

Existing By-laws/Constitution as of November 13th 2009

AMENDMENTS

AMENDMENT 1: (In effect from 05/01/2002)

- President term has been extended for two years.

AMENDMENT 2: (In effect from 05/01/2002)

- President-Elect post has been abolished.

AMENDMENT 3: (In effect from 09/01/2007) New Committee Selection

- a. The non-profit status of T.A.G.B. requires that it elect three office bearers namely, president, secretary and treasurer.
- b. It is recommended that these three office bearers be elected at the same time once every two years.
- c. The incumbent president can not contest in the election directly following his/her term.
- d. The elected office-bearers should not be part of the election committee. The advisory board should conduct the elections.

AMENDMENT 4: (In effect from 09/01/2007) Elections

Eligibility:

- Only members in good standing shall be eligible to contest and/or vote in the election.

Nominations:

- a. The due process of conducting elections must take place without failure, every two years.
- b. The announcement of elections for the next T.A.G.B. body, to be announced the first week of November.
- c. The last day to receive nominations is two weeks after the original announcement.
- d. Ballots will be sent within a week after the nominating process.
- e. The last day for receiving ballots will be incorporated within the ballots.
- f. Election results will be announced during the first week of January.

AMENDMENT 5: (In effect from 09/01/2007) Advisory Board

- a. The advisory board may function in lieu of "Board Of Trustees".
- b. The current advisory board can conduct the elections in 2007.
- c. The new Advisory Board will contain 7 members. Four members will be selected from current committee (Executive, Advisory & Constitution) by rest of the committee members. These four members will remain in office for two years. Three new members will be elected, at the time of electing President, Secretary and Treasurer. These new Advisory Board members will remain in office for 4 years.
- d. Board of Trustees will nominate Election Committee to conduct elections.

AMENDMENT 6: (In effect from 09/01/2007) Executive committee

- The president can be empowered to nominate additional members to the executive board. This includes various organizational activities such as but not limited to cultural, youth, fund-raising, community out-reach, audio-video etc.

AMENDMENT 7: (In effect from 09/01/2007) Life membership

- a. It has been recommended that life membership should be continued.
- b. Life membership funds should be preserved to build endowment.

AMENDMENT 8: (In effect from 09/01/2007) General body meeting

- a. A minimum of one general body meeting should be conducted each year.
- b. Twenty five percent (25%) of the general body members present in person or twenty general body members shall constitute a quorum.

AMENDMENT 9: (In effect from 09/01/2007) Transfer of duties

- All organizational instruments including but not limited to the funds, properties, documents and bank account details should be transferred to the newly elected body within four weeks from the date of selecting the new committee.

BYLAWS & CONSTITUTION PREAMBLE

Mission Statement:

Telugu loving community of Greater Boston belonging to the neighboring states of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont and Connecticut in order to promote cultural, educational and humanitarian activities among various Telugu and Indian

associations, and to further the Intercultural understanding among the people of the United States of America and the Telugu-speaking people in other parts of the world do hereby join together to form the association.

Objectives:

The goals of the association shall be:

- To promote cultural, educational, and humanitarian activities of Telugu speaking people.
- To create opportunities for the cultural exchange between the people of the United States of America and the people of the State of Andhra Pradesh, India, in particular, and the people of any other part of the world where Telugu Speaking people may reside, in general.
- To increase the awareness of Telugu speaking people among local US community by participating in local social and political activities.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

ARTICLE ONE

Section A:

NAME OF THE ASSOCIATION

The name of the association shall be "Telugu Association of Greater Boston". Any changes to the name of the association requires a resolution adopted by two thirds of majority executive committee members followed with the ratification by two thirds voting by members at a scheduled general body meeting.

Section B:

LOCATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

For official purposes, the headquarters of the association shall be located in the greater Boston area in the State of Massachusetts where it is duly registered.

ARTICLE TWO

MEMBERSHIPS AND DUES

Section A:

Any person of Telugu origin or endorses Telugu culture and who is of eighteen years or older who subscribes to the objectives of the TAGB association by paying the membership dues.

The membership dues amount and date by which shall be paid are to decided by the executive committee in advance for following year.

At annual general body meeting of the members, all the member ships including new memberships for the current year shall be ratified.

Any current member who does not renew his or her membership will cease to be a member and shall forego voting rights and other privileges of the association. Membership is non-transferable and membership dues are non-refundable.

Section B:

Each individual member shall be entitled for one vote. Each Family membership is entitled to two votes, one each for the Husband and Wife. Family membership shall be defined as husband, wife and their children of 18 years or less.

Section C:

Any increase in excess of 100% on the annual dues for the individual and the family memberships needs a two-thirds majority of the members present at a General Body meeting. The dues for the Life Membership for the family shall be one hundred and sixteen dollars (\$116), annual dues for the family shall be twenty dollars (\$20) and dues for the single member shall be fifteen dollars (\$15).

Section D:

Membership is automatically renewed if the annual dues are paid by April 30th of that year. If the dues are not paid by the end of this period, the membership shall automatically terminate at that time without any further notice. The Executive Committee (EC) may provide reinstatement of the membership, without voting rights for the current year, if the dues are not paid before 31st of December. For example, if Person A paid membership for year 2000 (2000 April to 2001 April) then he/she is eligible to vote in year 2001 April (if an election takes place). If A doesn't renew his/her membership before April 30, 2001 his/her membership automatically terminates. If A pays membership later during the same year (i.e before 31 December 2001) he/she can vote in year 2002 April (if an election takes place). If A pays membership in 2002 he/she is not eligible to vote in year 2002 April. The same holds good for new members. If B becomes a member anytime in year 2001, he/she is not eligible to vote in year 2001 April.

Section E:

Membership may be revoked with due notice of a month for conduct considered undesirable at least by a two-thirds majority of the members present at a General Body meeting, provided that an explanation has been obtained and considered unacceptable by the two-thirds majority of the executive committee.

ARTICLE THREE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC)

Section A:

The EC shall consist of at least 5 officers. Only dues-paying members of the general body are eligible to become officers.

Section B:

The officers shall be: (1) The President, (2) The President Elect (3) The Past President

The president shall appoint (4) The Vice President and (5) Treasurer.

Section C:

The President Elect shall be elected to a one-year term in the EC by a simple majority of the members present at the general body meeting. The previous year's President Elect, will Automatically become the President for the current year and the previous year's President will automatically become the past President and for the current year.

Section D:

An EC officer shall automatically lose his/her position in EC if he/she misses three consecutive EC meetings without approval by the President or if he/she does not attend at least half the EC meetings in one year.

Section E:

None of the members of the EC shall receive salary or remuneration of any Kind for their services. However the executive committee members can charge any reasonable out of pockets expenses with executive committee approval for the tasks conducted for the association.

Section F:

No part of the net earnings of the association will inure to the benefit of any individual or individuals. However the executive committee at its discretion adopts majority resolutions to grant an honorarium to distinguished scholars and artists and community members in distress.

Section G:

The accounts of the association shall be audited once a year by an Auditor appointed by the EC. However two thirds of the general body members can request an audit at any time.

ARTICLE FOUR

GENERAL BODY MEETINGS

Section A:

The annual general body meeting of the association shall be held at least once a year, on or before last weekend of April and place to be decided and announced by the EC. The notice of the annual general body meeting shall be sent by mail or by email to each member of the association at least four weeks prior to the meeting date.

Section B:

A special general body meeting of the association may be held at the call of the EC or by the written request of at least ten- percent of members to the President.

Section C:

A twenty five percent (25%) of the general body members present in person shall constitute a quorum. Each attending general body member may represent other general body members by proxy. If the quorum is not achieved for the announced general body meeting, a subsequent

general body meeting can be called by the EC President on a future date for which there will be no need for quorum.

ARTICLE FIVE

DISSOLUTION

Upon the dissolution of the association, the EC shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the association, dispose off all the assets of the association exclusively for the purposes of the association in such manner, or to such association or associations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt association under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

ARTICLE SIX

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

This constitution may be amended by a vote of two-thirds majority of all the general body members, provided:

- (1) That the proposed amendment is submitted in writing by a voting member and supported in writing by 10% of voting members of the association to the executive committee, at least six weeks in advance,
- (2) That the executive committee appoints an ad-hoc committee to review the consequences of the proposed amendment and receives a written report summarizing the consequences of the proposed amendment, and
- (3) That the executive committee distributes the proposed amendment and the ad-hoc committee report to all the members of the association at least two weeks in advance.

ARTICLE SEVEN

MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC)

Section A:

The EC shall meet at least four times a year. Majority of the officers shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business.

Section B:

The President shall preside over all meetings. The Past President, in the absence of the President, or the President Elect, in the absence of the President and the Past President shall preside over such meetings.

Section C:

The Treasurer shall manage the financial transactions of the association as directed by the Executive Committee.

Section E:

Each member of the executive committee shall have one vote.

Section F:

In the event decisions are made based on telephone and/or personal discussions among members of the executive committee, such decisions should be unanimous and properly documented and approved at the next Executive Committee meeting. The documentation should be saved along with the minutes of the meetings.

ARTICLE EIGHT

SUB -COMMITTEES

Section A:

The executive committee is empowered to solicit volunteers and appoint members to subcommittees and ad-hoc committees to accomplish such tasks and operations as to realize the objectives of the association, to investigate specific problems, procedures and matters of interest, and to make recommendations to the executive committee.

ARTICLE NINE

FISCAL YEAR AND FINANCE

Section A:

The fiscal year of the association shall be the period between two annual meetings.

Section B:

The executive committee shall be responsible for the finances of the association.

Section C:

A financial account in the name of the association shall be maintained in a bank and operated by the Treasurer.

Section D:

The auditor shall review the accounts of the association and certify, with his/her comments within the first two months of the following fiscal year.

Section E:

Expenditures of more than one hundred dollars made by an individual shall require prior approval of the executive committee. All expenditures made by any individual or individuals on behalf of the association shall require the approval of the executive committee.

ARTICLE TEN

VACANCIES

The executive committee shall take appropriate action to fill any vacancies in the executive committee, no later than two months of such occurrence. Any such interim vacancies can be filled by seeking nominations from the general body and filled in by the EC.

ARTICLE ELVEN

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section A:

The President shall be the spokesperson for the association and shall preside over all meetings. In the absence of President, The Vice-President shall preside all the meetings.

Section B:

The treasurer shall be responsible for the receipt, disbursement, recording and safe keeping all funds of the association. The Treasurer shall pay all bills, which have been approved in the manner prescribed by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE TWELVE

INDEMNITY

Section A:

The EC officers shall not be held personally liable for any actions and decisions taken on behalf of the association.

Section B:

The members listing (mailing address, e-mail address, and phone number) shall be used for informing the events only.

Section C:

The equipment, individual software, web pages developed during the year; photographs taken during the programs (performed by the professional artists) are the association's property.

ARTICLE THIRTEEN

ELECTION RULES

Section A:

The election of the members of the Executive Committee shall be held at the time of the annual general body meeting of the association.

Section B:

Any life member may be nominated to EC and the candidate and two other members of the

association shall sign each nomination. If life member is not nominated, nomination should be signed by two life members.

Section C:

To ensure fair election process, the voting shall be conducted by secret balloting whenever there is a contest.

Section D:

The individuals, who are contesting for President Elect, can obtain members information from the EC.