

BY-LAWS
BACK MOUNTAIN BLOOMERS Garden Club

ARTICLE I.
Name

The name of this group shall be the BACK MOUNTAIN BLOOMERS Garden Club, a social organization.

ARTICLE II.
Purpose

The purpose of the BACK MOUNTAIN BLOOMERS Garden Club is to advance garden interests and knowledge among its members and to participate in community beautification projects and other activities that promote the preservation of nature and natural resources.

ARTICLE III.
Membership

The BACK MOUNTAIN BLOOMERS Garden Club does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability. There are three categories of membership: active, inactive, and honorary. The combined active and inactive membership is set at 80 individuals.

Section 1. Membership (Active, Inactive, Honorary)

Active Membership.

Active Membership includes any individual who has an interest in the purpose of the BACK MOUNTAIN BLOOMERS Garden Club and fulfills the expectations of the club. Active members:

1. Lead and/or serve on committees and support club projects.
2. Work at club projects such as either the Shakespeare Garden or the Rimple Loop and the biennial events, the Garden Tour and the October Speaker's Luncheon)
3. Shall be current in dues payment by April 1st.

Inactive Membership.

Due to illness. Members who cannot participate in club activities due to serious illness or serious illness of a family member but wish to remain in good standing must notify Membership Chair and be current in her/his dues. **Such member is considered part of the total 80 club membership and has voting privileges.**

Honorary Membership.

Honorary membership is bestowed at the sole discretion of the Executive Board. Honorary membership shall be bestowed to founding members and to those legacy members who have served

extensively as officers, committee chairs, or otherwise have made a significant impact on the club or club projects over time. Honorary Members shall have rights to the floor. They shall not pay dues and shall not have the right to vote.

Section 2. Application for Membership.

Although not required, it is helpful for purposes of introductions and orientations to have existing members recommend new members. Potential new members are encouraged to attend at least one meeting prior to joining. The process for joining is as follows:

- Individuals expressing interest in membership will receive the “Introduction to the BACK MOUNTAIN BLOOMERS Garden Club package of information.
- The completed application is to be submitted to the Membership Chair for review.
- When a membership slot is available, the applicant will be contacted by the Membership Chair.
- Send a check for dues payable to the Back Mountain Bloomers, ATTN: Membership, P.O. Box 210, Dallas, PA 18612. (Dues are pro-rated quarterly.)

Section 3. Dues.

The Executive Board sets the dues yearly and members ratify this amount in January at the club's annual business meeting. Dues are due at that time and shall be paid to Back Mountain Bloomers, P.O. Box 210, Dallas, PA 18612. If dues are not paid by April 1st, the member is considered delinquent and membership shall cease after which the individual must reapply for membership.

ARTICLE IV Officers and Executive Board

The officers shall be president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.

Section 1. Duties of the Officers

- President. The President shall preside at all Regular and Executive Board meetings. The President shall appoint all committee chairpersons.
- Vice President. The Vice President shall assist the President and preside in the absence of the President.
- Secretary. The Secretary shall be the custodian of all official records of the club. She shall take minutes at each meeting and may read the minutes for the previous meeting. She shall send out notices of meetings and the necessary correspondence of the club.
- Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be the custodian of all financial records. She shall collect the dues and keep records of all income and expenses of the club. A written report of this financial record will be provided monthly to the Secretary for the minutes. The Treasurer will provide to the members a monthly report including revenue and expenses, the balances in all bank accounts and any bills that have been received but not yet paid. The Treasurer shall chair the Budget Committee, prepare an annual budget to be adopted by the membership at the January business meeting and submit all financial documentation for the current year's annual audit. The Treasurer shall also file paperwork required by the IRS or State Department of Revenue.
- Executive Board. All officers and Past Presidents shall comprise the Executive Board.

Section 2. Nominations and Elections.

The Executive Board with the exception of the president shall nominate the slate of officers in October, with voice voting elections by a majority of members present in November with at least a quorum of one third general membership.

Section 3. Term of Office.

The newly-elected officers will be installed at the January business meeting and preside over it. The President is elected for a two-year term, with the option of having a follow-on two year term.

ARTICLE V. Meetings

Section 1. Meeting Days.

Meetings shall be held monthly. The January meeting is the annual business meeting with the purpose of announcing the agenda and meeting dates, topics, times and places for the upcoming year and swearing in officers for the next two years, when applicable, as well as discussing other business that may be deemed necessary by the Executive Board. The annual budget and financial audit will be presented and voted upon.

The January meeting and all others through November are usually held the third Thursday. The December event, usually held the third Thursday, is considered a holiday celebration. The Secretary emails a meeting notice prior to the meetings.

Section 2. Quorum.

A quorum shall consist of one third (1/3) of the general membership.

Section 3. Cancellation of a Regularly Scheduled Meeting.

The President may solely, or in consultation with club officers, make the decision to cancel a meeting, most likely due to inclement weather or a national or state emergency. The Secretary will email members of the cancellation.

ARTICLE VI Executive Board

Section 1. Board Composition.

All officers and immediate Past Presidents shall comprise the Executive Board.

Section 2. Meetings.

The Executive Board meets at the request of the President to address agenda items and emergencies that arise.

Section 3. Duties.

The Executive Board with the exception of the president shall nominate the slate of officers in October.

The Board has the power to spend money and enter into contracts in order to fulfill the club's obligations for its own activities and events or in cooperation with other organizations.

The Board represents the membership in dealing with the public, government agencies, and related organizations.

ARTICLE VII Committees

The Standing Committees shall be Budget, Program, Travel, Community Outreach, Publicity, Media and other more permanent and ad hoc committees as deemed necessary.

Section 1.. Budget Committee.

The Budget Committee shall consist of the Treasurer as Committee Chair, Club President, Club Vice President, and three (3) members at-large appointed by the Executive Board. In addition to the Treasurer, one member of this committee shall balance the checkbook monthly.

Section 2. Program Committee.

The Program Committee shall consist of a Committee Chair and other volunteers. This Committee is responsible for planning and promoting the educational programs for the club's meetings and for hosting the speakers, January through November.

Section 3. Travel Committee.

The Travel Committee shall consist of a Committee Chair and other volunteers. This Committee selects the trip location, plans and promotes the trips, and handles all the details associated with the trip prior to departure, the day of the event, and post event. The Chair shall work with the President and Treasurer on required expenditures such as contracts and payments.

Section 4. Community Outreach Committee.

The Community Outreach Committee consists of the Chair and other volunteers. Its purpose is to provide small grants to groups and individuals, including Bloomers, whose project requests fall within the realm of the club's purpose such as beautification, or preservation of nature and natural resources. Ten dollars (\$10) per member per year is set aside for the grants. This committee also discusses non-financial requests and forwards recommendations regarding club involvement to the Executive Board for consideration and final decisions.

Section 5. Publicity.

The Publicity Chair and committee volunteers develop and distribute newsworthy items to newspapers covering the club's membership area.

Section 6. Electronic Media.

The Electronic Media Chair and committee volunteers handle media requests for meetings and presentations and further develop and maintain content that appears on the club's website.

**ARTICLE VIII
Amending the By-Laws**

Proposed revisions or amendments to the by-laws shall be introduced at a regular meeting, circulated by the Secretary and voted upon at the next meeting. Changes will be passed by a 2/3 margin of total membership. If a 2/3 margin cannot be reached at the meeting, an e-mail ballot may be used to solicit members not in attendance.

**ARTICLE IX
Gender and Number**

For convenience only, the feminine has been used throughout. Use of the feminine gender shall not be interpreted as excluding the masculine. The singular shall be read to include the plural and vice versa as the context permits. Captions or headings are used for convenience only and shall not be interpreted as limiting, defining the scope of, broadening or affecting any substantive provisions.

President

September 15, 2022