PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY INCORPORATED BY-LAWS

Article I - Name

This non-profit corporation shall be known as the “Prince George’s County Historical Society, Incorporated” hereinafter sometimes referred to as the “Society”.

Article II - Objectives

Section 1. To foster an understanding and appreciation of the history and heritage of Prince George’s County, Maryland.

Section 2. To collect, record, organize, restore, and preserve historical data, artifacts and all associated materials relative to Prince George’s County history and heritage.

Section 3. To promote and encourage research into all aspects of Prince George’s County history and heritage.

Section 4. To acquaint and make available to members and the general public historical data and all associated materials relating to Prince George’s County through programs and publications arranged or sponsored by the Society.

Section 5. To encourage and participate in the protection and preservation of historic sites and structures in Prince George’s County.

Article III - Membership/Sponsorship/Dues

Section 1. Membership shall be open to anyone interested in promoting the objectives of the Society. An application shall be made in writing and filed with the membership committee.

Section 2. Membership shall be classified as, Individual, Family, Student, Life, Corporate, Newsletter and Honorary.

Section 3. Individual, Family, Student, and Corporate shall pay annual dues as determined by the Board of Directors. Life members shall make a one time payment for life membership. Newsletter membership is for complimentary exchange with organizations or individuals which have been deemed to be friends of the Society. Honorary membership may be conferred for life by two-thirds affirmative vote of the Board of Directors in recognition of outstanding contribution to the objective of the Society. Honorary members are exempt from further payment of dues.

Section 4. Sponsorship shall be classified as Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum. Each sponsorship level shall pay an annual amount determined by the Board of Directors. Sponsorship grants all membership privileges.

Section 5. Dues and sponsorships are payable by January first of the calendar year. Dues and sponsorships not paid by April first will result in the member being dropped from membership. New members or sponsors paying initial dues after September first shall be considered paid for the remainder of that year and the following year.
Article IV-Officers

Section 1. The officers of the Society shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian who shall be elected on an annual basis.

Section 2. There shall be at least fifteen (15) and no more than eighteen (18) directors elected for three (3) year terms; these shall be elected on a staggered basis. The officers together with the directors shall constitute the Board of Directors and shall be elected at the November general meeting of each year for the following calendar year. A slate of candidates for these offices shall be presented to the membership in the issue of the Society newsletter published prior to November general meeting. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the November general meeting. In the event of there being more than one nominee for any office, election shall be by ballot.

Section 3. The positions of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined and a single officer may be elected as the Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 4. In the event of a vacancy on the Board of Directors, the Board shall appoint a member of the Society to fill the vacancy until the end of the term vacated.

Section 5. All past presidents shall be members of the Board with voting privileges.

Article V-Duties of Officers and Directors

Section 1. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Society, shall preside at meetings and shall appoint Committee Chairpersons.

Section 2. The Vice-President shall assume the duties of the president in the absence of or upon the incapacity or resignation of the President.

Section 3. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Society and the Board of Directors, shall handle the general correspondence of the Society, and shall maintain a file of the Society’s proceedings and correspondence.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the safekeeping of the Society funds and for maintaining a financial record in accordance with accepted accounting practices. The Treasurer shall deposit all funds received in the name of the Society. Monies shall be paid out by best method for all Society activities. The Treasurer shall present a financial report at each regular meeting of the Board of Directors.

Section 5. The Secretary-Treasurer shall handle the same duties as the individual positions of Secretary and Treasurer as listed in Article V, Sections 3 and 4.

Section 6. The Historian shall be the custodian of the archives of the Society and shall make same available to Society members, researchers, and the general public.

Section 7. Each Officer and Director shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 8. All Directors of the Society shall have such other responsibilities and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board.

Section 9. No compensation shall be paid to the Board of Directors for their services as such, but they may be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred by them in performing official duties on behalf of the Society and at the direction of the Board of Directors.
Article VI-Meetings/Quorums

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall meet a minimum of three times a year and at the call of the President.

Section 2. There shall be a minimum of one general membership meeting a year.

Section 3. A quorum for meetings of the Board of Directors shall consist of eight (8) Board members.

Section 4. Officers and Directors are expected to attend a minimum of 75% of the Board of Director meetings held per year.

Section 5. A quorum for membership meetings shall consist of twenty-five (25) members.

Section 6. All interested members may attend Board meetings.

Article VII-Committees

Section 1. The Society shall have standing committees for: Preservation, Membership, Newsletter, Library, Programs, Finance, Headquarters and Public Relations.

Section 2. Committee Chairperson shall be appointed by the President from the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Committee Chairperson shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Special committees may be established for specific tasks and may be terminated at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Article VIII-Amendments to the By-laws

These By-laws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present at any general membership meeting provided that the Board of Directors has reviewed the proposed change and the membership has been notified of said change not less than (30) days prior to the meeting.

No by-law changes shall be made that are contrary to the intent of the original Articles of Incorporation signed on December 8th, 1954.

/s/_________________________________
Secretary

Approved November 6, 2000

Amended and Approved November 5, 2010