

# Bylaws of Renton LGBTQIA+ Community

## Article I: Name

The name of the entity is Renton LGBTQIA+ Community. The organization may be simply referred to as the Community in these Bylaws.

## Article II: Purpose

### 1) Mission Statement:

The Renton LGBTQIA+ Community is building a strong inclusive sense of belonging, empowering members to promote positive change in our communities, combating prejudice and discrimination, and providing support for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intersex, Asexual, and similarly-identified people.

### 2) Purpose:

The purpose of the Community shall be:

- a) To advocate for the Community on LGBTQIA+ and related issues and promote civic engagement between the LGBTQIA+ community, allies, and public.
- b) To combat prejudice and discrimination against the LGBTQIA+ and other marginalized communities.
- c) To act, when possible, as a resource to existing services and other materials for safe spaces, and community health, education, and welfare for LGBTQIA+ people.
- d) To provide regular activities for its members, including an annual Pride month recognition activity.

## Article III: Membership

### 1) Membership Qualifications

#### 3.1.1 Qualification

In order to qualify for membership, a member shall be with the organization for at least 6 months, and active in the last 6 months. A member is active by volunteering at events or participation in Meetings of the Members. Exceptions may be made with three-fourths board approval.

#### 3.1.2 Commitment to Equality

Members shall not act with prejudice or discrimination based on gender expression, sexual orientation, sex, race, religion, ethnicity, age, disability, veteran status, immigration status, national origin, or socioeconomic status.

### 3.1.3 Additional Qualifications

Members may have such other qualifications as may be prescribed by amendment to these Bylaws.

## 2) Voting Rights

Every qualified member is entitled to an equal number of votes as open seats for directors and one vote for other business requiring a vote of membership.

## 3) Meetings

At least once bi-annually, the membership and Board will hold a Meeting of the Members to review the previous half year and the goals for the following half year. This should occur at the same time as elections if any director's term expires.

## 4) Quorum

30% of qualified membership present at the annual elections for directors and a quorum of the Board of Directors, shall constitute a quorum at a Meeting of the Members. If less than a quorum of the qualified members is represented at the meeting, a majority of the members present may adjourn the meeting.

## 5) Manner of Acting

The majority of the votes entitled to be cast by the members at a Meeting of the Members which a quorum is present shall be necessary for the adoption of any matter voted upon by the members, unless a greater proportion is required by applicable Washington law, the Articles of Incorporation, Standing Rules, or these Bylaws.

## 6) Resignation, Termination, and Inactivity

### 3.6.1 Resignation

A member may resign from the Community at any time by informing any director.

### 3.6.2 Termination and Suspension

The Board of Directors may terminate or temporarily suspend the membership responsibilities of any member with cause by three-fourths majority at any meeting. Grounds for termination or suspension may be; disregard for safety, misuse of Community funds or property, behavior exhibiting prejudice, or misrepresentation of Community policy.

After termination or suspension:

- a) A terminated member may request an appeal to the Board once after fourteen days and not longer than two years, which may or may not be granted. If rejected, within sixty days a petition containing the signatures of at least 20% of the membership may call for a Meeting of the Members with the purpose of voting on returning a terminated member by a majority vote of qualified members meeting a

quorum.

- b) The Board may return a terminated member, or suspended member before their allotted time, with a simple majority vote at any time.

A board member may not have their membership terminated or suspended by the Board of Directors. A majority vote of membership at a meeting with quorum is required to terminate or suspend the membership of a director.

## Article IV: Board of Directors

### 1) General

#### 4.1.1 Purpose

A Board of Directors, each director of whom shall be of legal age, and need not be a resident of the State of Washington, shall manage the affairs of Renton LGBTQIA+ Community.

#### 4.1.2 Board Member Relationship

No two members of the Board of Directors related by blood or marriage/domestic partnership within the second degree of consanguinity or affinity may serve on the Board of Directors at the same time.

### 2) Number

The number of directors shall be at least five (5) and not more than nine (9). All directors shall serve until their terms expire. All directors shall have equal and full voting responsibilities as directors of the Board.

### 3) Interim Board of Directors

The following individuals are recognized with gratitude as the founding members and the interim Board of Directors: Winter Cashman, Chloe Edsonart, CJ Truong, Joe Perez, Kevin Poole, Mical DeGraaff, Scott Kreidermacher, and Tara Andrews. The term of service began in July of 2019 and expire upon approval of Bylaws by the membership and the election of the first Board of Directors.

### 4) Election of Board Directors

#### 4.4.1 Election

In October of every year, if applicable, an election is due to be held at a Meeting of the Members to replace any director whose term has expired.

#### 4.4.2 Terms

The first elected Board of Directors shall begin immediately after the elections have completed and choose less than or equal to half of the directors to serve for three years expiring on October 31st, 2022, and the remaining directors to serve for two years expiring on October 31st, 2021. All future elected directors will serve two year

terms expiring on October 31st. A director elected by special election will serve the remainder of the vacant director's term.

#### 4.4.3 Number of Open Seats

The Board will determine the number of open seats of directors for election on an annual basis depending on expired terms, membership size, and workload.

### 5) Vacancy

#### 4.5.1 Nomination and Appointment

Vacancies occurring in the Board by death, resignation, recall, refusal to serve, or otherwise shall be filled at the time in which a qualified candidate has been nominated and approved at the next regularly scheduled board meeting. Each director shall be entitled to one vote and the majority of the votes cast will determine the result. The appointed director shall serve until the next election. The board may choose not to fill a vacancy if the office is not required by these Bylaws or Standing Rules.

#### 4.5.2 Notice

Notice of the appointment, and meeting to appoint, shall be given to the membership. If members are present they shall have a recorded, non-binding vote on the director.

#### 4.5.3 Special Election

The Board may, at its discretion, call a special election by the membership to fill vacancies on the Board of Directors. In the case of a special election the Board still retains its authority to determine officers.

### 6) Resignation

Any director may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Board of Directors. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein, or, if no time is specified, at the time of submission thereof. No Board action is required to accept a resignation.

### 7) Recall

Any board director not fulfilling the purpose of the Renton LGBTQIA+ Community may be subject to recall at a Meeting of the Members. A two-thirds vote of qualified members, with a quorum present, shall be needed to recall. The Board shall be notified at least 14 days prior with a petition containing signatures of 20% of qualified members.

### 8) Removal

#### 4.8.1 Removal Proceedings

Any director may be removed at any time by a three-fourths majority of all of the directors then serving. Membership must be updated by email within 3 days.

#### 4.8.2 Notification

A Meeting of the Members shall be held within 35 days where members may decide to suspend or terminate the membership of the removed director. The Board may use this meeting for a special election to fill the vacancy.

### 9) Compensation

Directors shall serve without compensation. Board members may be allowed reasonable advancement or reimbursement for expenses incurred in the performance of their regular duties.

## Article V: Meetings of the Board

### 1) Meetings

#### 5.1.1 Minimum Meeting Requirement

The Board shall meet at a minimum each year unless otherwise provided by resolution of the Board of Directors. In addition to the annual meeting, the Board shall meet at least one other time during the year. Such other regular meetings of the Board shall be held at such time and place as may be specified by the resolution of the Board.

#### 5.1.2 Open Meetings

Meetings are open to the LGBTQIA+ community and allies and supporters of the community. Discussion is limited to directors and those recognized by the Board. Directors can remove disruptive attendees as necessary by a simple majority vote.

### 2) Voting of Directors

The vote of the majority of the directors at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board, unless a vote of a greater number is required by law or by these Bylaws.

## Article VI: Officers and Appointed Positions

### 1) Election-Title-Term

#### 6.1.1 Officer Titles

The officers shall be at minimum a President, Secretary, Treasurer, and such other officers as may be appointed pursuant to these Bylaws. Each officer shall be elected annually by the Board of Directors at its regular annual meetings, to serve until the next ensuing annual meeting.

#### 6.1.2 Multiple Offices

Any two or more offices may be held by the same person except the office of President.

#### 6.1.3 Vacancy

In the event of a vacancy the Board will hold a meeting to fill the vacancy. If the vacancy

is the President, the Vice President will fill the office and their office shall become vacant. If no Vice President is serving, then the Board will decide on the vacancy for President. If the Vice President taking the office of President holds other offices which conflict with these Bylaws, those other offices shall be considered vacant.

#### 6.1.4 Membership Requirements

No person shall be an officer of the Community unless that person holds a membership in the Community. In the event an officer loses their Community membership for whatever reason, the officer position shall then be considered vacant.

## Article VII: Amendment

### 1) Amendment Requirements

These Bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed by two-thirds of qualified members meeting a quorum at a Meeting of the Members called for that purpose. The Board shall call for a Meetings of Members to vote on the matter. Standing Rules may be altered, amended, or repealed by membership or Board by majority vote at a meeting.

### 2) Call for Amendment by Board of Directors

The Board may call for an Amendment by Membership with a vote of three-fourths of the full Board of Directors.

### 3) Amendment by Petition

Members may call for an Amendment by Membership by giving the Board a petition containing signatures from at least 20% of qualified members with a statement declaring the exact alteration, amendment, or repeal.

### 4) Notice

Notice of the proposed amendment, alteration, or repeal shall be given at least 14 days prior to the date of the meeting at which these Bylaws are to be altered, amended, or repealed.

## Article VIII: Administrative Provisions

### 1) Governance by Renton Regional Community Foundation

Renton LGBTQIA+ Community acknowledges that it adheres to the guidelines, governance and fiscal policies as set by the Renton Regional Community Foundation. Nothing in these Bylaws shall be inconsistent with the intents and purposes of the Renton Regional Community Foundation, as the fiscal sponsor.

Adoption Date: 10/8/2019

