

P.L.A.I.N.
Pine Lake Association of Involved Neighbors
Constitution and Bylaws

Adopted June 11, 1995

Revised: June 1996, October 1996, January 1997,

May 1997, June 1998, November 2000, January, 2017

Approved: February 23, 2017 at the regular PLAIN meeting.

CONSTITUTION

Article I Name and Headquarters

Section 1

The name of this organization shall be the Pine Lake Association of Involved Neighbors, also known as P.L.A.I.N.

Section 2

The headquarters of this organization shall be maintained at the principal residence or place of business of the President of the organization. The mailing address shall be established by the board of directors.

Article II Affiliation

This organization shall not be and is hereby not affiliated with any other organization.

Article III Purpose

Section 1

The purpose of this organization shall be to support the objectives and the mission statement as outlined in our bylaws.

Section 2

This organization shall be nonpartisan, nonsectarian, and shall wholly abstain from any affiliations or endorsements of candidates for public office.

Article IV Membership

Any citizen of Pine Lake or surrounding area is eligible for active membership in this organization.

Article V Government

Section 1

The government of this organization shall be vested in a Board of Directors consisting of the officers and the Immediate Past President. Said officers shall be President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 2

The officers of this organization shall be elected in the manner prescribed by the bylaws and shall hold office for a period of one year, or until their successors are duly elected and charged.

Article VI Amendment

This constitution may be amended by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at any regular or special meeting provided that notice of the proposed amendment has been emailed to the last known email address to each member at least 21 (twenty-one) days prior to the date of such meeting.

BYLAWS

Article I Membership

Section 1 (Eligibility and Qualifications for Membership)

Any resident of the city of Pine Lake, Georgia, or surrounding area is eligible for active membership in this organization. A resident of Pine Lake qualifies for active membership upon application in writing and payment of dues.

Section 2 (Rights of Membership)

All active members of this organization have the right to vote in matters concerning the organization, and may hold office, if elected by a majority of members voting, and other rights as described by the Board or Membership.

Section 3 (Resignations and Disciplinary Actions)

Membership in this organization may be terminated by a majority vote by the Board of Directors at a duly called meeting of said Board, provided that the Board shall have, at a previous meeting, voted that the presence of such member is not in best interest of the organization and further that the member in question is subsequently given a written notice of the pending vote to terminate and reasons for it at least five (5) days prior to the meeting and is given an opportunity address the board on his/her behalf at that meeting. In the event of a vote of termination, all dues for the fiscal year are forfeited.

Any member voluntarily terminating his/her membership should state such intent to the Secretary so that appropriate or necessary changes might be made prior to the date of separation. All dues for the fiscal year are forfeited.

Article II Dues

Section 1

Annual dues are payable on or before the beginning of the organization's fiscal year, which is July 1. Renewal for new members who pay dues after March 1 shall be July 1.

Section 2

The annual dues for active members of the organization shall be thirty (\$30.00) dollars for a family household and twenty (\$20.00) dollars for a single household. The Board of Directors may offer pro-rated or discounts for membership dues after December 31. The June Breakfast begins our membership drive.

Article III Governing Body

Section 1

The government of this organization shall be vested in the Board of Directors, which shall be subject to the will of the membership.

Section 2

The Board of Directors shall have control and management of the property of this organization subject to the will of the membership. Funds of the organization may be withdrawn from the bank or banks or other financial institutions with which they are on deposit by the joint signatures of any two (2) officers. The Board of Directors shall establish such rules of the operation of the organization's business as shall be consistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the organization.

Section 3

Vacancies on the Board of Directors shall be filled by nominations from the floor at the first regular meeting of the organization after said vacancy occurs and voted on, by a majority of those members present. The members of the board elected shall remain in office for the duration of the term of the individuals thus replaced. If the office of President is vacated, the Vice-President shall fill the office until a new President is elected at the second regular meeting after the vacancy occurs. If the Vice-President is unable to fill the office of President during this interim period, then the Board shall appoint an interim President. Nominations and election of a new President shall be taken from the general membership at the second regular meeting after the office of President is vacated.

Section 4

The Board of Directors shall keep minutes of all its meetings. Such minutes shall be permanently filed in the records of the organization.

Section 5

A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the active members of the organization present at a regular meeting of the organization shall be sufficient to veto an action of the Board of Directors on a motion duly made and seconded.

Section 6

Any proposed program of expenditure of money for which there is no clearly established policy must first be presented to the Board of Directors before it may be presented to the membership.

Article IV Elections

Section 1

At the annual election, June regular meeting, there shall be elected a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer in order with nominations coming from the membership. Voting shall be by individual members in good standing, and no person shall cast more than one vote. Proxies and absentee ballots will be recognized.

Section 2

Except for the initial election of officers, officers shall take office July 1, which shall begin the organization's fiscal term. Term of office shall be for one year.

Article V Meetings

Section 1

The annual meeting of this organization shall be held in June of each year and notice of such meeting shall be e-mailed to each member at their last known e-mail address at least ten (10) days prior thereto.

Section 2

The organization shall hold a minimum of eight (8) meetings, which includes special events, during the organization's fiscal year.

Section 3

Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be at prearranged dates or at the call of the President.

Section 4

Special meetings of the membership or the Board of Directors may be called by the President or Secretary at the request of at least four (4) members.

Article VI Duties of Officers

Section 1

The President, as chief executive officer of the organization, shall supervise the organizations affairs and activities, and shall make an annual report to the members. He/she shall be the organization's primary representative to the public.

Section 2

The Vice President shall preside at membership and Board of Directors meetings in the absence of the President, and shall also work with the President on such affairs of the organization as finances and public relations. The primary duty of the Vice-President is membership, including recruiting, collecting dues, updating the membership database, and new/renewal notifications.

Section 3

The Secretary shall oversee all communication and give notice of all regular and special meetings and shall keep a permanent record of the minutes of such meetings. He/she shall be the custodian of all official meeting records and correspondence of the organization.

Section 4

The Treasurer shall be responsible for the books of the organization, disperse funds as required and shall report monthly on the financial condition of the organization. He/she shall be custodian of all financial records of the organization and shall prepare a report for audit by his/her successor.

Article VII Committees

Section 1

The Board of Directors shall determine the committees deemed proper and necessary to fulfill the objectives and purpose of the organization.

Section 2

All committee chairpersons shall be appointed by the President, subject to approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 3

The President and Vice President shall be ex-officio members of all committees.

Article VIII Authority to Bind

No member of this organization shall contract for or incur debt or enter into any agreement or otherwise obligate this organization except by authorization of the Board of Directors or the membership.

Article IX Rules of Order

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of all meetings of the organization and its constituent parts except as provided by these bylaws.

Article X Removal from Office

Any officer may be removed from office as a result of failure to fulfill the duties of said office or for conduct detrimental to the best interests of the organization. Said removal must follow the following procedures:

1. A petition stating the charge or charges shall be filed with the Secretary and signed by two-thirds (2/3) of the Board of Directors or by two-thirds (2/3) of the members in good standing.
2. The Secretary shall notify each members at least twenty-one (21) days before the question is placed on the general membership meeting agenda.
3. Said officer shall be permitted written notice of the charge or charges ten (10) days before the question is to be placed on the general membership meeting agenda.
4. The petitioners shall present their case first, said officer shall be heard second and the vote shall be taken third. Two-thirds (2/3) of those voting shall be necessary to remove said officer from office. A quorum must be present at this meeting. Should said officer be the Secretary, the Vice President shall receive and distribute the petition. Should the officer be the President, the Vice President shall preside during removal proceedings. No removal proceedings shall be based more than once on the same evidence.

Article XI Policies

Written policies shall be established which shall rule pertaining to the adoption of programs, duties of officers and other matters of concern to the organization. These policies may be adopted or amended by a majority vote of the members in good standing present at a regular or special meeting of the organization.

Article XII Mission Statement, Objectives, and Values

Section 1 Mission Statement

PLAIN exists to support and encourage the development and enhancement of the City of Pine Lake.

Section 2 Objectives

- We will provide community activities.
- We will provide support to neighbors in crisis.
- We will be a voice and lobby the city about issues when necessary.

Section 3 Values

- We support pride in residence, whether owner or tenant.
- We support professional city government to manage urban issues.
- We support an effective and certified police department as an essential element for maintaining the vitality of our community.

Article XIII Copy of Bylaws

A current copy of these Bylaws and the Constitution shall be maintained by the Secretary and posted on the plainhelps.org website as well as the PLAIN Dropbox account.

Article XIV Dissolution of Organization

Upon dissolution of this organization, after all outstanding debts have been paid, the balance of all moneys shall be dispersed to the General Fund of the City of Pine Lake.

Article XV Amendment Procedure

These Bylaws may be amended or repealed by a majority vote of the membership at any meeting. Unless the Board of Directors initiates such proposed Bylaws change, such change shall be presented to the Board for study and recommendation. The Board of Directors shall have not more than thirty (30) days in which to report to the membership. The Board's report shall be advisory only and shall not be binding on the membership.