



Constitution of The Liberty Home Association of Hamilton

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Main Laws

Article I

Name and Purpose

1. The association shall be known as The Liberty Home Association (Deutscher Hausverein)
2. The purpose of the Association is:
 - a. To uphold and preserve the German language, culture, and customs, as well as respect of the Constitution of the United States of America.
 - b. To maintain a "Home" where the members may practice the above.
 - c. To have no political or religious obligation and to be a non-profit organization.

Article II

Admission

1. Any upstanding person may become a member of this club, but must be 18 years old and have an interest in the German culture.
2. A motion for admission has to be submitted by one or more members and must be seconded by another member.
3. The candidate must pay the membership fee at the meeting following his acceptance for membership.
4. The candidate must be present when the motion for his membership is presented before an assembly. The membership decides through a secret ballot whether to accept the candidate or not. A 2/3 majority vote is required for acceptance.

At the following meeting the candidate is initiated.

5. Children under 18 years are considered a member if a parent is a member..
6. When child, whose parent is a member, reaches the age of 18, he or she does not have to pay the membership fee until age 21 to be accepted as full member.

Article III

Membership

1. All members in good standing shall promote and strengthen the welfare of the organization, abide by the main and by-laws, and attain the right to attend all meetings.
2. Associate memberships can be issued per function and are only valid for 24 hours.
3. All members, except associate members, have the ability to vote on all issues brought up in monthly meetings.
4. All members and associate members are permitted to attend any yearly function that the organization facilitates on its property.

Article IV

Meetings

1. A regular monthly meeting is to be held. The meeting shall be held on the first Friday of each month at 8 P.M. in the German "Home".
2. A general meeting with election of officers is to be held on the first Sunday in December.
3. The monthly meeting is to be conducted in the German or English language.
4. Ten members must be present in order to hold a meeting.

Article V

Elections

1. The Association shall elect in the General Assembly in December, the following officers: 1 president, 1 vice-president, 1 secretary, 1 treasurer, 1 communication and 3 trustees.
2. The above officers serve for one year, except the trustees who serve for two years.
3. For this reason two trustees are to be elected every two years, and one trustee will be elected on every opposite year.
4. The newly elected officers begin their duties on the 1st of January. The fiscal year coincides with the calendar year.
5. To be eligible for office one must have been a member of the organization for one calendar year.
6. All officers must respect the German language and speak English.

Article VI
Board of Directors

1. The president, as presiding officer, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, communication and the trustees comprise the Board of Directors.
2. The Board of Directors forms the governing body of the Association. It is their duty to engage into all matters concerning the Association and make suitable proposals and recommendations to the membership. The President shall call special board meetings at his discretion.

Article VII
Duties of the Officers

1. All officers shall be responsible to the Association for all their business transactions.
2. The President shall preside at all meetings, decide all points of order, and fulfill all obligations which the main and by-laws imply on this office.
3. The Vice-president shall, during the absence of the President, preside over the meetings and assist the President in all his official duties.
4. If neither the President nor Vice President is available, an officer chosen by the majority of the Trustees shall preside over the meeting.
5. The Secretary shall write all resolutions in the Minutes Book and the business transactions of the meeting in the regular manner, as well as looking after all correspondence of the Association. The Secretary will be responsible for maintaining the membership information register and issuing of annual membership cards.
6. The Treasurer manages all money of the Association and keeps an account book of all receipts, expenses, dues of members. The Treasurer must give a full report at every meeting, of the financial status including income, expenses and membership status of the Association.
7. The trustees have the duty of managing all the real and personal property of the Association.
8. Communications officer is responsible for maintaining the club website, social media and all notification/communications with the membership. All public notices or advertising must be reviewed by the communications officer prior to public release.

Article VIII
Dissolving of the Association

1. This Association cannot be dissolved so long as 10 members wish to maintain it.
2. When the Association must be dissolved all possessions and money thereof shall go to charitable purposes or organizations.
3. This Association cannot merge with another association unless the candidate association is a nonprofit organization and a majority of the members in good standing approve.

Article IX
Receipts

1. The amount of the membership dues is to be decided at the General meeting each year.
2. The dues must be paid by March 31 of the current year.
3. New members, who are initiated after April 1, must pay dues only for the remaining quarters of the year.
4. A member, whose dues are not paid by July 1, is automatically excluded from membership. For re-instatement it is required to pay full annual dues. This applies to the calendar year in which the member has become delinquent in his dues. Any time there-after an excluded member is to be treated as a new member.
5. Exceptions to Rule #4 are only permitted if 2/3 majority of the members present at a meeting vote for such exception.
6. All members in financial distress can have their membership dues totally or partially suspended by decision of the Board of Directors.
7. A member wishing to have a leave of absence must be in good standing and submit such request in writing to the secretary.

Article XI

Suspension and Impeachment

1. Should a member become guilty of disorderly conduct, serious disturbance of the meetings or festivities, or disrespect of the Constitution of the Association, that member can be suspended. Suspension requires a 2/3 majority vote of those present at a meeting.
2. Reasons for impeachment are: committing a crime or felony, or conduct detrimental to the interests or reputation of the Association. A charge against a member has to be thoroughly investigated by the Board of Directors. After the Board reports on its findings, a 2/3 majority of the members present is necessary to impose impeachment. An Impeached member can only be re-instated after the charges have been proven false. In this case, a 2/3 majority of the members present is required for approval. The voting has to be carried out by secret ballot.

Article XII

Changing of the Constitution

1. For complete or partial change of these main laws a 2/3 majority is required at the general meeting.
2. A change of the by-laws can be undertaken at any meeting without previous announcement.
3. All motions for change of the main and bylaws must carry a 2/3 majority of the members present.

Article XIII

This Constitution supersedes all previous constitutions and amendments of The Liberty Home Association.

By-Laws
Order of Business

1. Opening by the President.
2. Roll call of the officers.
3. Reading of the last meeting's minutes.
4. Proposal and acceptance of new members.
5. Unfinished business.
6. Reports from officers and committees.
7. Treasurer's report.
8. Reading of correspondence.
9. New business in interest of the Association.
10. Adjournment.

Rules of Order

1. No motion can be debated until it is seconded.
2. The President may not entertain a new motion as long as the previous motion is still on the floor.
3. Two improvements or corrections are permitted for each motion.
4. The improvements or corrections have to be voted on before the motion itself can be decided.
5. No member shall be interrupted while he is speaking except when called to order or asked for an explanation by the President.
6. A motion can only be tabled at the request of the member making the motion.
7. All members have the right to make suggestions which can be discussed without making a motion. There is a fifteen minute time limit on any one subject.
8. All members have the right to protest the decision of the President. In this case the Vice president will take an immediate vote whether the President's decision shall stand or not.
9. Unfinished business has to be taken up at the following meeting.
10. Before each General Meeting, three members shall conduct a physical inventory.
11. Before the 28th of February of each year, three members shall conduct a financial records audit.
12. A motion for secret ballot has to be seconded by two members.