

LAUREL LAKE ASSOCIATES
FITZWILLIAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
BY-LAWS

PREAMBLE:

THE OWNERS OF PROPERTY ABUTTING ON AND IN THE VICINITY OF LAUREL LAKE, FITZWILLIAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE, WISHING TO DEVELOP A CLOSER COOPERATION FOR THE MUTUAL BENEFIT OF ALL, HAVE ESTABLISHED AN ORGANIZATION TO BE KNOWN AS THE “LAUREL LAKE ASSOCIATES. ‘THE ORGANIZATION IS ALSO KNOWN AS “THE LAUREL LAKE ASSOCIATION.”

ARTICLE I – Name – Purpose

Section 1. The organization is to be known as the “Laurel Lake Associates.”

Section 2. The purpose of the Association is to promote a closer relationship among lake users, and to foster any movement, initiative, or improvement of Laurel Lake for the mutual benefit of its members, the lake community, and the general public as it relates to preserving the quality of life on and around the lake for present and future generations.

ARTICLE II – Membership – Fee – Meetings

Section 1. Any owner or user of land abutting on or near the shore of Laurel Lake, Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire, or any interested person, may become a member of the Association.

Section 2. The membership fee shall be set by the Board of Directors for the following year at its Fall meeting.

Section 3. The Association shall hold an annual Summer meeting at which the officers and Board of Directors shall be nominated and elected for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE III – Officers

Section 1. The Association shall elect the following slate of officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and a Board of thirteen (13) Directors, consisting of twelve (12) elected and the immediate past President (1).

- A. The President shall be elected for a term of two (2) years by the membership at the next annual meeting. The President shall become a member of the Board of Directors with all

voting powers and shall also serve as Chairperson of the Board of Directors. The President may be re-elected to serve more than one term.

- B. The Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected at the regular annual meeting for a term of two (2) years and may be re-elected to serve more than one term with full voting powers.
- C. The Directors shall be elected at the regular annual meeting for a period of three (3) years and may be re-elected to serve additional terms. Four (4) Directors shall be elected annually.
- D. In the event a vacancy should occur in the offices of Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, or on the Board of Directors as a result of death or resignation, that unexpired term shall be filled by the President and voted on by the membership at its next annual meeting.
- E. The Vice President shall take the place of the President during his or her absence, disability, or resignation and perform duties requested by the Association. In the case of the death of the President, the Vice President will assume the presidency and will immediately appoint a new Vice President who will be voted on by the membership at the next annual meeting.

Section 2. The office of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by the same person.

Section 3. The President shall preside at all meetings. He or she shall, at his or her discretion, call meetings, and at the request of at least ten (10) members, call special meetings. The President shall appoint any committee which he or she may deem necessary or when so requested or when so authorized by vote of the Association. The Board of Directors of the Association shall hold at least two (2) meetings per year – one in the spring and the other in the fall.

Section 4. The Secretary shall take the minutes of all meetings, attend to all correspondence, and perform any other duties requested of him or her by the Association.

Section 5. The Treasurer shall deposit all income, pay all expenses, and keep accurate financial records. Only the Board of Directors or a majority vote of membership in attendance can authorize an expenditure. The Treasurer shall present a written financial statement to the Board of Directors at the Fall meeting.

Section 6. From time to time, the Board of Directors shall be responsible for the general management of the affairs of the organization as delegated to it by the Association.

- A. Quorum: At any meeting of the Directors a majority of officers and Board members combined shall constitute a quorum. A majority of the required quorum shall decide any questions or motions.
- B. Alternative Forms of Meetings: Should the President or any officer or Board member feel that Board action is needed and a special Board meeting is not viable, alternative forms may be utilized. Prior notice of the alternative meeting shall be issued by the President or his or her designee.

- 1) Conference Calls: The members of the Board of Directors, or any committee, may participate in or hold a meeting of the Board of Directors or of such committee via a telephone conference call or a similar method of communication by which all persons participating can hear each other. Participation by this means shall constitute presence by the person at the meeting. This is to be the preferred alternative method of meeting.
- 2) Electronic Mail and Telephone Polls: The members of the Board of Directors or any committee may also take action via electronic mail or telephone poll conducted by the President or by any officer designated by the President to conduct such a poll. The exact text of the action to be voted upon shall be sent or read to the Directors or any committee members entitled to vote on such matters. The vote of each Director or committee member shall be recorded.
- 3) Ratification: Actions taken by the Board of Directors pursuant to this section of by-laws shall be valid when taken but shall be reviewed and ratified at the next regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV – Amendments

Section 1. These by-laws may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing at a previous annual meeting or special meeting. Due notice of by-law changes shall be given to each member.

ARTICLE V – Newsletter

The Association shall publish a newsletter at least once annually for the purpose of keeping the membership informed. This publication is to be known as The Laurel Lake Ledger.

ARTICLE VI – Awards

Section 1. Distinguished Service Award

Members who perform outstanding service to the Laurel Lake Association will be eligible to receive the Laurel Lake Association Distinguished Service Award.

A. Criteria

1. Nominees must have performed outstanding service to the Association over a “period of time.”
 - a. Outstanding service is interpreted as going beyond the ordinary duties of the Association or Board membership by routinely expending time, energy, and possibly personal funds in the work of the Association.
 - b. “Period of Time” is interpreted to mean that this service has been performed for at least three years.

- c. Examples of such service might be, but not limited to:
 1. Organizing and running an Association event.
 2. Heading an important Association event.
 3. Participating in committee activities to an extraordinary degree.

B. Nomination of Candidates

1. Nominations shall be presented in writing to the Association President by members of the Board of Directors.
2. The President will turn the names over to the Nominating Committee, which will consider and vote on the candidates. The Nominating Committee will propose to the Board of Directors, as a whole, those candidates whom it has unanimously selected.
3. The Board of Directors will consider and vote by secret ballot on candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee. A 75% affirmative vote of attending Board members will be required for the receipt Distinguished Service Award.

C. The recipient(s) of the Distinguished Service Award will receive suitable recognition by the Laurel Lake Association at its annual summer meeting.

D. Eligibility requirements may be changed from time to time with approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Lifetime Achievement Award

This award is presented to an individual who has made many recognizable and significant contributions to the Laurel Lake Association and has upheld the objectives of the Association as defined in the by-laws during his or her service to the Association.

A. Criteria

1. Must not currently be an active officer or a member of the Board of Directors
2. Must have been a member in good standing of the Association for a minimum of twenty years
3. Must have served the Laurel Lake Association in four of the following categories:
 - a. Association Officer for one complete term (President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer)
 - b. Board of Directors member for one complete term
 - c. Committee chairperson for five years (Water Testing, Weed Survey, Nominating, Annual Meeting /Family Picnic, Canoe/Kayak Race, commodore of Dresser-Freedman Sunfish Regatta, LLA Logo Products, Membership, Lake Host Program, 4th of July Flare Celebration, Swim Club Representative, or Concert on the Lake/Boat Parade
 - d. Editor/Publisher of Laurel Lake Ledger for five years

- e. Served on a special committee appointed by the Association President or the Town of Fitzwilliam, NH relating directly to Laurel Lake

B. Nomination of Candidates

1. Presented in writing to the Association President by members of the Board of Directors
 2. The LLA President will turn the name over to the Nominating Committee which will consider and vote on the candidate. The Nominating Committee will propose to the Board of Directors, as a whole, a candidate whom it has unanimously selected.
 3. The Board of Directors will consider and vote by secret ballot on candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee. A 75% affirmative vote of attending Board members will be required to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award.
- C. The recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award will receive a lifetime membership to the Laurel Lake Association and will receive suitable recognition by the Laurel Lake Association at its annual meeting.

ARTICLE VIII – Dissolution

In the event of the dissolution of the Laurel Lake Associates (also known as Laurel Lake Association), following the payment of all outstanding debts, all monies will be distributed/donated to THE TOWN OF FITZWILLIAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PRESERVING THE QUALITY OF LAUREL LAKE.