**FRIENDS OF SMYRNA PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**CONSTITUTION**

**ARTICLE I. NAME**

The name of this organization shall be Friends of Smyrna Public Library.

**ARTICLE II. PURPOSE**

Friends of Smyrna Public Library shall be a non-profit organization whose object shall be to promote the interest and welfare of Smyrna Public Library as a cultural, educational, and recreational asset to the town of Smyrna and Rutherford County, including contributing to reading engagement in the local community via donations of books and educational materials to non-profit, community and governmental agencies.

**ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1.** All individuals and organizations interested in the purpose of this organization shall be eligible to membership upon payment of dues.

**Section 2.** Each member shall be entitled to one vote.

**Section 3.** Any person who has performed distinguished service may, on the recommendation of the board of directors, be elected by the organization an Honorary Life Member without dues.

**ARTICLE IV. DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**

**Section 1.** The board shall consist of no fewer than ~~s~~even and no more than thirteen directors who shall constitute the elected governing body of this organization, four of whom shall be elected to serve as officers. In the event of an even number of votes resulting in a tie, the President shall cast the deciding vote. The officers shall be president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. One of the directors’ positions shall be filled by the prior year’s president unless circumstances prevent their service and shall not be subject to election by the membership. The director of the Smyrna Library shall serve as an ex-officio member of the board.

**Section 2.** Directors shall be nominated by a committee selected by the president with the approval of the board of directors not less than one month prior to the annual meeting. The nominating committee shall consist of three members, one of whom shall be a member of the board of directors. The nomination shall be submitted in writing and posted in the library two weeks prior to the annual meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor with the consent of the prospective nominee.

Approved 11/09/2021 Constitution Page 1

**Section 3.** The directors shall be elected by ballot at the Annual Meeting. However, if there shall be but one candidate for any office, it shall be in order to move that the election be by voice vote.

**Section 4**. Directors shall assume their official duties at the beginning of the calendar year following the Annual Meeting. Directors may serve up to six (6) years through yearly election. Extension of years of service must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the board and subject to election at the general meeting.

Section 5. When a vacancy occurs on the board of directors, a replacement director shall be nominated by the current board members and approved at a board of directors’ meeting.

**Section ~~6~~.** The board of directors shall fill vacancies in elective offices for the unexpired term.

**Section 7.** Any board member who misses three consecutive meetings without good cause shall be replaced by selection of another member.

**ARTICLE V. FUNDS AND LIABILITY**

**Section 1.** All funds shall be deposited to the account of the Friends of Smyrna Public Library and shall be disbursed by the treasurer upon the authorization of the board of directors.

**Section 2**. The treasurer shall submit an annual financial report to the board of directors. The financial records shall be open for inspection by the board of directors, FOSL members and the public at any reasonable time.

**Section 3.** No member of this organization shall be held personally liable financially in connection with any of its undertakings.

**Section 4.** The organization’s liabilities shall be limited to its common funds and assets.

**Section 5.** Neither the board of directors nor the officers shall have any authority to borrow money or incur any indebtedness or liability, other than current expenses, in the name of, or on behalf of, this organization.

**Section 6.** No contract shall be entered into and no obligation shall be incurred beyond the amount on hand or in the bank after deducting therefrom, or providing for, the total of all unpaid accounts and unpaid obligations and liabilities.

**Section 7.** No part of the new earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of any member, trustee, official or individual. The organization shall not engage in propaganda or intervention in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall involve attempts to influence legislation.

Approved 11/09/2021 Constitution Page 2