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## Membership Policy

The bylaws of The Fur-Bearers (the “Society”) establish general criteria, as well as basic procedures, for the admission and cessation of members.

The purpose of this policy is to provide additional detailed guidance and procedures related to membership in the Society. The Society will apply this policy in accordance with the Society’s bylaws, applicable laws and other Society policies, including the Society’s privacy policy. In the event that this policy conflicts with any of the above, such other documents will prevail to the extent of the conflict. In the case of any ambiguity in the interpretation of this policy or a matter arising out of it, the Board will determine the matter and the Board’s determination is final. This policy will be reviewed not less than every three (3) years and may be revised from time to time as determined necessary by the Board.

Pursuant to its bylaws, the Society has two open classes of membership, Voting Members and Supporting Members. The Society also has a third class of voting membership, the Life Members, which is now closed to further admissions.

### Voting Membership:

A person who is a voting member in good standing has the following rights:

- to receive notice of, and to attend, all general meetings of the Society, including AGMs;
- to make or second motions at a general meeting of the Society and to speak in debate on motions under consideration;
- to exercise a vote on matters for determination at general meeting of the Society;
- to be eligible to be nominated to stand for election as a director or officer of the Society; and

A person must be eligible to be admitted as a voting member of the Society. Pursuant to the Society’s bylaws, an individual must complete a minimum number of volunteer hours to be eligible as established by the Society’s board of directors from time to time. The Society’s board of directors last determined on December 1, 2016 that an individual must complete no less than ten volunteer hours to be eligible for voting membership.

An eligible person must apply to the Society’s board of directors in writing to become a voting member. An application for voting membership is accessible on the Society’s website. The application must be submitted to the Society’s board of directors and include the payment of the applicable membership fee, which is established by the Society’s board of directors from time to time. It is currently \$100.

Upon receiving a person’s application for voting membership, the Society’s board of directors will review and consider such application, ideally at its next scheduled board meeting. The Society’s board may, by board resolution, accept, postpone, or refuse an application for voting membership. If accepted, the applicant will

become a voting member on the date of the board resolution accepting their application, or on a later date specified therein.

To maintain their membership, voting members are required to pay their annual membership fee before the date upon which the board of directors determines such amounts are due and owing.

A voting member who has failed to pay his or her annual membership dues when due and owing ceases to be in good standing and remains not in good standing for so long as such amount remains unpaid. A voting member who remains not in good standing for sixty days will automatically cease to be a voting member of the Society.

### **Supporting Membership:**

A person who is a supporting member in good standing has the following rights:

- to receive notice of, and to attend, all general meetings of the Society, including AGMs; and
- to make or second motions at a general meeting of the Society and to speak in debate on motions under consideration;

Unlike voting members, supporting members may be either individuals or organizations and are not entitled to vote at general meetings of the Society.

To become a supporting member an individual or organization must apply to the board in writing. The application must include the payment of the applicable membership fee. For supporting members, the annual membership fee is currently \$5. Once submitted, the board will consider a supporting member's application at the next available board meeting. As is the case with voting members, the board may, by board resolution, accept, postpone, or refuse an application for supporting membership. If accepted the applicant will become a supporting member on the date of the board resolution accepting their application, or on a later date specified therein.

A person or organization must apply to the Society's board of directors in writing to become a supporting member. An application for supporting membership is accessible on the Society's website. The application must be submitted to the Society's board of directors and include the payment of the applicable membership fee, which is established by the Society's board of directors from time to time. It is currently \$5. In the case of an organization applying to become a supporting member, it must designate on its membership application form the Person who will exercise the rights of membership on behalf of the organization.

Upon receiving a person's application for supporting membership, the Society's board of directors will review and consider such application, ideally at its next scheduled board meeting. The Society's board may, by board resolution, accept, postpone, or refuse an application for supporting membership. If accepted, the applicant will become a supporting member on the date of the board resolution accepting their application, or on a later date specified therein.

To maintain their membership, supporting members are required to pay their annual membership fee before the date upon which the board of directors determines such amounts are due and owing.

A supporting member who has failed to pay his, her or its annual membership dues when due and owing ceases to be in good standing and remains not in good standing for so long as such amount remains unpaid. A supporting member who remains not in good standing for sixty days will automatically cease to be a supporting member of the Society.

## **Serving on the Board of Directors**

Only individuals that are voting members are qualified to be nominated, elected or appointed to serve (or continue to serve) as a director of the Society. Directors are elected by the voting members at a general meeting of the Society. For further details, please review the Society's Nomination and Election Policy.

## ***Membership Privacy***

The Society will preserve the personal information of its members in the strictest confidence and as required in accordance with applicable laws. The Society will not share or trade the personal information of any members without obtaining a member's written consent or approval.

## ***Ceasing to be a Member of the Society***

In accordance with the Society's bylaws, a Person or an Organization will immediately cease to be a member of the Society:

- when a member resigns;
- when sixty days have passed since a member ceased to be in good standing;
- when a member is expelled from the Society; or
- when a member dies or, in the case of an organization, is dissolved.

The Society is unable to disclose personal information of members to, or to take instructions from, a third party. Should a family member or associate of a member wish to make changes to the status of a member of the Society, such person must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Society's directors that they have legal authority to do so.