

**ASSOCIATION ARTICLES
OF
THE COVENTRY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.**

BE IT KNOWN THAT WE, the subscribers and such other persons as may hereafter be associated with us, in accordance with the bylaws of this Association, do hereby associate ourselves as a body politic and Corporate pursuant to the Statute Laws of the State of Connecticut regulating the formation and organization of corporations without capital stock, and, the following are our Articles of Association:

- Article I.** The name of said corporation shall be The Coventry Historical Society, Incorporated.
- Article II.** The purpose of said corporation shall be as follows:
- To discover, collect, and preserve whatever pertains to the history of the Town of Coventry and the surrounding area;
- To promote and encourage historical research in all its aspects and to make available to the members of the society and to the public, the results of this research;
- To hold meetings and to discuss such matters as are of interest to the members of the society and the public;
- And, in general, to carry on any and all activities appropriate for a historical society.
- Article III.** Said corporation may receive, hold or dispose of gifts, legacies, or devises for its purpose.
- Article IV.** Said corporation may own, acquire, buy, sell or mortgage real estate, and any interest of any kind whatsoever therein, and may purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire or dispose of all kinds of real and personal property which the corporation may deem necessary or convenient for the purposes of said corporation.
- Article V.** All funds of the corporation shall be used exclusively for the purposes of the corporation or the operations thereof, and, no officer, member, agent or employee of said corporation shall receive any pecuniary profit or benefit from the earnings or funds of the corporation except reasonable compensation for services effecting one or more of its corporate purposes.
- Article VI.** In the event of the dissolution of said corporation at any time after the payment of all liabilities of said corporation, all assets, funds or property remaining shall be placed in trust with a trustee to be designated by the Executive Council of the corporation in a perpetual trust to carry out one or more of the purposes of the corporation.

Article VII. The corporation shall be governed by such bylaws and amendments, thereto, as are adopted by the membership.

Article VIII. The said corporation is located in the Town of Coventry, County of Tolland and State of Connecticut, and, the location of its principal office in said state is at Coventry, Connecticut, and the name of the agent or person in charge, thereof, on whom process against it may be served, is Attorney David C. Rappe or his successor.

July 31, 2001

BYLAWS OF THE COVENTRY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Article I. Name

The name of this organization shall be The Coventry Historical Society, Incorporated.

Article II. Purposes

The purposes of the Society shall be as follows:

To discover, collect and preserve whatever pertains to the history of the Town of Coventry and the surrounding area;

To promote and encourage historical research in all its aspects and to make available to the members of the Society and to the public, the results of this research;

To educate the general public, through displays, programs, events, and historic structures, as to the history of Coventry and its inhabitants;

To hold meetings and to discuss such matters as are of interest to the members of the Society and the public;

In general, to carry on all other activities appropriate for a historical society.

Article III. Membership

Section A. Regular membership shall be open to all individuals interested in the purposes of the Society.

Section B. Honorary membership may be conferred by a majority vote at an annual meeting upon recommendation of the Executive Board.

Section C. The Society shall be composed of such classes of membership as the Executive Board shall from time to time designate and with such privileges as it may determine and under such rules and regulations, including the payment of such annual dues as the Executive Board shall from time to time adopt, provided that nothing in this bylaw shall affect nor change the status of life members or honorary life members existing at the date of the adoption hereof.

Section D. Termination of Membership: Termination of membership shall occur when a member does not pay his/her dues within 30 days of expiration of the previous year's membership.

Article IV. Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Society shall be from October 1 to September 30.

Article V. Budget

The Executive Board's proposed budget shall be presented to and approved by the membership at the September meeting. A majority vote of those present is required for adoption of the budget. The proposed budget shall be made available to the membership at least five days in advance of the meeting.

Article VI. Officers

Section A. The officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section B. The officers shall perform the duties as are usually incident to their positions. These duties may be further defined by the Executive Board.

Section C. Officers shall serve for one year or until their successors are elected. A majority of legal votes cast shall be necessary for election. No officer shall be elected to serve more than two consecutive terms, except the treasurer and secretary, who may serve a longer term. However, this requirement may be waived by a two-thirds majority vote of the membership at the September meeting in the election of individual officers. The newly elected officers will begin their one-year term of office on October 1.

Section E. All officers' records shall be deposited at the end of each fiscal year with the archivist and be kept in the Society archives.

Article VII. Committees

Section A. There shall be the following standing committees: Acquisition, Finance, Maintenance, Membership, Program, Publicity and such other standing committees as may be recommended by the Executive Board and approved by the membership.

Section B. The President shall appoint the chair of each committee. The designated chair will then name committee members. The chair of each committee is responsible for convening meetings of that committee and reporting progress at meetings of the Executive Board and the Society.

Section C. Special committees may be authorized by the Executive Board or by the membership of the Society. Unless the motion creating a committee provides otherwise, all special committees shall be appointed by the President.

Article VIII. Executive Board

- Section A.** The Executive Board shall carry on all the business affairs of the Society in accordance with the aims and purposes of this Society as stated in Article II and shall report at each general membership meeting on the actions it has taken since the last general membership meeting. All final decisions regarding policy shall be determined by the membership at a general membership or special meeting.
- Section B.** The Executive Board shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, the archivist/curator, and five members-at-large, each of whom shall be appointed by the President to head a committee of the Society.
- Section C.** If an officer resigns or is otherwise unable to fulfill the duties of his or her office, the Executive Board shall appoint another member of the Society to fill the unexpired term.
- Section D.** Members-at-large shall be elected at the September meeting.
- Section E.** If a vacancy occurs among the members-at-large the Executive Board shall appoint another member of the Society to fill the unexpired term.
- Section F.** Meetings of the Executive Board shall be held at least six times per year or at the call of the President or on request of any three members of the Executive Board.
- Section G.** Five members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum.
- Section H.** Executive Board meetings are open to all members.

Article IX. Nominating Committee

A nominating committee, consisting of three members, shall be appointed by the President in June. The nominating committee shall submit at the September meeting a slate of candidates for each office and five nominees for members-at-large of the Executive Board. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.

Article X. General Membership Meetings

- Section A.** General membership meetings shall be held at least two times a year at the call of the President.
- Section B.** Special meetings may be called by the President, by the Executive Board, or on the request of any three members of the Society.
- Section C.** Officers shall be elected and a budget approved at the September meeting.

Section D. End of the year reports will be presented at the November meeting by the Society's officers and committee chairs.

Section E. Fifteen members of the Society shall constitute a quorum.

Article XI. Amendments

The by-laws of the Society may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the votes cast at any general membership or special meeting of the Society, provided written notice and a copy of the proposed changes have been made available to the membership at least fifteen days in advance of such meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Melody Oldham

Sue Way

Patricia Natusch

Leigh Wajda

Ginney Dilk

Roberlie Lachance

James Murphy

Robert Visny

Roberta Wilmot

William Wajda

Adopted August 28, 1962

Amended May 24, 1966

Amended October 38, 1969

Amended June 23, 1991

Amended October 21, 1993

Amended November 20, 1997

Amended July 31, 2001

Amended September 20, 2007

Executive Council, September, 2007