

Prepared for: DCU Members

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DCU BY-LAWS

We're Better Together!



**Deltona Citizens
United, Inc.**

ARTICLE I — NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. Name

The name of this organization shall be Deltona Citizens United, Inc. (DCU).

Section 2. Purpose

Deltona Citizens United, Inc. is a nonpartisan civic organization established to strengthen the community of Deltona, Florida through civic engagement, volunteerism, education, neighborhood involvement, local history preservation, and community service.

The organization exists to:

Encourage constructive civic participation;

Improve communication between residents and local leadership;

Promote ethical community involvement;

Preserve and celebrate the history and identity of Deltona and Volusia County;

Support projects that improve the quality of life for residents;

Foster unity, respect, and cooperation among neighbors;

Encourage youth civic involvement and leadership development.

DCU shall operate exclusively for charitable, educational, and civic purposes consistent with applicable federal and Florida nonprofit laws.

ARTICLE II — NONPARTISAN STATUS

Section 1. Political Neutrality

Deltona Citizens United, Inc. shall remain strictly nonpartisan.

The organization shall not:

Endorse candidates for elected office;

Endorse political parties;

Donate organizational funds to campaigns or political committees;

Use DCU resources to support or oppose any candidate or party.

Section 2. Individual Rights

Nothing in these By-Laws shall prohibit individual members from privately participating in political activities in their personal capacity, provided they do not represent themselves as acting on behalf of DCU.

ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility

Membership shall be open to all individuals who support the mission and values of Deltona Citizens United, Inc.

Section 2. Membership Categories

The organization may establish membership categories including:

Resident Members;

Supporting Members;

Volunteer Members;

Youth Members;

Honorary Members.

Section 3. Membership Process

Membership may be obtained through completion of a registration form approved by the Board of Directors.

The Board may establish reasonable procedures for membership registration and renewal.

Section 4. Voting Rights

Voting rights shall be limited to members:

eighteen (18) years of age or older;

residing within Deltona, Florida;

and registered with DCU for at least thirty (30) days prior to a vote.

Section 5. Removal of Membership

Membership may be suspended or revoked by a majority vote of the Board for:

violent threats,

unlawful conduct,

harassment,

discrimination,

misuse of the organization,

or conduct substantially harmful to DCU's mission or reputation.

ARTICLE IV — BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Authority

The Board of Directors shall oversee the affairs, finances, programs, and mission of Deltona Citizens United, Inc.

Section 2. Composition

The Board shall consist of not fewer than five (5) directors.

Board positions may include:

President;

Vice President;

Secretary;

Treasurer;

Community Projects Director;

Civic Education Director;
History and Preservation Director;
Membership and Outreach Director.

Section 3. Eligibility

Board members must:
support the mission of DCU;
reside within Deltona, Florida;
and maintain conduct consistent with these By-Laws.

Section 4. Elections

Board members shall be elected by eligible voting members during the organization's annual meeting.

Section 5. Terms

Board members shall serve two-year terms and may be reelected.

Section 6. Vacancies

Board vacancies may be temporarily filled by majority vote of the remaining Board until the next annual election.

Section 7. Removal

A Board member may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the Board or membership for:
ethical violations,
misconduct,
abuse of authority,
criminal conduct,
or conduct harmful to the organization.

ARTICLE V — OFFICERS

Section 1. President

The President shall:
serve as chief volunteer officer;
preside over meetings;
oversee organizational operations;
and represent DCU publicly.

Section 2. Vice President

The Vice President shall assist the President and assume presidential duties when necessary.

Section 3. Secretary

The Secretary shall maintain:
meeting minutes,
organizational records,

and official documentation.

Section 4. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall:

- oversee financial records;
- provide financial reports;
- maintain banking records;
- and ensure responsible financial practices.

ARTICLE VI — COMMITTEES

The Board may establish standing or temporary committees including:

- Civic Education Committee;
- Neighborhood Improvement Committee;
- Scholarship Committee;
- History and Preservation Committee;
- Community Events Committee;
- Membership and Outreach Committee;
- Finance and Audit Committee.

Committees may include both Board members and volunteers.

ARTICLE VII — ETHICS AND CONDUCT

Section 1. Standards of Conduct

All members and participants shall conduct themselves in a respectful, lawful, and professional manner during DCU activities.

Section 2. Prohibited Conduct

The following shall not be tolerated during DCU activities, meetings, communications, or events:

- threats of violence;
- harassment;
- discrimination or bigotry;
- unlawful activity;
- intimidation;
- or advocacy of harm toward any individual or group.

Section 3. Respectful Civic Engagement

DCU supports constructive civic dialogue and peaceful community participation.

The organization encourages:

- fact-based discussion,
- respectful disagreement,

and community problem-solving.

ARTICLE VIII — MEETINGS

Section 1. Annual Meeting

DCU shall hold an annual membership meeting for:
elections,
organizational updates,
financial summaries,
and planning.

Section 2. Board Meetings

The Board shall meet regularly as determined by the Board.

Section 3. Quorum

A quorum for Board business shall consist of a majority of active Board members.

Section 4. Remote Participation

Meetings may be conducted electronically when approved by the Board.

ARTICLE IX — FINANCES

Section 1. Financial Stewardship

All organizational funds shall be used solely to further the mission of DCU.

Section 2. Banking

All DCU funds shall be deposited into accounts approved by the Board.

Section 3. Financial Transparency

The Treasurer shall provide periodic financial reports to the Board and annual summaries to the membership.

Section 4. Expenditures

The Board may establish approval thresholds for expenditures and reimbursements.
Receipts and records shall be maintained for organizational expenses.

Section 5. Compensation

Board members shall serve as volunteers and shall not receive salaries.
Reasonable reimbursements for approved organizational expenses may be authorized.

ARTICLE X — THE GABBY MAIR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Deltona Citizens United, Inc. shall maintain the Gabby Mair Memorial Scholarship as a continuing community initiative supporting graduating students who demonstrate:

civic involvement,
compassion for others,

humility,
leadership,
and community service.

Scholarship procedures and award amounts may be established by Board policy.

ARTICLE XI — RECORDS, CONTINUITY, AND SUCCESSION

Section 1. Organizational Records

DCU shall maintain:

governing documents,
financial records,
meeting minutes,
website access information,
and organizational archives.

Section 2. Succession

The Board shall work to develop future leadership and ensure continuity of the organization beyond any individual member or founder.

Section 3. Preservation of Mission

No amendment or action may fundamentally alter the nonpartisan civic mission of DCU without approval by two-thirds of eligible voting members.

ARTICLE XII — AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended by:

a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors; or
a majority vote of eligible voting members during a properly noticed meeting.

Notice of proposed amendments shall be provided at least fourteen (14) days before a vote.

ARTICLE XIII — DISSOLUTION

In the event Deltona Citizens United, Inc. is dissolved, any remaining assets shall be distributed in accordance with applicable nonprofit laws to organizations or causes consistent with DCU's civic, educational, charitable, or historical mission.

FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLE

Deltona Citizens United, Inc. exists to strengthen Deltona through respectful civic participation, community service, ethical leadership, neighborhood cooperation, and preservation of the city's shared identity for future generations.