

BY-LAWS OF BELMONT-HILLSBORO NEIGHBORS

Amended May, 1976

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of the corporation is Belmont-Hillsboro Neighbors, Inc.

ARTICLE II – OBJECT

To unite all the residents of our neighborhood (bounded by Magnolia Boulevard on the North, 12th Avenue South¹ on the East, the old Tennessee Central roadbed on the South, and Hillsboro Road on the West) in one interracial, multi-class organization, bring them into closer and more frequent contact with each other, and encourage them to plan and work together.

To make this a good neighborhood for everyone by preserving its residential character and by seeking policies of zoning and codes enforcement which will preserve such a character. To specifically oppose the legal or illegal encroachment of commercial development in presently residential areas of our neighborhood.

To give all possible help to residents of the neighborhood in maintaining and improving the condition of their homes and yards.

To work as a group and in cooperation with the Fair Housing Foundation, legal aid organizations, and the U.S. Department of Justice to keep housing opportunities open to all and to preserve the heterogeneity of the neighborhood.

To act as a channel of information concerning public hearings and legal suits involving the neighborhood, to testify at such hearings and trials at the discretion of the Steering Committee, and to bring suit where necessary to further the purposes of the corporation and to raise funds to pay for legal services that may be needed in connection with such efforts.

To encourage people who are sympathetic with the purposes of Belmont-Hillsboro Neighbors to move into the neighborhood with continued diversity as the chief goal.

To promote good relationships between people with different backgrounds, to work to reduce any tensions that might arise, and to help develop a style of life that can be congenial to all in the neighborhood.

To cooperate and affiliate in appropriate ways with other local, state or national organizations having compatible goals.

To promote the general welfare of the community by engaging in other activities, not for profit, and furtherance of the foregoing purposes.

¹ Amended in 1976 from *Belmont Boulevard*.

This organization shall be organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

ARTICLE III – HEADQUARTERS

The headquarters of this corporation shall be located at such place as the Steering Committee may from time to time determine.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

Section One Full membership shall be open to all residents of the area designated in the Charter who are 18 years of age or older, agree with the purposes of this corporation, and pay the annual dues of \$3.00 per person.

Section Two Affiliate membership may be held by any individual, couple or family who lives outside of the boundaries established in the Charter, but who agrees with the purposes of the corporation and pays the annual dues of \$3.00, but an affiliate member may not be a voting member of the corporation and may not be an officer in the corporation.

Section Three Membership shall cease upon failure to pay dues as stipulated in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE V – STEERING COMMITTEE

Section One The Steering Committee shall conduct and manage the affairs of the corporation. Public statements shall be made, litigation shall be supported and other action shall be taken on behalf of and in the name of the corporation only upon authorization of the Steering Committee.

Section Two The Steering Committee shall consist of the following members of the corporation: Chairpersons of any committees or tasks forces cooperating with the organization for the fulfilling of its purposes, and up to five (5) members-at-large each elected by a majority of the membership of the corporation present at its annual meeting after nominations from the floor. Nominees for members-at-large shall be voted on individually, and those, not to exceed (5), receiving the highest number of votes above a majority shall be elected. The maximum membership of the Steering Committee shall, at its last meeting preceding the Annual Meeting of the Membership of the Corporation, review the membership of the Committee, removing any inactive member.

Section Three If a member of the Steering Committee is absent from three meetings of the Steering Committee during one year without notifying the president or recording secretary, he or she shall cease to be a member of the Steering Committee.

Section Four One-half of the members of the Steering Committee shall constitute a quorum. A meeting having less than a quorum may be adjourned.

Section Five The president of the corporation shall be a member of the Steering Committee and shall preside at the meetings of the Committee. The secretaries and treasurer of the corporation shall be members of the Steering Committee.

Section Six The Steering Committee shall meet when called into session by the president by his/her own initiative or on written request of five members. Ten days written notice shall be given to all members of the Committee before any special meeting of the Committee. The time requirement, the written requirement, or notice itself may be waived by any or all Committee members. Regular meetings of the Steering Committee shall be set by the Steering Committee.

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

Section One There shall be an annual meeting of the membership of the corporation which shall be held in October, in such place and on such date as the Steering Committee may from time to time determine.

Section Two Other meetings of the membership may be called from time to time by the president on his/her own initiative or shall be called by the president on majority vote of the Steering Committee.

Section Three Special Meetings of the membership shall be called by the president on receipt of a written request from twenty-five (25) full members, stating the chief purposes for which the meeting is being called.

Section Four Ten days of written notice by mail shall be given to all members of the corporation before any meeting of the corporation.

Section Five Decisions concerning the policies and actions of the corporation shall require a majority vote of all full members present at any regular or special meeting.

Section Six Previous decisions of the Steering Committee may be reversed or modified by a two-thirds vote of the membership of the corporation present at any regular or special meeting of the membership of the corporation.

Section Seven Fifteen percent of the full membership shall constitute a quorum of the membership. A meeting having less than a quorum may be adjourned.

ARTICLE VII – OFFICERS

Section One The officers of the corporation shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer, elected from the membership of the Steering Committee, by a majority vote of the Committee at its first meeting following the Annual Meeting of the Corporation. The officers shall hold office for one year, or until their successors are elected and qualified. In the event of a vacancy, the Steering Committee shall elect a person to fill the unexpired term.

Section Two The president shall preside at all meetings of the membership and all meetings of the Steering Committee and shall exercise such other duties as may be relevant to the office and as prescribed by the Steering Committee.

Section Three The Recording Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the membership of the corporation and of the Steering Committee, shall give all notices required by the By-Laws.

Section Four The corresponding secretary shall be responsible for keeping in touch with national, state and other local groups having goals compatible with the corporation.

Section Five The treasurer shall receive, deposit, and disburse the funds of the corporation and keep financial records of the corporation.

ARTICLE VIII – COMMITTEES AND PERSONNEL

The Steering Committee shall establish such committees and employ and engage such personnel as, in its judgment, will best promote the purposes and objectives of this corporation.

ARTICLE IX – RULES OF ORDER

Except as provided in the By-Laws, the conduct of all meetings shall be governed by “The Model Rules of Order of the League of Women Voters.”

ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended or repealed by a three-fourths vote of all members present at any Annual, regular, or special meeting of the corporation after fourteen (14) days notice by mail of the proposed amendment has been given to all members of record of the corporation. The Recording Secretary of the corporation shall give notice of such proposed amendment or repeal upon resolution adopted by two-thirds vote of the Steering Committee. The Recording Secretary of the corporation shall also give notice of any amendment or repeal proposed by any ten (10) members upon written request of such members and payment in advance by such members of all costs in preparing and mailing such notice.

ARTICLE XI – ADOPTION OF CHARTER AND BY-LAWS

At the meeting of the organizers called for the purpose of adopting the Charter and By-Laws and for the determination of the first Steering Committee, the voting on such matters shall be by three-fourths of the organizers present in person at such meeting. The proposed Charter and By-Laws shall be mailed to all such organizers at least one week prior to the date of said meeting.