

FULTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY INCORPORATED BY-LAWS
Adopted 21 April 1975; Amended 24 July 1993; Amended 3 August 1996

The Fulton County Historical Society is a corporation which does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit, incidental or otherwise. Notwithstanding any other provision of these By-laws, the Fulton County Historical Society shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

Article I - Membership and Dues

Section 1. Any person interested in the history of Fulton County who applies for membership in any classification of membership and who tenders the necessary dues shall thereby become a member.

Section 2. Membership shall be in four classes:

A. INDIVIDUAL/FAMILY members - Any person, group, or firm offering special support to the goals of the society shall be eligible. Annual dues for individuals/family shall be fifteen dollars (\$15.00) effective for dues payable April 1997 and thereafter.

B. INSTITUTIONAL members - Any organization, board, school, business or library interested in the history of Fulton County shall be eligible. Annual dues for business, institutional or professional members shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) effective for dues payable April 1997 and thereafter.

C. LIFE members - An individual only. Dues for life members shall be two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) in one single payment, effective immediately.

D. HONORARY members - Honorary membership may be conferred upon any person whose activities have contributed to the objectives of the society. Honorary members shall be elected by a three-fourths vote of members present at an annual meeting upon nomination by the board of directors.

Section 3. Annual dues shall be payable in advance and shall expire in April of each year. Members in arrears more than six (6) months after payment is due shall be dropped from membership.

Article II - Officers and Directors

Section 1. The officers shall be a president, a vice-president, and a secretary who shall be elected for a term of one year; and a treasurer and six directors who shall be elected for a term of three years.

Section 2. The officers and directors shall constitute the board of directors. The duties shall be as follows:

A. The PRESIDENT shall have executive supervision over the activities of the society within the scope provided by these by-laws. He shall preside at all meetings. He shall report annually on the activities of the society. He shall appoint the members of committees and delegates not otherwise provided for.

B. The VICE PRESIDENT shall assume the duties of the president in the event of absence, incapacity or resignation of the president.

C. The SECRETARY shall keep the minutes of meetings of the society and of the board of directors, maintain a list of members and render an annual report.

D. The TREASURER shall be responsible for the safekeeping of society funds and for maintaining adequate financial records. He shall deposit all monies received by him in the bank as directed by the board in the name of the Fulton County Historical Society Incorporated. Monies shall be paid out by numbered checks signed by the treasurer on approval of the president. The treasurer will collect dues and shall render an annual report based on the calendar year.

E. The BOARD OF DIRECTORS shall have the power to conduct all affairs of the society. They shall decide questions of policy that for any reason cannot be acted upon at a meeting of the society and perform such other functions as designated in the bylaws or otherwise assigned to it. The board of directors will elect its own chairman and (through the chairman) shall render an annual report at each annual meeting.

Section 3. All officers and directors shall be elected by a plurality of votes cast by secret ballot at the annual meeting.

A. Not less than two months prior to the annual meeting, the secretary of the society shall send to each member a blank upon which such member may nominate one person for each office open to election. Nominations shall be returned not less than one month before the annual meeting. A committee on nominations, appointed by the chairman of the board of directors, shall select a slate of candidates from a list of all nominees.

B. Nominations may be opened prior to balloting at the annual meeting upon affirmative vote of a majority of members present at the annual meeting. A candidate for election shall be an active member.

C. A person who has been elected to the board of directors for two consecutive terms, or elected as president or vice-president for three consecutive terms, shall not be nominated to the same office unless one year elapses between the end of his last term and the beginning of the term for which he is nominated.

D. Officers and directors shall take office at the close of the annual meeting at which they are elected and shall serve until their successors have been duly elected and installed. In the event of resignation or incapacity of the president, the vice-president shall fill that office; the vacancy of any other office may be filled by a vote of the board of directors and that person shall serve until the next annual meeting.

Article III - Meetings

Section 1. Regular meetings of the society shall be held quarterly.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the president.

Section 3. The annual meeting of the society shall be held during the month of April.

Section 4. Ten of the active members of the society shall constitute a quorum. Of these ten, a majority of the board must be present.

Section 5. The board of directors shall meet at the request of the president or at the request of a majority of the officers and directors. At any meeting of the board of directors, six members shall constitute a quorum.

Section 6. The parliamentary rules contained in Robert's Rules of Orders, Rose Marie Cruzan's Practical Parliamentary Procedure, or other authority shall govern the proceedings of the society except in such cases as are governed by the Constitution or the by-laws.

Article IV - Committees

Section 1. The society shall have the following standing committees:

A. LIBRARY Committee - responsible for collecting, cataloging, care, arrangement and repair of books, manuscripts, newspapers and other historical source material.

B. MUSEUM Committee - responsible for collecting, cataloging, cleaning, repair and storage of historic objects; for arranging museum exhibits and for the care and upkeep of museum quarters.

C. PUBLICATIONS Committee - responsible for finding ways and means for publishing joint or individual research studies; newsletter to members, a quarterly bulletin or books; for publicity; for staging radio and television programs.

D. HISTORIC SITES Committee - responsible for establishing the historic validity for sites proposed for marking; for marking historic sites; for arranging historical tours.

E. PROGRAM Committee - responsible for arranging suitable programs, for setting time, place and date of meetings.

F. MEMBERSHIP Committee - responsible for membership drives and processing new candidates for membership.

G. NOMINATIONS Committee - responsible for making nominations for officers and members of the board of directors.

Section 2. The president shall appoint members and chairmen of the standing committees.

Section 3. Other committees, standing or special, may be appointed by the president as directed by the society or board of directors.

Article V - Dissolution

Upon dissolution of the Fulton County Historical Society, assets of the society shall be distributed for one or more tax exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or corresponding section of any future federal tax code or shall be distributed to the federal government or to a state or local government for public purposes. No part of the funds or assets of the Fulton County Historical Society shall be distributed to the members or the Fulton County Historical Society or its board of directors or officers.

Article VI - Amendment Procedure

These bylaws may be amended at any regular or adjourned meeting by a two-thirds vote of those voting provided notice was given at the previous meeting. Or they may be amended at a special meeting called for that purpose with previous notice and a two-thirds vote. All proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing.