

BYLAWS OF THE LAKESIDE FREETHINKERS

Adopted on May 21, 2014

I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Lakeside Freethinkers. For the purposes of the organization, “freethinker” is defined as a person who identifies herself or himself as an atheist, agnostic, secular humanist, rationalist, or skeptic, or who otherwise rejects belief in the supernatural and relies upon science and reason to guide her or his life.

II. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Lakeside Freethinkers are:

- 1. To evidence and support the presence of freethinkers at Lakeside;**
- 2. To provide a means by which members may share information relating to freethinking, religion, and secularism with all other members;**
- 3. To hold meetings at which members may receive presentations on and discuss matters relating to freethinking, religion, and secularism;**
- 4. To provide opportunities for members to enjoy socializing and fellowship with other freethinkers.**

III. MEMBERSHIP

Any person who identifies herself or himself as a freethinker, as defined for the purposes of this organization, may become a member of the organization by applying for membership in it.

IV. OFFICERS

- 1. The officers of the organization shall be a Chair, a Vice-Chair, and a Secretary.**
- 2. Officers shall be elected by the members at a duly called meeting of the organization, provided that they are first nominated by a member, their nomination is seconded by a different member, and they agree to serve if elected.**
- 3. Officers shall serve two-year (2-year) terms of office, or until their successors are elected, provided that the Secretary shall initially be elected to a term of one (1) year.**
- 4. The Chair shall schedule and arrange meetings of the members of the organization in accordance with the decisions made by the members; preside at meetings of the members; receive and respond to inquiries about membership in the organization; and be the representative of the organization to the public.**
- 5. The Vice-Chair shall assist the Chair in the performance of her or his duties and perform the duties of the Chair in the absence of the Chair.**

6. The Secretary shall maintain a list of the organization's members; arrange for an e-mail list of members; notify members of meetings, including any matters that are to be acted upon at a meeting; prepare and e-mail a report of each meeting to members; and maintain the records of the organization.

8. The officers shall constitute the Executive Committee of the organization, which shall be empowered to take, by majority vote, any action that is required to be taken between meetings of the members, subject to ratification by the members at the next following meeting.

9. The Chair may, with the concurrence of the Executive Committee, appoint such committees as the Committee deems necessary to conduct the affairs of the organization, including, but not limited to, a Program Committee to solicit and arrange for presentations at meetings.

V. MEETINGS AND VOTING

1. A meeting of the members of the organization shall be held at least once each month.

2. The members at a duly-called meeting of the organization may decide to hold additional meetings.

3. All matters requiring a decision by the members shall be decided by vote of the majority of the members present at a duly-called meeting of the organization, provided that

a. All members have been notified of all matters to be voted on at least one month before the meeting at which a matter is to be voted on,

b. A quorum of at least ten percent (10%) of members is present,

c. Any member may vote by proxy by notifying the secretary in writing how she or he wishes to vote on a matter to be voted on at a meeting or by assigning his or her proxy to a member who is to attend the meeting, with or without instruction as to how that member is to exercise the proxy, provided that notifying the secretary by e-mail shall be construed to be written notification and,

d. In the event of a tie vote, the chair shall cast the deciding vote.

4. Any member may submit to the Executive Committee a proposal to be voted upon at a meeting of the organization. If approved by a majority of the Executive Committee, the proposal will be placed on the agenda of a duly-called meeting.

VI. ADOPTION AND AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

These bylaws shall be adopted and may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members that is conducted in accordance with the procedures for voting specified herein.