

## **BYLAWS**

### **FRIENDS OF THE MERRIMACK PUBLIC LIBRARY**

#### **ARTICLE I NAME**

The name of the Association shall be the Friends of the Merrimack Public Library (FMPL).

#### **ARTICLE II MISSION**

The Friends of the Merrimack Public Library raise funds to sponsor adult and children's education and enrichment programs, activities and events at the Merrimack Public Library; publicize the diverse features and modern services of the library to stimulate interest within the community; and support and assist in the continual enhancement of the library's resources and technologies.

#### **ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP AND DUES**

Section I: All persons who have paid the annual dues will be members in good standing. Members in good standing shall have the rights and privileges of a voting member.

Section II:

The Executive Board of FMPL will determine appropriate categories of membership each membership year (see Section IV) by the end of April of the prior membership year, and assign appropriate dues and benefits to each category, prior to soliciting registration or renewals of membership.

Section III: Any member whose membership has lapsed due to non-payment of dues may be reinstated upon payment of the current year's dues.

Section IV: The membership year shall run from June 1 to May 31 of the calendar year.

#### **ARTICLE IV OFFICERS**

Section I: The officers of the association shall be a President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. A Vice President may also be chosen if needed, by the President's recommendation.

Section II: All Officers shall be elected by majority vote of those present at the Annual Meeting, and shall serve without compensation. Officers will be elected to two year terms. The President and Vice President will be elected in years ending in **ODD** number. The Treasurer and Secretary will be elected in years ending in **EVEN** number.

Section III: The officers shall have all the usual powers and duties exercised by the officers of a voluntary association.

Section IV: No person currently employed by the Merrimack Library, defined as a person receiving wages from the library, is eligible to be an officer.

Section V: A vacancy in any office shall be filled for the remainder of the term through appointment by the Executive Board.

## **ARTICLE V EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Section I: The FMPL Executive Board shall consist of the officers listed in Article IV, together with two members-at-large (three if there is no Vice President).

I.a.: Board members-at-large shall be chosen by appointment by the President with the approval of the majority of the officers, including the President.

Section II: All members of the Executive Board must be members in good standing (i.e., are current with their dues).

Section III: The Executive Board shall be the governing body for all matters requiring action by this association and shall manage the affairs of the association in the interval between annual and/or special meetings.

Section IV: The Executive Board may transact business in person, by postal mail, by electronic communication or by phone. A two-thirds vote by the Executive Board shall be required for adoption of any business.

Section V: A majority of the Executive Board shall be a quorum at any meeting.

## **ARTICLE VI CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Section I: A conflict of interest, or an appearance of a conflict, can arise whenever an action or transaction of the Friends of the Merrimack Public Library conflicts with the personal interests, financial or otherwise, of one or more members, their immediate families, or their employers. This policy is intended to supplement, but not replace, any applicable state and federal laws governing conflicts of interest applicable to non-profit and charitable organizations.

Section II: All Officers shall sign a conflict of interest waiver form.

Section III: A member, who will be voting on a transaction or action, having a potential conflict of interest, shall divulge that conflict of interest and abstain from discussion and voting on that transaction or action.

## **ARTICLE VII FUNDS AND LIABILITY**

Section I: All funds shall be deposited to the account of the Friends of the Merrimack Library and shall be disbursed by the Treasurer or the President of the FMPL as authorized by the Executive Board.

Section II: In case of the dissolution of the association, the remaining funds shall be transferred to the Merrimack Public Library Trustees and shall be in addition to the appropriation provided by the Town budget.

Section III: No member of the association shall be liable, except for unpaid dues, and no personal liability shall, in any event, be attached to any member of the association in connection with any of its undertakings.

## **ARTICLE VIII MEETINGS**

Section I: The FMPL shall meet annually in June for the election of officers and transaction of other business.

Section II: A special meeting of the association may be called at any time by the President, or by two members of the Executive Board. Members will be notified by email or phone ten (10) days in advance of any meeting.

## **ARTICLE IX COMMITTEES**

The Executive Board may authorize committees consistent with the purposes and resources of the association.

**These Bylaws may be amended on prior notice at any meeting of this association, by a three-fourths vote of the members present.**

Initiated: 1973

Amended: 2012

Recent Amendment: June 2017