

Bylaws of the Chicago Humanists

First installed on September 30th 2019 in Chicago by the founding members of the AHA Chicago Chapter

Article 1 – Name

The name of this organization is the Chicago Humanists, a Chapter of the American Humanist Association, a non-profit educational organization.

Article 2 – Purpose

The purpose of the Chicago Humanists is to promote Humanism, an ethical, democratic, naturalistic, life stance that challenges irrationality, promotes critical thinking and the separation of church and state. We present a system of Humanist ethics that is a rational alternative to those based on religion and encourage fellowship among thoughtful people in our community. The group operates in the Chicago city center and adjacent neighborhoods.

Article 3 – Membership

Any person shall be eligible for voting membership who is in general accord with the above-stated purpose and a member in good standing with the American Humanist Association.

Article 4 – Government

The association shall be governed by its members and, between meetings by a Board of Directors consisting of a President, Vice President, a Treasurer and two Directors, all elected by the membership for staggered terms of two years.

Except as otherwise prescribed in regulations of the membership or of the Board of Directors, the duties of the Board the officers and committees of the association shall be those as prescribed in Robert's Rules of Order.

Article 5 - Meetings

Regular meetings of the membership and the Board shall be held at times and places set by the Board and the membership. Special meetings, social events, public programs, etc., may be scheduled by the Board or by a committee it appoints. A quorum for the transaction of business at Board meetings shall be a majority of elected Board members

Article 6 – Elections

A nominating committee shall be appointed by the President in September with the election to be held in January. The nominating committee shall nominate (with the consent of the nominee) one or more persons for each place to be filled. Additional nominations may be made before the January elections either at Board meetings or Membership meetings. Members will be notified by mail or phone (in December) of the Elections Meeting in January.

An election committee appointed by the Board or at a Membership meeting shall check, count and report on the election. No member of the election committee shall be a candidate for that year's election. In the

event there is no competition for a specific officer position, there is no need for balloting. Election shall be by vote of a plurality of those voting for an office.

Article 7 – Amendments

Amendments of these bylaws may be proposed by vote of a majority of the Board members or by those present and voting at a Membership meeting, or by petition of 20% of the members of the association. Notice of a proposed amendment shall be given to the paid membership prior to voting by members at a regular membership meeting. Enactment of all amendments shall be by vote of a majority of the members voting at a regular membership meeting.

Article 8 – Limitations

No part of the association's resources shall be devoted to influencing the election of anyone to public office. No part of the association's resources shall be used to benefit individual members. No provisions of these bylaws shall be interpreted in any manner to conflict with the laws of our land required to maintain a tax-exempt non-profit organization.

Article 9 – Termination

If and when the association is dissolved or otherwise terminated, its assets shall be distributed to the American Humanist Association or another non-profit organization which is tax-exempt under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code if the AHA does not exist at the time of termination.