

# The Bahamas Historical Society

## Articles of Association

### **Article 1 – Membership and Dues**

**Section 1** – The Bahamas Historical Society shall consist of Student, Active, Contributing, Supporting, Sustaining, Life and Fellow Members and the several classes of Corporate Membership hereinafter specified in Section 4 of this Article, and in addition there shall lie within the gift of the Society Associate Membership as specified in Section 5 of this Article.

**Section 2** – Applications for membership shall be made on forms furnished by the Society and signed by the applicant and by a sponsor who is a member of the Society.

**Section 3** – The annual dues payable by the several classes of Membership (other than Corporate Membership) shall be as follows:

I. Student (which shall be open to persons under the age of 18 years)	\$5.00
II. Active	\$25.00
III. Contributing	\$35.00
IV. Supporting	\$70.00
V. Sustaining	\$100.00
VI. Life	\$500.00
VII. Fellow	\$1,000.00

**Section 4** – There shall be seven classes of Corporate Membership and the annual dues payable shall be as follows:

I. Ordinary	\$50.00
II. Contributing	\$100.00
III. Supporting	\$250.00
IV. Sustaining	\$500.00
V. Patron	\$1,000.00
VI. Sponsor	\$2,000.00
VII. Benefactor	\$3,000.00

Corporate Membership shall be open to any body corporate or Partnership organised under the laws of any part of the world.

Section 5 – The Society may elect any person to be an Associate Member for Life in recognition of historical research or other meritorious work in relation to Bahamian history and such membership shall not require the payment of any dues.

Section 6 – The Society may appoint Honorary Patrons either annually or for such period as it may think fit.

Section 7 – Dues – The annual dues of members shall be payable in advance on the First day of April in each year. The payment of the annual dues shall constitute a condition for membership, and the neglect or refusal to pay them for the period of six months after they become due shall be deemed a withdrawal from the Society by the member concerned.

## **Article II – Officers**

The officers of the Society shall be a President, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary and a Treasurer.

## **Article III – Elections**

The officers shall be nominated by a committee of three members appointed for that purpose by the President and shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting. Unless otherwise specified, officers shall be elected for one year or until their successors are chosen. They shall be eligible for re-election. A majority vote of the members present shall elect.

## **Article IV – Duties of Officers and Trustees.**

Section 1 – The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Society and shall preside at all meetings of the members. In the absence or during the disability of the President, the First Vice-President shall have the authority and duties of the President.

In the absence or during the disability of both the President and the First Vice-President, the Second Vice-President shall have the authority and duties of the President, and in the absence or during the disability of the Second Vice-President the Board of Trustees shall designate an individual to act in place of the President.

Section 2 – The Recording Secretary shall issue the calls for all meetings of the Society and its committees. He shall keep a record of the votes, proceedings and activities of the Society, the Board of Trustees and the Management Committee, and present them at the regular meetings when called for.

He shall notify officers, members of committees and new members of their elections and shall issue certificates of membership to new members.

He shall have the custody of the memorandum and articles of association, records and papers of the Society.

**Section 3** – **Corresponding Secretary** – The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the official correspondence on behalf of the Society.

**Section 4** – **Treasurer** – The Treasurer shall receive the dues and report the names of the persons paying the same to the Recording Secretary; shall receive all other moneys due, and all donations or bequests of money made to the Society; shall pay all bills upon the signed authorisation of the President; shall keep a true and faithful account of all moneys received and paid by him, and of the property and debts of the Society; and shall, at the annual meeting, render an audited statement thereof. The Management Committee may, with the Treasurer, select any Trust Company that it may see fit, to assist the Treasurer in the work of his office.

**Section 5** – **Board of Trustees** – The President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary shall be members of this committee ex-officio, and six members shall be elected by the members. At the annual meeting in 1966 two members shall be elected to the Board of Trustees for a term of one year, two for two years and two for three years. In 1967 and annually thereafter, Trustees shall be elected in such manner that, at the termination of each annual meeting there shall be two elected Trustees holding office for one year and two holding office for two years and two holding office for three years.

The Board of Trustees shall meet on the call of the President.

Six members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

The Board of Trustees shall have responsibility for the care and maintenance of the library and all other articles of historical value or interest donated to or otherwise acquired by or placed in the custody of the Society.

The Board of Trustees shall have the power to fill vacancies in its membership occurring between annual meetings of the Society.

## **Article V – Meetings**

**Section 1** – The annual meeting shall be held in the month of April at such time as the President shall appoint.

**Section 2** – Regular meetings shall be held monthly unless otherwise ordered by the

President with the consent of a member of the Management Committee.

Section 3 – Special meetings may be called by direction of the President or in his absence or incapacity on the application of three active members made to the Recording Secretary.

Section 4 – Notice of each meeting of the Society shall be sent by mail to all members or, alternatively, may be given by publication thereof in a daily newspaper circulating in the Island of New Providence not later than five days prior thereto unless shorter notice shall be sanctioned at a meeting of members.

Section 5 – A quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting duly called and notified shall consist of ten members.

#### **Article VI – Committees**

Section 1 – All committees elected at the annual meeting of the Society on the 30th day of April, 1980 shall continue in office until the annual meeting of the Society in the year 1981, on which occasion these committees shall cease to exist.

Section 2 – At the annual meeting of the Society in the year 1981 there shall be elected an Auditing Committee and a Management Committee and such other committees as may be proposed.

Section 3 – The Auditing Committee shall consist of two members and that committee shall examine the books, accounts and financial statements of the Society and shall submit a report on such examination at each annual meeting.

Section 4 – The Management Committee shall consist of the President, the First Vice-President, the Recording Secretary and the Treasurer, who shall be members ex-officio, and five members. The Management Committee shall have responsibility for the management and administration of all the business and financial affairs of the Society and for that purpose may exercise all of the powers and authorities of the Society save those which by law or by these Articles of Association are vested in the members in general meeting or in any board, committee, officer or person. The Management Committee shall have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of members of the Society to assist it in the discharge of its functions and may delegate to such sub-committees such of its powers as it shall think fit. Any committee so appointed shall, in the exercise of the powers so delegated, conform to any regulations that may be imposed by the Management Committee. The Management Committee shall have power to fill vacancies in its membership occurring between annual meetings of the Society.

## **Article VII – Donations and Deposits**

**Section 1** – All donations to and deposits with the Society shall be entered in books kept for that purpose.

**Section 2** – All deposits left with the Society shall be carefully preserved, and may at any time be taken away by the depositor in person, or delivered on his written order. But every deposit which has not been so reclaimed or withdrawn shall, after the decease of the depositor, be entered as a donation, and be deemed the property of the Society; unless, at the time of making the deposit, other conditions shall have been prescribed by the depositor.