

BAR HARBOR GARDEN CLUB BYLAWS

ARTICLE I: NAME

Section 1.1. This organization shall be called the Bar Harbor Garden Club.

ARTICLE II: MISSION

Section 2.1. The mission of the Bar Harbor Garden Club is to promote the love of horticulture, to protect and preserve our natural resources, to provide educational opportunities, to contribute responsibly to civic and environmental needs, and to enjoy the fellowship of our members.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 3.1. The membership of the Club shall include Active, Life, and Honorary members.

Life members may be selected from the membership by the Executive Committee for long-standing dedication to the Club and are dues exempt. Honorary members may be nominated by the Executive Committee for outstanding contribution to the Club, not to exceed one per year.

Section 3.2. Any person interested in the mission for which the Club stands and pays the annual dues shall be eligible for membership. The Club shall not discriminate against anyone in accordance with current Maine laws.

Section 3.3. Individual Club members hold concurrent memberships in five organizations: 1) the Club, 2) St. Croix District, 3) Garden Club Federation of Maine (GCFM), 4) New England Garden Clubs Inc., and 5) National Garden Clubs.

Section 3.4. Before sharing a name, information or photo with the media the Bar Harbor Garden Club requires the use of the National Garden Club's privacy form.

ARTICLE IV: DUES & DUTIES OF MEMBERS

Section 4.1. The annual dues of the Club shall be payable on or before April 15.

Section 4.2. Any member who has not paid the annual dues on or before the first of June and to whom two notices of failure have been sent, has forfeited membership.

Section 4.3. The fiscal year shall begin April 1.

Section 4.4. Each active member is expected to serve as host once every two or three years, if able.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS, ELECTION, AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 5.1. The Officers of the Club shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 5.2. The Officers shall be elected at the annual meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and shall serve two years or until their successors in office have been duly elected.

Section 5.3. The Officers, Past President, chair of Publicity Committee and chair of Ways and Means Committee shall constitute the Executive Committee.

Section 5.4. Officers elected at the Annual Meeting shall take office at the end of such meeting. Outgoing Officers shall, within two weeks, deliver to their successors in office all records and materials belonging to the office.

Section 5.5. The President's pin, donated by Past President Penny Longmaid, shall be passed to the incoming President.

Section 5.6. The outgoing President shall receive a Past President's pin and a State Life Membership as a token of appreciation from the Club.

Section 5.7. Each even year the Executive Committee may select a candidate to be given a State Life Membership from the Bar Harbor Garden Club membership as a special tribute to that member.

ARTICLE VI: DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

Section 6.1. The President shall preside at the meetings of the Club and Executive Committee and is an ex-officio member of all committees. The President is a member of the Board of Directors of the St. Croix District of the GCFM and shall attend the GCFM Fall Conference and GCFM Annual Convention, or appoints an alternate.

The Bar Harbor Garden Club shall pay the President's expenses (at the rate stated by the IRS as deductible for non-profits (501c3) official travel at that time.) for attendance at meetings as required by the St. Croix District and the GCFM.

Section 6.2. The Vice President shall perform all duties of the President in the absence or inability of the latter, serves on the Nominating Committee of St. Croix District, and is Chair of the Program Committee.

Section 6.3. The Secretary shall keep separate records of all meetings of the Club and Executive Committee and shall present a report at the following meeting. The Secretary shall correspond as asked by the President.

Section 6.4. The Treasurer shall be the custodian of the funds of the Club, pay all bills approved by the Executive Committee, collect all dues, give receipts for same, keep an up-to-date list of members, send notices to delinquent members, keep a balanced account of all receipts and expenditures, present a monthly report at the meetings, and at the Annual Meeting make a full report for the year including a current audit. The Treasurer shall be the chair of the Finance Committee.

Section 6.5. The Treasurer shall submit one copy of the current membership list with addresses to the GCFM Treasurer along with state dues for each member whatever their status, keep an up-to-date list of current addresses, mailing same to GCFM Newsletter Circulation Editor when requested, or when a new member joins the Club.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 7.1. The regular meeting of the Club shall be the second Thursday of each month from September thru May, unless rescheduled by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VIII: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 8.1. The Executive Committee shall have general control of the affairs of the Club and appoint an Auditing Committee. All necessary current expenses of the Club shall be under the control of the Executive Committee.

Section 8.2. The President shall call meetings of the Executive Committee.

Section 8.3. Four members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Section 8.4. Vacancies in elected offices shall be filled by election, if three-quarters of the tenure remains. If less than three-quarters of the tenure remains, vacancies in elected offices shall be filled by appointment of the Executive Committee; said appointments shall be subject to ratification by the Club at its next meeting.

Section 8.5. If an auction or raffle is held, the recipient of the proceeds shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE IX: COMMITTEES

Section 9.1. The standing committees shall be: Awards, Birds, Book, Cheer, Civic Development, Communications, Finance, Historian, Horticulture, Membership, Nominating, Program, Publicity, Scholarship, Ways and Means, Web Site, Wild Gardens of Acadia, and Youth Activities.

Section 9.2. The Club may create ad hoc committees, as it deems appropriate.

Section 9.3. The committee Chairs shall be appointed by the President with the ratification of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE X: DUTIES OF COMMITTEES AND THEIR CHAIRS

Section 10.1. It shall be the duty of the Awards Chair to be acquainted with awards offered by the GCFM, New England Region, and NGC (which appear in Sept/Oct issue of The National Gardener) and to promote the Club's application for the appropriate awards.

The Club shall provide the Awards Chair with a subscription to The National Gardener.

Section 10.2. It shall be the duty of the Birds Committee Chair to report on bird sightings and bird programs.

Section 10.3 It shall be the duty of the Book Chair to select and present an appropriate gardening or horticulture book to a local library in memory of a deceased member.

Section 10.4. It shall be the duty of the Cheer Chair to send cards to members for appropriate occasions.

Section 10.5. It shall be the duty of the Civic Development Chair to oversee all current Club projects.

Section 10.6. It shall be the duty of the Communications Chair to appoint a committee to assist in contacting members when necessary.

Section 10.7. It shall be the duty of the Finance Committee to draft a budget for the coming year, presenting it in April for approval at the Annual Meeting. The Treasurer shall be the Chair, and the Committee shall consist of the President, the Chair of Ways and Means, the Chair of Civic Development, and a member at large.

Section 10.8. It shall be the duty of the Historian to keep a complete record of all newspaper clippings concerning the Club's activities, collect pictures of members' gardens and Club exhibits.

Section 10.9. It shall be the duty of the Horticulture Chair to develop an appreciation for all phases of horticulture and stimulate a greater interest for better gardening and increase the horticultural knowledge of the membership.

Section 10.10. It shall be the duty of the Membership Chair to promote and encourage membership. After dues are received, the Membership Chair shall write a letter of welcome to a new member and provide them with a copy of the current yearbook.

Section 10.11. It shall be the duty of the Nominating Committee to nominate members to fill the offices of the Club, presenting such nominations at the April meeting. This committee shall advise the Executive Committee in the filling of vacated offices.

Section 10.12. It shall be the duty of the Program Chair (Vice President) to plan programs, make arrangements for meetings of the Club, contact speakers to confirm dates, be available to assist in setting up, coordinate hosts, and send thank you notes. The Program Chair shall compile the Yearbook, prior to the May meeting of the BHGC, make arrangements for the distribution of a copy to all current (paid) members of the Club and send a copy to the following individuals: GCFM President, GCFM Awards Chair, GCFM Yearbook Chair, St. Croix District Director and all Presidents of the St. Croix District Clubs.

Section 10.13. It shall be the duty of the Publicity Chair to announce all Club meetings through the local press and to make reports for publication.

Section 10.14. It shall be the duty of the Scholarship Chair to solicit and screen scholarship applicants. In addition, for the Nell Goff Memorial Scholarship the chair shall submit applications to the St. Croix District for selection of the recipient in accordance with the Trust Agreement. The Scholarship Committee acts as liaison to the Student Conservation Association (SCA), forwarding requests for student financial aid from SCA to the Bar Harbor Garden Club.

Section 10.15. It shall be the duty of the Ways and Means Chairman to propose and take charge of projects to supplement Club income.

Section 10.16. It shall be the duty of the Web Site Chair to manage the web site.

Section 10.17. It shall be the duty of the Wild Gardens of Acadia Chair to encourage members to volunteer in WGA and to notify the Club of WGA programs and events.

Section 10.18. It shall be the duty of the Youth Activities Chair to promote the love of gardening among juniors.

ARTICLE XI: QUORUM

Section 11.1. Nine members shall constitute a quorum for transaction of business at any Club meeting.

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENTS

Section 12.1. The Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of members present, provided the proposed amendment has been sanctioned by the Executive Committee and read at the previous meeting.

ARTICLE XIII: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 13.1. The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's 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 these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XIV: DISSOLUTION CLAUSE

Section 14.1. In the event of the dissolution of the Bar Harbor Garden Club, any remaining assets will be distributed only to non-profit, horticulturally related organizations which, at that time, are qualified for exemption from Federal Income Taxes as an Organization described in Section 501c3 of the current Internal Revenue Code.

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