the office shall begin with the September board meeting.

Sec. 3 Following the election of Officers, the retiring Chair shall call a meeting of retiring and new Officers, Standing Committee Chairs and Guild Assignment Chairs. At this meeting, the new Officers, Standing Committee Chairs and Guild Assignment Chairs will receive materials and instructions from the retiring Officers, Standing Committee chairs and Guild Assignment Chairs.

Article VII – Communication

Sec. 1 The Society shall engage in regular communication with its members. This communication may include, but is not limited to: newsletter, website, and email announcements.

Sec. 2 The name of the newsletter shall be “The Society Pages”.

Article VIII – Amendments

Sec. 1 The bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at any regular meeting.

Sec. 2 Amendments must be presented at a meeting, distributed to members by printed or virtual means, and then voted upon at the next scheduled meeting after distribution.