

BYLAWS FOR BARGE (APPROVED 4-28-2007)

ARTICLE 1

NAME AND STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

SECTION 1. NAME. The name of this association is BARGE NEIGHBORS.

SECTION 2. BOUNDARIES. The BARGE boundary streets are: on the east by Broadway, on the south by Ridge and on the north by Ardmore to Ridge, inclusive of the west side of Broadway, the north side of Ridge, and the north side of Ardmore to the alley.

SECTION 3. PURPOSE. The association's areas of concern include, but are not limited to the following:

- a) Beautification: To maintain the common gardens and to prevent the deterioration of buildings, sidewalks, streets, and alleys within the BARGE neighborhood.
- b) Safety: To encourage the prevention of crime and improve public safety, whether personal, property, or vehicular, within the BARGE neighborhood and surrounding area.
- c) Representation: To give the BARGE community a voice in local matters and in dealings with locally elected officials, community councils, schools, and other local departments and bureaus.
- d) Community: To strengthen those relationships that further a sense of community by sponsoring social events and welcoming new neighbors.

ARTICLE II

MEMBERSHIP AND VOTING

SECTION 1. ELIGIBILITY. Any individual residing or owning property within the BARGE boundaries who is at least 18 years of age will be entitled to vote and be eligible for membership.

SECTION 2. DUES. The dues for membership in this association will be due each fiscal year in an amount specified by the officers. BARGE residents may still vote, however, even if they have not paid these dues.

SECTION 3. VOTING. With the exception of the election of officers, voting may take place either in person at a general meeting or by proxy (email, paper ballot, etc.). The officers will communicate the exact procedure for proxy votes at least one week before the voting is to take place. Any individual residing or owning property within the BARGE boundaries who is at least 18 years of age is entitled to vote. A minimum of ten BARGE residents (including at least two officers) must vote for the vote to be considered valid. All votes will be decided by a simple majority.

ARTICLE III

FINANCE

SECTION 1. FISCAL YEAR. The fiscal year of BARGE corresponds to the calendar year.

SECTION 2. BUDGET. It shall be the duty of the elected officers to prepare a budget for approval by BARGE residents at the first general meeting of the calendar year.

SECTION 3. OTHER EXPENDITURES. All expenditures not provided for in the budget must be voted on by the BARGE residents.

SECTION 4. AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES. All expenditures will be paid by check and signed by the Treasurer.

ARTICLE IV

MEETINGS

SECTION 1. REGULAR MEETINGS. Meetings will normally occur at least once a quarter. They will be held in the evenings or on weekends as convenient to the majority of residents. The exact date, place, and time are to be designated by the President and other officers and communicated to BARGE residents at least one week prior to the meeting.

SECTION 2. SPECIAL MEETINGS. Special meetings may be called by the President or upon petition of any 10 BARGE residents at such time and place as they designate upon notification to each resident no less than 24 hours prior to such special meeting.

SECTION 3. CONDUCT. Meetings will be guided by ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER.

ARTICLE V

OFFICERS

SECTION 1. OFFICERS. The officers of this association will consist of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

SECTION 2. NOMINATIONS. The President will invite written and oral nominations in September. Nominations may also be invited from the floor on the day of the election.

SECTION 2.1. VOTING. Voting will take place at the next general meeting (generally in November) and be by secret ballot. The individual receiving the highest number of votes will be deemed elected.

SECTION 3. TERMS OF OFFICE. Officers will serve for a term of one year (January 1 – December 31) or until their successors are elected and qualified.

SECTION 4. VACANCIES. In the case of a vacancy, the president may invite nominations for the vacant position at any regular meeting. With the approval of the BARGE residents present, voting can take place at the same meeting. The officer will serve until the next general election.

SECTION 5. OFFICER MEETINGS. Meetings of the elected officers will occur on an as needed basis. Any resident of BARGE may attend these meetings. Meetings will be announced at least a week ahead of time.

SECTION 6. BLOCK CAPTAINS. These are volunteers who handle communications with BARGE residents within a designated area.

ARTICLE VI

DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

SECTION 1. PRESIDENT. The President will preside over meetings; fill all appointive positions; be an ex-officio member of all committees; perform such other duties as may, from time to time, be required. With the approval of the other officers, the President will establish standing committees as needed.

SECTION 2. VICE PRESIDENT. The Vice President will be vested with all powers and will be required to perform all duties of the President in the absence of the President.

SECTION 3. SECRETARY. The Secretary will keep a written record of all regular and special meetings; communicate the minutes from these meetings; be responsible for handling all general correspondence.

SECTION 4. TREASURER. The Treasurer will collect and deposit all dues; maintain an accurate record of all receipts and expenditures; maintain an updated file of all members in the current year including address and telephone numbers; give a report at each regular meeting.

The Treasurer's books and records will be available for review by any member in good standing upon request.

ARTICLE VII

ZONING DECISIONS

SECTION 1. ZONING AND PLANNING REPRESENTATIVE. At the beginning of the year, the President will nominate the BARGE representative to the Alderman's Zoning and Planning Committee and this will be voted on by BARGE residents at the first general meeting. This representative will make regular reports to BARGE residents about these meetings.

SECTION 2. ZONING CHANGES WITHIN THE BARGE AREA. Proposals to change zoning within the BARGE boundaries will generally be voted on by BARGE residents at a regular or special meeting. In cases where the proposed zoning change is minor and relates to an existing structure, the President in consultation with the Zoning and Planning Representative and the other officers may decide to consult BARGE residents by email instead of at a meeting.

SECTION 3. PRIOR DISTRIBUTION OF ZONING PROPOSALS. When a proposed change of zoning is going to be voted on at a meeting, developers or other interested parties will be asked to send written versions of their proposals at least two weeks prior to the meeting so that BARGE residents will have time to inform themselves about the issue. The officers will make a particular effort to insure that the immediate neighbors of the proposed change are given the opportunity to prepare an informed response.

ARTICLE VIII

AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be altered, replaced, amended or revised at any regular meeting, provided that the subject matter was presented prior to the meeting and a copy of the proposed alterations, replacements or revisions has been made available to BARGE residents at least 7 days prior to the meeting when it will be voted on.

THESE BYLAWS EFFECTIVE AS OF 4-28-07