

## **LIBERAL MEN OF THE LOWCOUNTRY BY-LAWS**

### **NAME:**

The name of the organization is the Liberal Men of the Lowcountry (LML)

### **PURPOSE:**

Liberal Men of the Lowcountry is an organization of open-minded, welcoming individuals who seek to educate members and stimulate discussion regarding public issues through meetings and a variety of social activities, and by being a conduit for involvement in community causes.

### **MEMBERSHIP:**

Membership is on an annual basis commencing on January 1 and running through December 31. Fees are to be determined by the Board of Directors and approved at the annual meeting.

### **GOVERNANCE:**

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors is to be the operating arm of LML and shall consist of 9 members elected at the annual meeting for staggered three-year terms. All members of the organization are eligible to serve on the Board. The former President of the Board will serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of the Board.

Each year three members will be up for election. In year one three members will be elected for three year terms, three for two year terms and three for one year terms.

One can serve on the Board for a maximum of two consecutive three-year terms.

The Board will meet monthly.

A quorum of the Board consists of 5 members present at the meeting (in person or electronically).

Any vacancy of the Board is to be filled by the remaining Board members

All decisions made will be carried by simple majority vote of those present at the meeting. In the case of a tie the Ex-Officio President will cast the deciding vote

## **Board Positions**

These shall be: President, Secretary, Treasurer and 6 Directors at Large. The Directors at Large will hold responsibility for specific functional areas as designated by the Board President.

**President** shall arrange for, set the agenda and chair all Board meetings, the annual meeting and any special meetings of LML. He shall represent LML in any official capacity where the organization is required to be formally present.

**Secretary** shall ensure proper notification of all Board meetings and the Annual Meeting of LML and will write and distribute all minutes of said meetings

**Treasurer** shall keep a record of all the receipts and disbursements of LML and produce a financial report and budget for approval at the Annual Meeting.

*The Directors at Large shall each be responsible for or chair one of the following committees (either individually or with a Committee):*

- Communications
- Community Outreach
- Governance / Nominations
- Membership and Activities
- Programs
- Technology and Web Development

Other ad hoc committees may be established by the board on an as needed basis.

## **BOARD COMMITTEES**

### **Communications:**

Establishes and maintains all internal communication, including the Interconnections newsletter in coordination with technology (website) coordinator; maintains presence on social media

### **Community Outreach:**

Communicates LML vision and mission to the community, supports other community organizations; coordinates fund-raising efforts and donations.

### **Governance / Nominations**

Reviews By laws and proposes updates as needed; provides the Board with a list of nominations for presentation and approval at the Annual Meeting.

**Membership and Activities:**

Maintains records of current and former members, looks for ways to increase membership, serves as Board contact for Activity Group Coordinators.

**Programs:**

Coordinates monthly luncheon speakers including venue arrangements; develops and arranges for other membership programs and meetings throughout the year.

**Technology and Web Development:**

Ensures that LML website meets the needs of the organization; keeps information on the website accurate and current; ensures audio and video technology is operational for in person and virtual meetings

**ANNUAL MEETING:**

This meeting is open to all members and shall be held no later than the end of January. The meeting will:

Provide an overview of the years' activities from the various committees

Approve the financial statements of the preceding year and the budget for the upcoming year

Approve any bylaw revisions

Elect the Board of Directors

Notification of the time and place of the meeting shall be issued at least 14 days in advance of the meeting. Included in the notification will be the financial statements, the budget, any proposed by law changes and the list of Board nominees. Each member of the LML who attends shall be entitled to vote at the meeting. All approvals and decisions shall be by majority vote of those present at the meeting.