



The Eire Society of Boston

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as of June 27, 2020

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE EIRE SOCIETY OF BOSTON

ARTICLE 1 – NAME

The name of the organization shall be The Eire Society of Boston

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

Section 1. The purposes of the Society are:

- a. To promote the knowledge of Irish Culture through the encouragement of study in the Arts, Sciences, Literature, Language, and History of Ireland;
- b. To publicize the contributions to civilization made by the Irish and those of Irish Ancestry; and
- c. To promote a consciousness of the influence of Irish thought and action in the advancement of American ideals.

Section 2. The Society shall take no action in the field of politics.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership shall be open to anyone interested in promoting the purposes for which the Society was founded.

Section 2. Candidates for membership may be proposed by any member of the Society. The name and address of the candidate for membership shall be submitted to Corresponding Secretary on a membership application form signed by the sponsoring member as evidence of the good character and common interest of the applicant. The application for membership shall be accompanied by the fee for the annual dues. If for any reason the application is rejected the fee will be refunded.

Section 3. (Deleted by 2004 Amendment)

Section 4. Categories of membership with privileges pertaining to same, and a schedule of dues for each such category, shall be established by majority vote of the Board of Directors from time to time. Annual dues shall be billed and payable on or before 1 September each year. Any member in default on 31 October shall be rebilled by the

financial secretary. Any such member still in default of dues on 30 November shall be deemed to have offered resignation.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS – THEIR DUTIES

- Section 1. The Officers of the Society shall comprise the following:
- a. President;
 - b. First Vice President;
 - c. Second Vice President;
 - d. Treasurer;
 - e. Financial Secretary;
 - f. Recording Secretary
 - g. Corresponding Secretary; and
- Section 2. **The President** shall preside at all meetings of the Society and of the Board of Directors, shall be a member *ex-officio* of all special committees, and shall perform such other duties as may be set forth in this Constitution.
- Section 3. **The First Vice President** or if he/she is unable to act, the **Second Vice President**, shall act in the place of the President whenever the President is unable to carry out the duties assigned by that office.
- Section 4. **The Treasurer** shall be the custodian of all the funds of the Society. Upon authorization by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, the Treasurer shall pay bills against the Society. The books of the Treasurer shall be submitted to the Auditing Committee upon direction of the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall furnish a bond in such amount as the Board of Directors shall determine. The cost of said bond is to be borne by the Society.
- Section 5. **The Financial Secretary** shall issue the bills for dues and shall collect same from members of the Society. The Financial Secretary shall have charge of the membership file and shall notify the **Corresponding Secretary** monthly of any changes which would affect the mailing list. The Financial Secretary shall notify all members whose memberships are terminated for default in payment of dues within ten days of such termination. The Financial Secretary shall keep a running balance of the number of members, which balance may be called for at any Board meeting. He/She shall prepare a list of paid-up members for the **Recording Secretary** as of January 31st and a supplementary list as of June 30th each year. On the 25th day of each month he/she shall remit to the Treasurer all funds of the Society then in his/her possession.
- Section 6. **The Recording Secretary** shall keep a record of all regular and special meetings of the Society and of the Board of Directors and shall perform such other duties as may be set forth in this Constitution.
- Section 7. **The Corresponding Secretary** shall prepare and issue notices of all meetings to the members and to the Board of Directors and any special notices required and shall perform such other duties as may be set forth in this Constitution.
- Section 8. **The Board of Directors** shall consist of seven constitutional officers, all past Presidents of the Society, and between seven and twelve other members. Prior

to service on the Board of Directors, past Presidents shall be required to signify their acceptance. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to carry out the purposes of the Society in such a manner as shall seem fitting and proper. The Board may fill any vacancies occurring among Offices and Board of Directors by reason of death, resignation or disability, and shall perform such other duties as may be set forth in this Constitution.

ARTICLE V – ELECTIONS

- Section 1. The Officers and members of the Board of Directors shall be elected by a majority vote of the members at the annual meeting and shall take office on July 1st; provided, however, that if no choice of officers be made at the annual meeting, the incumbents shall remain in office until their successors shall be elected.
- Section 2. **The Nominating Committee** shall nominate one person each for President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and other persons for the Board of Directors, and shall submit those names to the Corresponding Secretary at least three weeks prior to the date of the annual meeting. The Corresponding Secretary shall include the names of the persons so nominated in the call for the annual meeting which shall be mailed to all members.
- Section 3. Additional nominations may be submitted provided each such nomination shall be in writing, signed by fifteen members of the Society and signed also by the member so nominated as a indication of that member's acceptance of the nomination. Such additional nominations must be submitted to the Corresponding Secretary at least one week prior to the date of the annual meeting.
- Section 4. The chairman of the Nominating Committee shall report on nominations at the Annual Meeting, and upon acceptance of that report by a majority of those present, the officers and directors so nominated shall be elected. If additional nominations have been submitted the same shall be read by the Recording Secretary immediately after the reading of the report of the Nominating Committee and designated as such, and the names of any additional nominees. In the case of officers for which only one member has been nominated, that member shall be declared elected unanimously. The Recording Secretary shall conduct the election whenever there is a contest and may designate such assistants as may seem necessary but each member nominated may appoint one representative to be present while ballots are distributed and counted.
- Section 5. No person holding an elective political office or who is a candidate for nomination or election to such office may be nominated for officers in this Society. Any officer of this Society who becomes a candidate for nomination or election to an elective political office shall be deemed to have resigned from office in this Society upon the date the candidacy is officially filed. Nothing in this Section shall be interpreted to bar any member of this Society from seeking political office.
- Section 6. Any member of the Board of Directors who during the year of tenure has failed, with justifiable cause, to attend a minimum of two meetings of the Board, regular or special, shall not be eligible for re-election to the Board of Directors for the year next following.

ACTICLES VI – COMMITTEES – THEIR DUTIES

- Section 1. There shall be three Standing Committees; the **Membership Committee**, the **Auditing Committee** and the **Nominating Committee**.
- Section 2. **The Membership Committee** – shall consist of a Chairman and six members, appointed by the President and announced to the Board of Directors at its first meeting. It shall be the duty of the Membership Committee to preserve and promote the membership of the Society.
- Section 3. **The Auditing Committee** – shall consist of three members, appointed by the President and announced to the Board of Directors at its first meeting. It shall be the duty of the Auditing Committee to audit the books of the Treasurer and Financial Secretary at any time authorized by the Board of Directors, and a report of such audit shall be submitted to the Board through the Recording Secretary within one month after such authorization. The Board of Directors shall authorize such an audit as of a date not more than one month prior to the date of the annual meeting, and the Chairman of the Auditing Committee shall make a report of this audit at the annual meeting. On July 1st of each year, the Auditing Committee shall make a final audit.
- Section 4. **The Nominating Committee** – shall consist of five members, appointed by the President and announced to the Board of Directors at its first meeting. It shall be the duty of the Nominating Committee to nominate one member for President, for First Vice President, for Second Vice President, for Treasurer, for Financial Secretary, for Recording Secretary, for Corresponding Secretary and for at least seven members of the Board of Directors, and to submit such nominations at least three weeks prior to the date of the annual meeting.
- Section 5. Such special committees as may be authorized by the Board of Directors shall be appointed by the President and shall report to the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII – MEETINGS

- Section 1. **The Annual Meeting** – shall be held during the months of May or June at such time and place as may be determined by the Board of Directors, and the call for ***The Annual Meeting*** shall be mailed to each member at least one week prior to the date established by the Board.
- Section 2. The Order of Business for the Annual Meeting shall be:
- a. Reading of the call by the Recording Secretary;
 - b. Report of the President;
 - c. Report of the Treasurer;
 - d. Report of the Membership Committee;
 - e. Report of the Auditing Committee;
 - f. Report of the Nominating Committee;
 - g. Election of Officers;
 - h. New business; and
 - i. Adjournment
- Section 3. Attendance of twenty or more members in good standing shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at ***The Annual Meeting*** or at any special meeting.

- Section 4. Special meetings for the transaction of business or for lectures, entertainment, or other purpose may be called by the President at such time and place as may be determined by the Board of Directors. Notice of such meeting shall be mailed to the members at least one week prior to the date of the meeting.
- Section 5. The Board of Directors shall meet at the call of the President at such time or place as shall be designated by the President. The Corresponding Secretary shall notify members of the Board of Directors of such meetings at least two days prior to the date of the meeting.
- Section 6. Attendance of six or more members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board of Directors.
- Section 7. The incoming Board of Directors shall meet with the existing Board during the month of June and shall be empowered to draw up plans for the following year.

ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENTS

- Section 1. Proposals for amendments to this Constitution shall be made in writing and submitted to the Corresponding Secretary at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the meeting at which they are to be acted upon by the members of the Society.
- Section 2. Copies of the proposals for amendments shall be mailed by the Corresponding Secretary to the members of the Board of Directors, and a meeting of the Board shall be held to act upon the proposals.
- Section 3. If the proposed amendments are approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, they may be submitted to the members at the Annual Meeting or at a special meeting, and if they are approved by a majority vote of the members present, they shall be adopted. Copies of the proposals for amendments shall be included in the call for a meeting issued by the Corresponding Secretary.
- Section 4. If the Board of Directors does not approve the proposed amendments, no special meeting shall be called for the purpose of submitting them to the members, but copies of the proposals shall be included in the call for next annual meeting and they shall be voted upon under the heading of new business. The Recording Secretary shall note that the proposals are not approved by the Board of Directors. If the proposals are accepted by a three-fourths vote of the members present, the amendments shall be adopted.

ARTICLE IX

- Section 1. Providing that in the event of dissolution of this organization, all properties, real, personal or mixed and all money remaining in the Treasury at the time of such dissolution, be given to an organization having the same purposes as this Society, or to Charitable, Educational, Scientific and/or Philanthropic Organizations, for the purpose of spreading awareness of the Arts and Culture of the Irish Race.

May 16, 1967 (as amended)

May 29, 1969 (as further amended: ARTICLE IV, Section 8. and ARTICLE V, Section 6.)

May 26, 1971 (as further amended: ARTICLE III, Section 4., 5. and 6.)

May 29, 1979 (as further amended: ARTICLE III, Section 4.)

June 12, 1997 (as amended)

June 23, 2004 (as further amended: ARTICLE III Section 4.; ARTICLE IV, Section 4, 5 and 8
and ARTICLE VI Section 4)