

The Gainesville Community Alliance

Articles of the Alliance

Article I – Name

The name of this organization shall be: The Gainesville Community Alliance hereafter referred to as GCA.

Article II – Mission

A. The Mission of GCA is:
GCA is a social membership organization that provides an environment in which gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender people and their friends have opportunities to meet through educational and social activities.

Article III – Membership

- A. The GCA Board of Directors reserves the right to deny or revoke membership, on a case-by-case basis.
- B. GCA has three membership categories:
1. Charter Membership – Charter Membership is a designation bestowed upon those members who joined GCA during its first year, prior to January 1, 1992.
 2. Regular Membership – Regular membership is open to all Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender people and their friends, upon payment of membership dues as specified in the By- Laws.
 3. Honorary Membership – Honorary Membership may be conferred upon individuals who, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, have made significant contributions to the advancement of GCA. Honorary Memberships shall be non-dues-paying and non-voting.

Article IV – Officers and Board Members

- A. Officers – Elected officers of GCA shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- B. Duties of Officers – GCA officers shall fulfill the usual duties of their offices and such additional duties as specified in the By-Laws.
- C. Board of Directors – The affairs of GCA shall be managed by a Board of Directors comprised of the GCA Officers, 4 Members-at-Large and the Newsletter Editor. The GCA President, Vice-President and Secretary shall act as Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary, respectively. The Members-at-Large will fulfill responsibilities at the direction of the President.

D. Election and Term of Office of Officers and Board Members – The GCA officers and Members-at-Large shall be elected at the annual membership meeting, in the manner specified in the By-Laws. Each Officer and Member-at-Large shall hold office for the term of one year, or until such time as a successor for that office has been duly selected.

E. Vacancies – The President, with concurrence of a simple majority of the Board of Directors, will appoint members to fill vacancies which occur on the Board. Should the President be unable to complete his or her term, the Vice-President shall automatically assume that position.

F. Newsletter Editor – Shall be appointed by the Board.

G. Web Master – Shall be appointed by the Board.

H. Impeachment – The procedure to impeach an Officer or Board Member requires a two-thirds majority vote of the Board, excluding the subject of the impeachment.

Article V – Acceptance of and Compliance with the Articles and By-Laws

A person accepting membership in GCA shall accept the principles of GCA and shall agree to comply with and be bound by the Articles and By-Laws of GCA.

Article VI – By-Laws

A. By-Laws adopted by GCA shall be consistent with these Articles embodying additional provisions for the governing of GCA.

B. The adoption of the By-Laws shall be by a simple majority of the voting members present at the meeting at which the second reading of the By-Laws is held.

C. By-Laws may be amended from time to time in accordance with the provisions therein contained. A mailing of proposed revisions of the By-Laws to the voting membership of GCA shall constitute a first reading of the proposed revisions, with the second reading taking place at the next regular Board meeting.

Article VII – Amendments

A. Amendments may be proposed to these Articles by submitting same in writing to the Secretary of the Board at least seven days in advance of a regular Board meeting.

B. The procedure for amending an Article will be the same as that used to amend the By-Laws.

The Gainesville Community Alliance

By-Laws

Article I – Meetings

A. Annual Membership Meeting

1. The annual meeting shall be held during the month of November at a time and place designated by the President.
2. At the annual meeting, the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and all At-Large Board members shall be elected by a plurality of the regular voting members. All terms will commence at the next scheduled Board meeting.

B. Board Meetings

1. The Board of Directors shall be required to meet at least four times per year. Special meetings may be called by the President or by three members of the Board of Directors.
2. A simple majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

Article II – Elections

- A. Persons desiring to hold a position of Officer or At-Large Member shall make their desire known in writing, to the Secretary, by October 1st.
- B. A slate of officers and At-Large Members will be developed by November 1st.
- C. Elections will be held by written ballot, by those members present, at the annual membership meeting.
- D. Winners will be determined by plurality.

Article III – Duties of Officers and Board Members

A. President – Responsibilities

1. Conducts all GCA meetings
2. Appoints Chairs for various committees as needed.

B. Vice-President - Responsibilities

1. Conducts all GCA meetings in the absence of the President
2. Acts as the Parliamentarian.

C. Secretary - Responsibilities

1. Takes and maintains minutes of GCA meetings.
2. Presents written minutes of previous meetings.

3. Ensures meeting notices, newsletters, proposed amendments, and other notices are sent to the membership as directed.
- D. Treasurer - Responsibilities
1. Collects and records all memberships, dues and other funds received by GCA.
 2. Pays bills of GCA, as directed by the Board.
 3. Maintains financial records of GCA.
 4. Presents a written financial record at each scheduled meeting.
- E. Newsletter Editor - Responsibilities
1. Produces monthly newsletter.
 2. Maintains an archive of past newsletters.
- F. Web Master - Responsibilities
1. Maintains web site.
- G. At-Large Members - Responsibilities
1. Acts on behalf of the membership.

Article IV – Membership and Dues

- A. Membership – There will be three types of membership available to those who qualify in accordance with Article III of the Articles.
- B. Dues – GCA annual dues shall be determined by the Board; Charter Member dues will be \$15. Dues become payable upon becoming a member and on January 1st of each succeeding year. Dues collected for any new membership on or after November 1st will be applied to the following year. Persons joining between April and October will have the following year prorated. Failure to remit annual dues within sixty days after they become payable will result in forfeiture of membership.

Article V – Procedures

- A. Robert's Rules of Order – Robert's Rules of Order (current edition) shall govern the procedures of GCA meetings so far as they are consistent with the Articles and By-Laws.
- B. Confidentiality of Membership Records – The membership of any person in GCA shall not be made known to anyone outside of GCA without the knowledge and consent of the person involved. Membership lists will be available only to Board Members and will not be released to anyone else.
- C. Records – All records of GCA, excluding membership records, are open to all voting members.

D. Annual Audit – An Audit Committee shall review all financial records annually.

Approved, as written, by the membership, at the meeting held on: _____

President: _____

Secretary: _____