

Mary Bartelme Park Advisory Council By-Laws

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of the organization shall be “Mary Bartelme Park Advisory Council” (hereinafter referred to as the “Council”).

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The purpose of the Council will be to promote ways for the community to better utilize the Chicago Park District’s programs and facilities at Mary Bartelme Park located in the West Loop neighborhood of the City of Chicago;

To provide communication to the Park District on matters relating to the Mary Bartelme Park community and all patrons of Mary Bartelme Park;

To increase community awareness by involving all segments of the Mary Bartelme Park community and all patrons of Mary Bartelme Park, in the planning and implementation of Council and/or Chicago Park District Projects;

To provide the community with a vehicle through which information regarding Mary Bartelme Park, can be shared; and

To assist in locating alternate funding sources to enhance the facilities at Mary Bartelme Park for all patrons.

The Council is organized exclusively for charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

The Council shall consist of individuals indicating a desire to become members.

Membership will not be excluded because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, physical or mental handicap, unfavorable discharge from military service, parental status, or sexual orientation. Any resident of the City of Chicago can be a voting member of the PAC.

ARTICLE IV- OFFICERS

The Council will have an Executive Committee which will consist of the Officers: a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer as well as “Members at Large” who shall be elected by the members of the Council.

Each office may be shared by two people. In the event an office is held by two people their titles shall be designated “Co-officer role.”

The Executive Committee of the Council shall serve two year terms. Members may stand for re-election at the end of their terms.

Elections shall be held at the annual meeting on even numbered years. Terms shall take effect immediately.

In the event that an office is vacated before the end of a scheduled term, a special election will be held at the next immediate monthly meeting, and as may be necessary at each subsequent monthly meeting until the office is filled, to complete the normally scheduled term.

Any member of the Executive Committee absent from three scheduled consecutive meetings shall cease to be a member of the Executive Committee. The remaining members of the Executive Committee shall, by simple majority consensus, appoint a successor to finish the term.

Executive Committee Officer Roles:

The President will preside at all meetings.

The Vice President will preside in the President's absence, and assist the President.

The Secretary will be responsible for minutes of meetings, attendance records and any notices required by the By-laws.

The Treasurer will be responsible for the financial records of the organization and will give reports at the meetings.

The President and Treasurer must be signatories to any bank accounts of the Council. Only those elected as Officers can be signatories to the account.

The Members at Large shall have responsibilities as directed by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V- COMMITTEES

The Council may vote to create committees that it deems necessary and appropriate.

The committees can be composed of any Council members.

The committee shall elect its own chair.

Committees shall make timely reports to the Council when requested.

ARTICLE VI- MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the Council shall be held on a monthly basis, at the discretion of the Council. The Council meeting will be held on the first Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at 115 S. Sangamon Street, Chicago, IL 60607 or at another date, site or time with adequate notice to members. Virtual meetings, with a phone-in option, may be held in lieu of in-person meetings. The virtual meetings will begin at 6:00 p.m. unless a special time is set. Any notice of a virtual meeting will include instructions on how to join the meeting on the Council's official social media pages. Notice of regularly scheduled monthly meetings will be provided by posting a notice in the notice board in the park fourteen days prior to the meeting with the meeting date and start time.

An Annual Meeting of the Council will be held in the month of April.

Each meeting shall begin at the announced time and continue no longer than two hours. However, a two-thirds majority of Advisory Council members present may vote to continue any meeting for an additional amount of time. Meetings may, at the discretion of the Executive Committee, be held by teleconference.

The President shall be responsible for setting the agenda for the Council meetings. After all agenda items have been completed, any Council member shall be able to introduce new business to be discussed at the next regularly scheduled Council meeting.

All meetings shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, except in so far as such rules are inconsistent with these by-laws.

ARTICLE VII -VOTING

To be a member in good standing of the Council, a person must attend the two Council meetings immediately preceding the meeting at which the voting is to take place, or fifty percent (50%) of the Council meetings in the twelve-month

period immediately preceding the meeting at which the voting is taking place or have volunteered in at least two official park events in the prior calendar year.

A member in good standing shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the Council.

An affirmative vote by a simple majority of all Council members in good standing at an Council meeting shall be required to pass any matter which is up for a vote (excepting provision IX below for change of by-laws).

There will be no voting by proxy.

Chicago Park District staff may not vote on Council matters.

ARTICLE VIII -OTHER PROVISIONS

No part of the net earnings of the Council shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, directors, officers, or other private persons except that the Council shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for essential, professional services rendered.

No substantial part of the activities of the Council shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation and the Council shall not participate or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, the Council shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on:

- (a) by an organization exempt from Federal Income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or
- (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

Upon the dissolution of the Council, the executive committee shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all of the liabilities of the Council, dispose of all the assets of the Council exclusively for the purposes of the Council in such manner, and the remainder of any assets shall be distributed to the organization "Friends of the Parks" (a Chicago park advocacy organization), or as the Executive Committee shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Circuit Court of Cook County, exclusively for such purposes of to such organization, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

ARTICLE IX -AMENDMENT OF THE BY-LAWS

Any Council member in good standing may submit a proposal to amend the by-laws by filing an original of the said amendment with the Secretary of the Council.

By-law amendments may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present at a monthly meeting, provided that the proposed language of any by-law amendment is included in the meeting notice.

ADOPTED: March 24, 2014
AMENDED: January 9, 2020
AMENDED: January 3, 2022