

Dallas County Pioneer Association

DCPA BYLAWS

Adopted April 5, 1979. Amended August 2, 1979; December 4, 1986; December 7, 1995; December 2, 2004 and December 5, 2015. Amended 12/14/2019

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be “Dallas County Pioneer Association”. The fiscal year of the Association shall be from January 1st to December 31.

ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVES

Section 1 The objectives of the Dallas County Pioneer Association are:

- a. To perpetuate the memory and spirit of the pioneers who resided in what is today Dallas County, Texas.
- b. To encourage and promote historical research concerning Dallas County, its cities, towns, communities, and early citizens, so a comprehensive knowledge of them may be preserved for future generations.
- c. To influence the markings of historically-significant places in Dallas County to keep alive the memory of persons, places, and events of the past.

Section 2 No part of the activities of the Association shall be for the purpose of propaganda or other attempts to influence legislation, and the Association shall not participate in, or intervene in, any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Section 3 The Association shall not carry on any activities not permitted by:

- a. A Association exempt from General Income Tax under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or corresponding provision of any future U.S. Internal Revenue Law).
- b. A Association, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170 ~~(e)(2)~~ of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or corresponding provision of any future U.S. Internal Revenue Law).

ARTICLE III –MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 Any person who subscribes to Article II – Objectives shall be eligible for membership upon payment of the required dues.

Section 2 The Executive Board shall be empowered to confer honorary membership on those who have contributed outstanding services which are considered to have furthered the purposes of the Association. There shall be no limit on such memberships, but no more than three (3) may be conferred in one calendar year. A person so selected shall be designated an “Honorary” (H) member and such membership may be renewed or removed by the Executive Board. The Executive Board may grant a Life Membership to persons above the age of seventy (70) years at no charge.

Section 3 All applications for membership must be signed by the applicants and accompanied by the required dues. Applications shall be sent to the Treasurer who shall deliver them to the Executive Board for approval.

Section 4 Each member of the Association in good standing and over 21 years of age may vote on all motions at all quarterly meetings. Members must be present at the meeting to vote. Honorary members shall not be entitled to vote or to hold office. A majority of members present at a meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Section 5 Life membership may be obtained by payment of the designated dues as set forth in Article IV, Section 1.

ARTICLE IV – DUES

Section 1 The schedule of dues is as follows:

Individual:	Annual: \$20.00	Life: \$200.00
Couple:	Annual: \$30.00	Life: \$300.00
Student:	No dues required	
Honorary:	No dues required	

Whenever any membership shall terminate in any manner, the person whose membership has been terminated, all persons claiming under, by, or through such person shall not be entitled to any refund for dues or fees paid into or contributions or donations made to this Association, nor any claim whatsoever upon any of the funds, benefits, or property of the association.

Section 2 Full-time students under the age of twenty-six (26) years may be exempt from payment of annual dues until January 1 of the calendar year following their twenty-sixth birthday, or the conclusion of their studies, whichever shall occur first. Nonpayment of dues for the past one year shall be cause for removal from the Association.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS and EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1 The officers of the Association shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, and President’s emeritus.

Presidents emeritus includes all past Presidents of the Association. The Association shall support and indemnify each of the Officers and Directors should their legal liability be brought under scrutiny and/or suit for any actions taken in the discharge of their duties. The Association shall have the right and power to purchase and maintain insurance in such principal amounts as shall be approved by resolution of the Board from time to time on behalf of each said person in such capacity, or arising out of said person’s status as such, to the full extent permitted by the laws of the State of Texas in effect from time to time. The Directors of the Association shall not be liable for monetary damages due to the discharge of their duties.

No officer or director shall receive a salary or other remuneration for services as such, but shall be entitled to be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred in the transaction of the business of the Association. Such reimbursement, before expending, shall first be approved by the President. Request for reimbursement shall be made to the Treasurer and approved of the President. Expenses by the President shall be approved by the Board.

Section 2

All property and affairs of the Association shall be managed and controlled and legal responsibility borne by a Board of Directors (referred to hereinafter as the “Executive Board”). The number of directors shall consist of a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 15 members as fixed by the Executive Board provided that no decrease in number shall have the effect of shortening the term of an incumbent director. Expenses of the President shall be approved by the Board.

Section 3 A Nominating Board shall be appointed by the President at the September meeting every odd year. Any member in good standing, except an honorary member, is eligible to hold office. The Nominating Board’s report shall be given to the President and published in the newsletter at least ten (10) days prior to the December meeting. The election of officers shall be held at the December meeting, with terms of office to be two years extending from January 1 of the even numbered year until December 31 of the odd numbered year.

Section 4 In the event that an office shall become vacant prior to the expiration of the holder’s term, the Executive Board may name a successor.

Section 5 The President shall have responsibility for the affairs of the Association, including presiding over all quarterly meetings and Executive Board meetings. The President shall appoint Boards as needed, including but not limited to the Nominating Board and the Audit Board.

Section 6 The Vice-President shall preside and perform all duties of the President in case of his/her absence or inability to serve and shall be responsible for getting speakers for the four general meetings each year. The Vice-President shall be a member of the Membership Board and the Telephone Board.

Section 7 The Historian shall be the curator and custodian of relics and objects of historical value owned by the Association. The Historian shall maintain the membership applications of all members, past and present.

Section 8 The Secretary shall keep minutes of the Association's meetings, including Executive Board meetings, and all records of the Association, current year membership records, bylaws and official actions. The Secretary shall be the Registered Agent for service of process for the Association. The Association shall have and continuously maintain in the State of Texas a registered office, and a registered office as required by the Texas Non-Profit Association Act. The registered office may be, but need not be, identical with the principal office of the Association, and the address of the registered office may be changed from time to time by the Executive Board.

Section 9 The Treasurer shall receive all funds of the Association and shall render an itemized statement of all transactions at each Board meeting or when requested by the President. The Treasurer shall execute and sign all checks drawn on the funds of the Association, have custody of its bank books, financial records, and written fiscal reports. Accumulated funds in excess of normal operational needs may be deposited at interest at any FDIC-approved financial institution located in Dallas County. The President shall also sign on all accounts in case of emergency.

By January 30 of each year, the Treasurer shall provide the Secretary and newsletter editor with the names and addresses of members whose dues are current.

Section 10 The newsletter editor is a member of the Executive Board and is responsible for the preparation, printing, and distribution of the newsletter. The editor will distribute the newsletter by email at least ten days before each meeting and include details of the program for the upcoming meeting. Members who do not have email may be mailed the newsletter.

Section 11 The Executive Board shall consist of the current officers of the Association, all past Presidents, the Newsletter Editor, Board Chairs and up to three members may be chosen from the general membership at the President's discretion. Any action taken by the Executive Board shall require an affirmative vote of a majority of those present, but not less than four affirmative votes.

Section 12 There shall be at least one (1) meeting of the Executive Board each quarter, at a time and place to be fixed by the President.

Section 13 The Executive Board may after 10 days' notice and hearing, and acting in the best interests of the Association, may by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Executive Board, remove any Officer or Director from his office or duties.

Whenever under the provisions of these Bylaws notice is required to be given to any director or officer, such notice may be given personally or may be given in writing by depositing the same in the Post Office or a mail box in a postpaid, sealed envelope addressed to such person at such address as appears on the books of the Association. Any such person may waive any notice required to be given, and presence at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting.

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

Section 1 All meetings shall be conducted according to *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*.

Section 2 The Association shall meet no less than four (4) times per year, on the first Thursday of March, June, September, and first Saturday of December, at times and places to be selected by the Executive Board. The Executive Board may alter the meeting schedule without amending this section of the bylaws. The President, or at the request of three (3) Executive Board members, may call a special membership or Executive Board meeting at any time provided 72 hours' notice is given by email.

ARTICLE VII – INSIGNIA

Section 1 The seal of the Association shall be a five-pointed star flanked by oak and olive branches and surrounded by a ring enclosing the words "Dallas County Pioneer Association" and date "1875".

Section 2 The colors of the Association shall be royal blue, United Nations blue, and white.

Section 3 The flag of the Association shall consist of a vertical royal blue field with a single white star, and two horizontal fields, the uppermost white and the lower UN blue. The words "Dallas County" shall be written in UN blue across the white field and the words "Pioneer Association" in white across the UN blue field.

Section 4 The Executive Board may authorize the manufacture of medals, lapel pins, and other objects incorporating the designs of the seal or flag of the Association.

ARTICLE VIII – SPECIAL BOARDS

Section 1 All Boards appointed by the President under this Article shall have a chair and a co-chair. The President shall be an honorary member of each special Board.

Section 2 Each special Board shall keep records of its activities and provide copies to the Secretary of the Association for its Archives.

Section 3 All monies received by special Boards shall be deposited with the Treasurer of this Association. The Treasurer shall keep adequate records of such deposits and distinguish such funds separately from DCPA general funds.

Section 4 A Cemetery Board may be authorized by the President to assist in planning and effecting preservation of historical cemeteries in Dallas County. Expenses and repairs shall be paid from cemetery funds held and designated for this purpose by the Treasurer and approved by the President.

Section 5 Additional special Boards may be formed as needs arise.

ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS

The constitution and bylaws of the DCPA may be amended or added to in the following manner: Any proposed amendment must be submitted in writing to the Secretary no less than thirty (30) days prior to the Executive Board meeting called for that purpose. The Executive Board will study the amendment and recommend that the Secretary include a copy of the proposed changes in the next newsletter. Upon submission to the general membership at the next meeting, the vote of a majority of those members present shall be sufficient to amend, add to, or otherwise alter the constitution and bylaws.

ARTICLE X – DISSOLUTION

Section 1 The Association shall be dissolved upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) majority of members in good standing present at a meeting called for that purpose. Such meeting and its purpose shall be announced in writing to the members not less than ten (10) days prior to the meeting and may be done by email.

Section 2 No part of the net earnings of the Association shall accrue to the benefit of, or be distributed to its members, officers, or other persons. An exception to this rule is that the Association may pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article II hereof.

Section 3 Upon dissolution of the Association, the Executive Board shall, after paying or making provisions for payment of liabilities of the Association, dispose of all its assets to organizations operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes. Such organizations must qualify as exempt under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future U.S. Internal Revenue Law).