

Roosevelt Island
Residents Association
Bylaws

As Adopted September 2004

ROOSEVELT ISLAND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Bylaws

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ARTICLE I, PURPOSE

These Bylaws set forth provisions relating to certain operations of the Common Council, the officers and committees of the Common Council, and the campaign limits for elections for Common Council. In the event of conflict between any Bylaw and the RIRA Constitution, the provisions of the Constitution shall control.

ARTICLE II, COMMON COUNCIL

Section 1, Rules of Procedure

Except as elsewhere provided herein, all meetings of the Common Council shall be governed by the then-current edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

Except as elsewhere provided herein, all action of the Common Council shall require Majority vote.

Section 2, Motions by Mail

When the Common Council is not in session, matters that require a vote may be raised by the President or at the request of at least five Members of the Council. Such matters shall be communicated to Members via email, mail, doorstation delivery or doordrop delivery. Approval, in writing, of more than half of the Council Membership is required to approve any such matter.

However, if five Members of the Council register an objection to the President or Secretary about this vote, a Council meeting will be called.

When motions are passed outside of the Common Council session, written proof of such passage shall be stored by the Secretary in the same manner as resolutions passed at Common Council meetings are kept.

Section 3, Rights of Alternates

In general, Alternates who attend Council meetings may speak during the deliberations, but may not vote. However, in the event that a regular Council Member is absent, the first alternate for that District may vote. If the first alternate is not available, then the second alternate may vote, and so on.

If a Council Member informs the President or Secretary prior to the meeting of an unavoidable delay, the first Alternate will be so informed, and may only vote the seat until the Member arrives. If a motion is on the floor, the Alternate may vote on the motion, after which he/she must give up the seat to the arriving Member.

If the Council Member has not provided notice of intended delay and arrives within 30 minutes of the scheduled start of a Common Council meeting and a motion is on the floor, the Alternate may vote on the motion, after which he/she must give up the seat to the arriving Member, and may not vote for the remainder of the meeting.

If a Council Member arrives more than 30 minutes after the scheduled start of a Common Council meeting, and has not provided notice of intended delay, then the Alternate retains the seat and the vote.

Section 4, Auditor

The Common Council shall elect an Auditor who shall not be a Member or officer of the Common Council or any RIRA committee.

Candidates for Auditor may be nominated by any Member of the Council and must be professionally qualified as an auditor.

It shall be the responsibility of the Auditor to audit the books of RIRA and of each committee. It shall also be the responsibility of the Auditor to prepare special audits of RIRA or of any of its committees upon the enactment of an authorizing resolution of the Common Council.

It shall be the responsibility of all committees to submit financial reports and records to the Auditor on demand.

Section 5, Chairpersons

RIRA shall elect from its own Members the following chairs:

Communication, Government Relations; Housing; Planning; Island Services; Legal Action; Public Safety; and Social, Cultural and Educational Services.

ARTICLE III, COMMITTEES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL

Section 1, Communication Committee

There shall be a Communication Committee that shall assist other committees and the officers of the Common Council with communications activities.

Subject to the prior approval of the Common Council, the Committee may: publish a RIRA newsletter; represent RIRA to the news media; and/or publish a calendar of RIRA events.

This committee shall be chaired by the Chairperson of Communication.

Section 2, Government Relations Committee

There shall be a Government Relations Committee that shall be the representative of RIRA to their various Government representatives; to ensure the establishment and maintenance of ongoing relations with local, state and federal government and quasi-governmental officials; and to support RIRA and other local groups approved by the Council in their relationships with government.

This committee shall be chaired by the Chairperson of Government Relations.

Section 3, Housing Committee

There shall be a Housing Committee that shall represent to the Council the issues and concerns of residents regarding the management, living conditions and rental policies of the residential buildings on the Island. It shall also serve as the liaison for the Council to the various building committees and housing task forces.

This committee shall be chaired by the Chairperson of Housing.

Section 4, Island Services Committee

There shall be an Island Services Committee that shall supervise for the Council the delivery of transportation, parks and recreation, sanitation, postal and commercial services; supervise common facilities; and assist individuals and organizations who may experience problems obtaining the services due them.

It is also responsible for recommending and implementing RIRA policy on all matters relating to common means of transportation on and/or to and from Roosevelt Island.

This committee shall be chaired by the Chairperson of Island Services.

Section 5, Legal Action Committee

There shall be a Legal Action Committee responsible for advising the Council and its committees on the legal recourse for issues and problems that RIRA and/or the Council may be encountering.

This committee is also responsible for engaging and coordinating with outside legal counsel, as necessary; and implementing Council decisions with respect to legal recourse. This committee shall raise funds for immediate or future legal expenses.

This committee shall be chaired by the Chairperson of Legal Action.

Section 6, Planning Committee

There shall be a Planning Committee that shall represent the Council on matters involving future development of Roosevelt Island, including but not limited to commercial development, housing, vehicular access, transportation, social services and energy; monitor and recommend RIRA positions on planning matters; and recommend changes in the structure, constitution and programs of RIRA to ensure its continued effectiveness.

It is also responsible for recommending and implementing RIRA policy on all matters relating to energy conservation, distribution and generation.

This committee shall be chaired by the Chairperson of Planning.

Section 7, Public Safety Committee

There shall be a Public Safety Committee that shall recommend and implement RIRA policy on all matters related to safety, security and vehicular traffic and parking on Roosevelt Island.

This committee shall be chaired by the Chairperson of Public Safety.

Section 8, Social, Cultural and Educational Services Committee

There shall be a Social, Cultural and Educational Services Committee that shall represent the Council and RIRA to social, cultural and educational organizations that are not a part of RIRA and to supervise such organizations that are a part of RIRA. Additionally, this committee shall be the fund-raising arm of RIRA and shall actively seek individuals to participate in RIRA affairs.

This committee shall be chaired by the Chairperson of Social, Cultural and Educational Services.

Section 9, Ad Hoc Committees

The President, with the advice and consent of a Majority vote of the Common Council, may appoint chairpersons and members of ad hoc committees and assign the supervision of such a committee to a specified officer. The Council may abolish or replace any ad hoc committee at any time by a Two-Thirds vote of Council Members.

Section 10, Committee Bylaws

Committees of the Common Council may have bylaws. The Council may develop a model set of bylaws for use by all committees.

Section 11, Frequency of Committee Meetings

All Committees with the exception of the Nominations Committee and the Election Committee, shall meet at least three times per year.

ARTICLE IV, RIRA ELECTIONS

Section 1, Campaign Limits

The market value of campaign materials shall be limited to a maximum of \$100 for each candidate for a District position, and \$250 for each Presidential and Vice Presidential candidate.