

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF PRIME TIMERS ST. LOUIS

As Revised 3-2-2023

ARTICLE I.

Name, Offices, Registered Agent, Books and Records, and Life:

1. This Organization shall be incorporated in the State of Missouri as a Nonprofit Public Benefit Organization and shall be known as Prime Timers St. Louis (hereafter PTSL).
2. PTSL shall have and continuously maintain a principal office at such location in the State of Missouri as the Board of Directors of PTSL shall from time to time determine.
3. PTSL shall have and continuously maintain a registered office and agent in the State of Missouri in accordance with the requirements of Missouri law.
4. The books and records of PTSL shall be kept at its principal office or at other place or places as the Board shall from time to time determine.
5. The life of PTSL will be perpetual.

ARTICLE II.

Purpose:

Prime Timers St. Louis is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization open to mature persons over 21 years old who self-identify and present themselves as Gay or Bisexual males who subscribe to our purpose of providing educational and cultural events and activities, and socialization and fellowship to members in a safe, supportive and respectful environment. As such, PTSL does not host or promote activities or events of a sexual nature. In addition, PTSL is organized exclusively for recreation and other similar nonprofit purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)7 of the Internal Revenue Code and in accordance with all local, state, and federal laws.

ARTICLE III.

Governance:

Governance of PTSL shall be under a Board of Directors composed of a total of seven members: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Webmaster, and two additional at-large Board members. Each year, nominees shall be elected to the Board of Directors for a one-year term by the PTSL members who have submitted their ballots by the start of the March Monthly Membership Meeting. This Board of Directors shall then elect their President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Webmaster for a one-year term at a special Board meeting immediately following the March Monthly Membership Meeting or shortly thereafter. The President shall be the Chairman of the Board of Directors. Each Board member has one (1) vote on any proposal, and a vote of the majority of the Board of Directors will enact the proposal, which will not be enacted with a tie vote.

ARTICLE IV.

Election of Board of Directors:

1. Nominations for candidates for the Board of Directors will be solicited from members beginning in November at the Monthly Membership Meeting. Nominations will be accepted from the floor and by mail as long as they are received in time to be recorded before the February Monthly Membership Meeting. The names of the nominees will appear in the March PTSL newsletter, which may be in either electronic / web or print format.
2. An election of the Board of Directors by PTSL members in good standing shall take place at the Monthly Membership Meeting in March. Members may submit their votes by either paper ballots or emailed ballots. Election results will be announced at this meeting.
3. Each PTSL member in good standing may vote for up to seven Board members. The Board of Directors shall consist of the seven candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

ARTICLE IV.

Elections:

1. Each PTSL member in good standing may vote in the Elections.

2. Nominations for candidates for the Board of Directors will be solicited from members beginning in January at the Monthly Membership Meeting. Nominations will be accepted from the floor and by mail as long as they are received in time to be recorded before the February Monthly Membership Meeting. The names of the nominees will appear in the March PTSL newsletter, which may be in either electronic / web or print format.
3. An election of the Board of Directors shall take place at the Monthly Membership Meeting in March. Members may submit their votes by either paper ballots or emailed ballots. Election results will be announced at this meeting.
4. Each PTSL member in good standing may vote for up to seven Board members. The Board of Directors shall consist of the seven candidates receiving the highest number of votes, governed by the Roberts rules of block voting. In case of a tie, it will be broken by the outgoing President flipping a coin to decide the winner.
5. Propositions to be voted on by the members will first be approved by a majority of the Board of Directors. These would include changes to the By-Laws or other advisory propositions. The Board will then decide whether to place the proposition in a special election or the annual election. These propositions will be enacted upon approval by a majority of votes cast in the election. They would not pass with a tie vote.

ARTICLE V.

Duties of Officers:

1. **President:** The President shall preside at general Monthly Membership Meetings of the Organization and the Board of Directors and enforce the By-Laws, Policies & Procedures. The President or his designee shall represent the Organization as necessary. The President shall be responsible for all valuable documents and archives of the Organization. Other duties (which may be delegated to the other officers) include: presiding over the Monthly membership meetings and Board of Directors meetings, coordinating the monthly potlucks, holiday parties and monthly brunches, lining up guest speakers for the monthly meetings, acting as liaison to other organizations, and submitting a President's Letter for the monthly newsletter.
2. **Vice President:** The Vice President shall serve as President in that officer's absence or disability.
3. **Treasurer:** It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all monies of the organization and deposit same in the name of Prime Timers St. Louis, in a bank or trust company approved by the Board of Directors. He shall act as custodian of all financial documents and shall pay all bills of the organization approved by the Board of Directors. He shall keep a book belonging to the organization showing all monthly receipts and disbursements. At the meeting of the Board of Directors he shall submit a report showing a summary of receipts and disbursements and the financial condition of the organization. All checks shall be signed by the Treasurer or other approved Board Member. Checks will be countersigned by a designee appointed by the Board of Directors when they exceed a dollar limit set by the Board of Directors. He shall also preside at general Monthly Membership Meetings in the absence of both the President and Vice President.
4. **Secretary:** The Secretary shall file and maintain the minutes of all proceedings recorded during general membership meetings, meetings of the Board of Directors and committees, reports, correspondence, official documents of the Organization, and shall conduct correspondence as needed. This would include the postal mailing of birthday cards to members that are on the Listed Members Roster.
5. **Specific duties of officers** may be re-assigned to a PTSL member as needed by the President and approved by a vote of the Board of Directors based on that individual's skills and/or resources.
6. **Board of Directors:** Each current member of the Board of Directors, as well as a candidate, must be a PTSL member in good standing. The Board of Directors shall be responsible for the management and general control of the organization's property, finances and affairs. The Board of Directors cannot contract for the spending of more than the amount of uncommitted funds budgeted for from the treasury.
 - a) A quorum of the Board of Directors shall be met if 4 of 7 members are in attendance. When physical presence is not possible, members will be considered as present and in attendance if they participate via electronic means (such as a video meeting or audio conference call).
 - b) The Board of Directors shall have the power to warn and/or suspend a member for violation of the by-laws, rules, regulations, and Policies and Procedures in accordance with Article XI.
 - c) Vacancies on the Board of Directors, except for term expiration, will exist only when one of the following conditions apply:

- i) A Board member is absent without reasonable excuse for three Board meetings annually. Any member of the Board of Directors having been absent for two meetings without reasonable excuse shall be notified by the Secretary that upon the third such absence the office will be declared vacant by the Board of Directors, who shall fill such vacancy.
- ii) A Board member dies or becomes incapacitated.
- iii) A Board member tenders his resignation in writing.
- iv) A Board member is removed by a two-thirds or more vote of the remaining Board.
- d) If a vacancy occurs on the Board of Directors, the Board shall name a member to serve until the next annual election by the general membership. If a vacancy occurs among the officers, the Board of Directors will fill the vacancy by electing a Board member to fill it.

Staff Volunteers:

1. **Newsletter Editor:** responsible for collecting materials and articles and authoring the chapter's monthly newsletter.
2. **Technology Analyst:** process all membership forms and maintain a list of members and their addresses and perform other related duties as requested by the Board of Directors. The current membership list will be provided online for availability to the other board members. He will also maintain the organization's web site and keep the calendar of events current.

ARTICLE VI.

Meetings:

1. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held following the Annual Board election in March and as needed on a date set by the Board.
2. Regular meetings of the general membership (Monthly Membership Meetings) shall be held at a time and location established by the Board of Directors.
3. The President shall call a special meeting at the written request of ten members or of a majority of the Board of Directors. No regular business shall be transacted at the special meeting, only that business stated as the purpose of the meeting shall be held.
4. Upon request, members in good standing may attend Board meetings and may request published Board meeting minutes.

ARTICLE VII.

Membership Dues, etc.:

1. Prospective members shall submit to the Treasurer a completed membership form with his dues.
2. Each applicant must be a person who self-identifies and presents themselves as a Gay or Bisexual male and must be over the age of 21 years. Member anonymity shall be maintained, if requested, by not including his name on the PTSL membership roster.
3. Dues and fees shall be set by the Board of Directors. Individuals must have paid their annual membership dues in order to be considered current PTSL members in good standing.
4. No other assessments shall be levied on the general membership except by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any Monthly Membership Meeting.
5. An annual report shall be made available to all members indicating the assets, liabilities, revenues and disbursements of the organization. In addition, a list of current members (except those members requesting anonymity) shall be provided to members on a periodic basis.

ARTICLE VIII.

Participation:

Because PTSL is wholly dependent upon members for its operation, members are encouraged to participate in one or more of the following ways:

- Serving as an Officer or a member of the Board of Directors,
- Serving as a Committee Chair or becoming an active member of a PTSL committee
- Hosting, sponsoring, promoting, planning and/or volunteering at an event or activity.

ARTICLE IX.

Discipline:

1. Investigation into allegations of misconduct shall be conducted by the Board of Directors upon written complaint of one or more members.
2. To maintain privacy, members agree not to share PTSL roster data with any non-members nor use it for commercial or similar purposes. Violators will be subject to disciplinary action by the Board of Directors.
3. PTSL does not tolerate discrimination from its members based on race, color, ancestry, religious or political belief, sexual orientation, gender identity, national, ethnic or social origin, marital or veteran status, income, HIV status or disability.
4. Any member who is disruptive, harassing, disrespectful or speaks or acts in a manner contrary to these or any other PTSL policies may be subject to disciplinary action by the Board of Directors. In addition, a member may be censured, suspended or expelled for conduct injurious to the character and/or welfare of the organization by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE X.

Legislative or Political Activities:

No substantial part of the activities of PTSL shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation and PTSL shall not participate in or intervene (including the publishing or distribution of statements) in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

ARTICLE XI.

Operational Limitations:

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, PTSL shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

ARTICLE XII.

Property Title:

The title to and ownership of all property, effects and assets of the organization shall be in the name of Prime Timers St. Louis, in trust for the benefit and enjoyment of the members. A resignation, death or forfeiture of membership, for any cause, shall be considered as an assignment and release to the Board of Directors, as trustees of the organization, of all rights, title and interest of such members in and to the property and assets of the organization.

ARTICLE XIII.

Inurement of Income:

No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, directors, officers or other private persons except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered.

ARTICLE XIV.

Dissolution Clause:

Upon the dissolution of PTSL, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all of the liabilities of PTSL, dispose of all the assets of PTSL exclusively for the purposes of PTSL in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Directors shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Circuit Court of the county in which the principal office of PTSL is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes. In addition, PTSL shall distribute its assets upon dissolution according to RSMo Sections 355.661 through 355.746.

ARTICLE XV.

Private Property, Injury:

The organization shall not be held responsible for the loss of or damage to property belonging to members or other individuals, or for injury to members or other individuals.

ARTICLE XVI.

Amendments:

These by-laws may be altered, amended or repealed and new by-laws be adopted upon approval of the Board of Directors or by a petition to the Board of Directors by ten PTSL members in good standing. Before an amendment is accepted as valid, it must be accepted by a majority vote of those members in good standing who cast their votes in favor of the amendment at a regularly scheduled Monthly Membership Meeting.

Article XVII.

Adoption and Revisions:

This Constitution and by-laws and subsequent revisions shall take effect immediately after being accepted. A copy shall be made available to all current and subsequent PTSL members upon request.

Article XVII.

Policies and Procedures Document:

A separate Policies and Procedures Document shall exist as a supplement and a less formal addendum to these by-laws. That document may be changed, amended, altered and rewritten as needed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

- End -

~~November 10, 2007~~
~~REVISED November 5, 2012~~
~~REVISED March 27, 2019~~
~~REVISED March 14, 2020~~
~~REVISED January 19, 2021~~
REVISED March 2, 2023