

The Board of Directors of the Boulder County Nature Association recommends changes in Articles IV, V, VII and XIII of the By-laws of our organization. A ballot is available in the Autumn 2005 newsletter and should be mailed not later than November 1. The complete By-laws follow, with ~~Strike through~~ indicating deletions and ***Italicized bold*** indicating additions.

By-laws of the
BOULDER COUNTY NATURE ASSOCIATION
as adopted in 1982 and amended on three previous occasions

Article I
Name and Principal Office

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Boulder County Nature Association, a non-profit organization hereinafter referred to as BCNA.

Section 2. The principal office for the transaction of the business of the corporation shall be fixed and located in Boulder County, Colorado.

The registered office of the corporation shall be maintained at Walden Ponds, 3893 North 75h Street, Boulder County, Boulder, Colorado, 80301.

The Board of Directors may from time to time change the address of the principal office from one location to another in the County.

Article II
Purpose

Section 1. The purpose, as further defined in Article III of the Articles of Incorporation, is to foster and promote an awareness of, understanding and appreciation for the natural resources and heritage of Boulder County.

Section 2. The operations and use of property and assets of the BCNA shall be limited to scientific, historical, interpretive and other educational purposes.

Article III
Management

Section 1. The management and control of the affairs of this corporation shall be vested in its Board of Directors.

Section 2. Any funds or property contributed to and accepted by the BCNA shall be held, administered, and disbursed or disposed of as the donor may direct, provided that any such direction is consistent with the purposes of the BCNA. In the absence of any such specific direction, such funds or property shall be held, administered and disbursed or disposed of solely for the purposes of the BCNA as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation.

Article IV
Board of Directors

- Section 1. Number. The Board of Directors shall consist of not less than seven (7) and not more than nine (9) members, all of whom must be members of BCNA. The Board shall be made up of the officers and not less than three (3) and not more than five (5) At-large Directors. ~~A designated representative of the Boulder County Parks & Open Space Department shall sit on the Board of Directors as an ex-officio, non-voting member.~~ No member of the Board of Directors shall be paid any compensation for his/her services as Director.
- Section 2. Duties and Powers. As stated in Article III, Section 1, the Board of Directors shall have general charge and control of the affairs, funds and property of the BCNA. It shall decide questions of policy and perform such other functions as designated in the By-Laws or otherwise assigned to it. It shall select candidates for ~~office~~ **the Board of Directors** through the Nominating Committee and pursuant to the By-Laws.
- Section 3. Nomination and Election. The President of BCNA shall, not less than ninety (90) days prior to the annual meeting of members, appoint a Nominating Committee of three members, at least one-third of whom are not ~~officers of the Association or~~ members of the Board of Directors. This committee shall nominate at least one candidate for each vacancy on the Board of Directors. Each nominee must certify willingness to serve ~~in the position for which s/he is nominated.~~ A ballot carrying the names of candidates for each office shall be prepared by the Nominating Committee and mailed to each BCNA member not less than 30 days before the annual meeting. **Election shall take place at the annual meeting.** Write-in privileges shall be maintained. The counting and certification of the ballots shall be done by the Nominating Committee. The nominee for each vacancy who receives a majority of the ~~responding members'~~ votes shall be elected.
- Section 4. Term. The term of office for the Board of Directors shall be two (2) years. ~~The offices of President and Secretary shall be filled in alternate years from those of Vice-President, and Treasurer.~~ The first Board of Directors shall be filled by election of the President, Secretary and one At-large Director for two (2) year terms and the Vice-President, Treasurer and two (2) At large Directors for one (1) year terms.
- As the respective Directors' terms expire, their successors shall be elected by the procedures in the By-Laws. Members of the Board of Directors may be re-elected, but to no more than ~~two~~ **three** consecutive terms.
- Section 5. Taking Office. Persons elected shall take office at the annual meeting as soon as the meeting adjourns.
- Section 6. Vacancies. Vacancies on the Board of Directors shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining Directors. Each Director so appointed or elected shall hold office for the remainder of the unexpired term.

- Section 7. Removal. Directors shall carry out their duties faithfully as outlined in the By-Laws. Failure to do so may constitute reasonable grounds for dismissal. Directors may be removed by a vote of the majority of the members then entitled to vote.
- Section 8. Quorum. The presence of a majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.
- Section 9. Indemnity. The Corporation shall indemnify its Directors, ~~Advisory Board members~~ and Officers from liability and expenses actually and reasonably incurred in connection with the defense of any action, suit, or proceeding, civil or criminal, in which he or she is made a party by reason of being or having been a Director, ~~Advisory Board member~~, or Officer, if:
- I. s/he conducted himself in good faith;
 - II. s/he reasonably believed:
 - a. in the case of conduct in his or her official capacity with the corporation, that his conduct was in the corporation's best interest; or
 - b. in all other cases, that his or her conduct was at least not opposed to the corporation's best interest; and
 - III. in the case of any criminal proceeding, s/he had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful.

Article V Officers

- Section 1. The officers of the BCNA shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- Section 2. The president shall be the chief executive officer of the BCNA; normally shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and at all other meetings of BCNA; shall be an ex-officio member of all committees; and shall have the general powers and duties of management usually vested in the office of president and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors from time to time.
- Section 3. The vice-president shall assist the president and assume the duties in the event of absence, incapacity, or resignation of the president. When so acting, s/he shall have all powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the president.
- Section 4. The secretary shall keep all official records of the BCNA; attend to all correspondence; provide the membership with reports as may be requested by the Board of Directors; maintain the current membership lists; and in general perform all duties incident to the office of secretary and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the president or the Board of Directors.

Section 5. The treasurer shall receive, deposit, have custody of, and be responsible for all the funds and securities of the BCNA, including the duty and power to open bank accounts; shall disburse BCNA funds under appropriate authorization of the Board; shall collect annual dues; shall provide the Board of Directors and the membership with written financial reports, including a report at the annual meeting; and shall in general perform all the duties incident to the office of treasurer and such other duties as from time to time be assigned by the president or the Board of Directors.

Section 6. The Board of Directors may provide for, contract with, and/or employ such additional offices, agents, or employees as it may deem necessary for the carrying out of the purposes of the organization and may provide for their compensation, provided, however, that no such paid person shall be a member of the Board of Directors.

Exception to the previous sentence is made in the case of a member of the Board of Directors who teaches a BCNA class; such person may be compensated in the usual manner and at the same rate as non-board teachers.

Section 7. Appointed officers shall carry out their duties faithfully as outlined in the by-laws. Failure to do so may constitute reasonable grounds for their dismissal. Officers may be removed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Article VI Membership

Section 1. Membership in the BCNA shall be open to any person upon submission of a signed application and payment of annual dues. The membership shall not be limited in its number. Each member shall be entitled to one vote.

Section 2. Membership shall extend for the period of one year on a calendar year basis. Reinstatement may be accomplished at any time in the same manner as heretofore provided for new members.

Section 3. Members in good standing with the BCNA shall be under all of the obligations of membership in the BCNA, and shall be entitled to all of the privileges including those of making motions, of voting, and of holding office.

Section 4. Memberships may not be transferred, and members shall have no property rights in the property of the BCNA.

Article VII Dues

Section 1. The appropriate dues for membership shall accompany the application. There shall be no initiation fee.

Section 2. Annual dues shall be established by the Board of Directors and approved by a majority of members who vote. ~~Any change in dues shall be submitted to the voting members by written ballot. Such changes shall take effect on the date specified on the ballot provided they have been approved by a simple majority of the votes cast.~~ ***Any changes in dues shall be voted upon at the annual meeting by written ballot. Such change shall take effect at the beginning of the fiscal year (January 1) following the annual meeting, provided they have been approved by a simple majority of the votes cast.***

Section 3. Annual dues shall be paid to the BCNA on or before January 1 of each year.

Article VIII Meetings

Section 1. General meetings of the membership may be called by the Board of Directors or by petition of five percent (5%) of the active members. A minimum of one (1) general meeting shall be held each year.

Section 2. Notice of general meetings shall be sent to members at least 30 days prior to the meeting, and shall specify place, day, time and general nature of business to be transacted.

Section 3. Meetings of the Board of Directors or of any committee of the BCNA may be conducted in person, by phone or mail, provided a majority of the Directors or committee members have been contacted.

Section 4. All in-person meetings of the Board of Directors or of any committee shall be open to attendance by any active member of the BCNA, but nothing herein shall prevent the Board of Directors or any such committee by resolution or other appropriate action, from convening in private session for the consideration of any matter which may come before them; however, the vote or other final action of such board or committee shall be taken in open session.

Section 5. The dates, time periods and minutes of all phone, mail, or in-person meetings of the Board of Directors shall be given upon request to any active member.

Section 6. A quorum for the general membership meetings shall be ten percent (10%) of the BCNA membership, prior notice of thirty days (30) having been given.

Article IX Fiscal Policy

Section 1. The fiscal year of the BCNA shall extend from January 1 to December 31.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall authorize the preparation of an annual financial report of the operations of the Board within ninety (90) days of the close of the fiscal year.

Section 3. All checks, drafts or other orders for payment of money, notes or other evidences of indebtedness, issued in the name of or payable to the BCNA shall be signed or endorsed by such person or persons and in such manner as determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. The Board of Directors, except as in the by-laws otherwise provided, may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents, to enter into any contract or execute any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the BCNA and such authority may be general or confined to specific instance, and unless so authorized by the Board of Directors, no officer, agent or employee shall have any power or authority to pledge its credit to render it liable for any purpose or to any amount.

Article X Amendments

Section 1. Amendments to these by-laws may be proposed at any time by the Board of Directors or submitted to the Board in writing by at least ten (10) active members of BCNA.

Section 2. The by-laws can be amended by a two-thirds (2/3^{rds}) vote of the responding membership when polled by written ballot. Approved changes shall take effect immediately unless otherwise noted on the ballot.

Article XI Parliamentary Authority

In all matters and procedures not covered by these by-laws, the current revised Robert's Rules of Order shall prevail.

Article XII Dissolution

In the event of the dissolution and payment of all debts of the BCNA, procedures shall be governed by the Articles of Incorporation and assets hereof shall be distributed to another non-profit organization with similar purposes that is qualified for exemption from income tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States of America. The choice of the recipient(s) of such assets shall be determined by a majority decision of the Board of Directors.

~~Article XIII Boulder County Land Trust~~

~~Section 1. To assist in its operation the corporation shall appoint an Advisory Board to be named the "Boulder County Land Trust."~~

~~Section 2. The function of the Boulder County Land Trust Advisory Board will be to investigate and carry out the corporation's activities with relate to property~~

~~acquisition for corporation purposes, and matters related to the maintenance, monitoring and control of any interests in real property owned or controlled by the corporation.~~

~~Section 3. The corporation shall use the name “Boulder County Land Trust” to refer to its assets or activities related to real estate, conservation easements, or any interest in real property acquired or maintained for corporation purposes.~~

~~Section 4. All final actions of the Boulder County Land Trust Advisory Board will be subject to the approval of the Boulder County Nature Association Board of Directors.~~

~~Section 5. The Boulder County Land Trust shall own no assets of its own; all real property or other assets shall be owned in the name of the corporation.~~

~~Section 6. The Advisory Board shall be appointed by the Boulder County Nature Association Board of Directors, and shall consist of not less than, but not limited to seven members representing a broad base of public support for preserving lands of importance to the natural and cultural history of Boulder County. Board members shall be appointed for terms of two years. The members of the initial Advisory Board may be appointed for terms of one, two, or three years to allow for future staggering of two year terms. The president of the Boulder County Nature Association and one additional member of the Boulder County Nature Association Board of Directors shall be members of the Advisory Board. The Boulder County Nature Association Board of Directors may remove any member of the Advisory Board prior to the expiration of such member’s term.~~

~~Section 7. The term of each Advisory Board member will be two years; consecutive terms may be served.~~

~~Section 8. The Advisory Board shall elect a chairperson at the first meeting of each calendar year.~~

~~Section 9. The financial assets handled by the Boulder County Land Trust may be held in separate accounts in different institutions from those of the Boulder County Nature Association, but will be subject to Article IX of the Association by laws.~~

Adopted by the Board of Directors on the 20th day of August, 1982, as amended.