

**ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION
OF
BATH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

**ARTICLE I
NAME AND PURPOSE**

1. We, the undersigned, desiring to form a nonprofit association for the purposes set forth in below, do hereby constitute ourselves a voluntary nonprofit association under the name of BATH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION.

2. Our principal purposes are:

To promote business in Bath while preserving and enhancing the identities of the rural hamlets of Ghent, Bath Center and Hammond's Corners; to encourage the essence of small town business development and to create a business network that supports the community.

**ARTICLE II
OFFICE AND DURATION**

1. The principal office of this Association shall be located in the Township of Bath, State of Ohio.

2. The duration of the Association shall be perpetual.

3. The death, removal or resignation of any member of the Association shall not result in the dissolution of the Association.

**ARTICLE III
GENERAL POWERS**

1. The Association shall have the power to collect dues, accept contributions, and otherwise obtain and retain funds in advancing the purposes stated in Article I above.

2. The Association shall have the power to do any lawful acts or things reasonably necessary or desirable for carrying out the Association's purposes, and for protecting the lawful rights and interests of its members in connection therewith.

ARTICLE IV
LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS AND RESOURCES

1. Funds obtained by the Association shall be expended solely to advance the purposes stated in Article I above.
2. Promotional expenditures shall be limited to the costs of advertising and promotion of the businesses of the Association's members generally, such as sponsoring and promoting the annual Bath Business Open House, preparing and circulating the monthly Newsletter, and maintaining the Association's official website, www.bathbusinessassociation.com. Funds shall not be expended to benefit any particular member or members.
3. With the prior approval of the Association's members, the Association may purchase and/or contribute funds for the purpose of advertising in publications sponsored by Bath Township and Bath community organizations (such as Project Pride, the Annual Bath Horse Show, Bath Community Days and the Bath Volunteers for Service Annual Home Tour), or sponsoring such events.
4. With the prior approval of the Association's members, the Association may expend funds to host or sponsor social events for its members and their guests, including the annual Bath Business Association Social.
5. Whenever prior approval of the Association's members is required, it shall be by the majority vote of all members attending the monthly meeting where such approval is sought.
6. Neither the funds nor the resources of the Association (including its membership list and contact information) shall be used to support any political candidate or to further any private purpose of any member or individual member.

ARTICLE V
MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

1. There shall be one class of members, that is, regular members who pay annual dues. The term "member" as used in these Articles shall mean a member who has complied with the provisions of this Article V and whose dues are paid in full.
2. Application for membership shall be written on Association forms, personally signed, and submitted to the President of the Association.
3. All membership applications shall contain a statement that the applicant agrees to abide by the Articles of Association as presently or hereinafter duly adopted.
4. All properly submitted applications by owners or authorized agents of businesses located in or primarily serving Bath Township shall be accepted.

5. The annual dues of each member shall be in an amount determined from time to time by the majority vote of all members attending the monthly meeting where such determination is sought. The amount of dues shall be published to the membership on or before January 31 of each year and shall be payable each year on or before March 1.

ARTICLE VI OFFICERS

1. The Officers of the Association shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Publicity Chair, Newsletter Chair, Fundraising Chair, Social Chair, and such other elected officials as determined from time to time by the majority vote of all members attending the monthly meeting where such determination is sought.

2. The Officers of the Association shall be nominated by any member of the Association at the monthly meeting held each December and shall be elected by the majority vote of all members submitting ballots at or prior to the annual meeting held the following January.

3. The Officers of the Association shall serve without compensation.

4. The President shall preside at the monthly meetings of Association members and Officers, shall be responsible for administering the activities of the Association, and shall represent the Association in official dealings with nonmembers, Bath Township, community organizations, and the media. The President may establish committees and delegate his or her duties to other officers and to committees, but shall retain ultimate responsibility for such duties.

5. The Vice President shall assist the President in his or her duties and fulfill the functions of the President in the President's absence.

6. The Treasurer shall collect the dues and disburse the funds of the Association in accordance with these Articles, and shall report to the membership at least monthly the cumulative receipts and disbursements of Association funds. The Treasurer shall represent the Association in its banking and investment relationships.

7. The Secretary shall take, prepare and circulate the monthly minutes of the Association and shall be responsible for administering the annual election of officers.

8. The Historian shall maintain the history of the Association's activities, including the Association's scrapbook, copies of advertising and publications disseminated by the Association, and copies of publicity about the Association and its activities.

9. The Publicity Chair shall be responsible for publicizing the Association and its activities in the local media.

10. The Newsletter Chair shall be responsible for preparing and circulating to all members, by mail and email, a monthly publication concerning the activities of the Association, including a summary of the minutes of the previous monthly meeting of the Association.

11. The Fundraising Chair shall be responsible for soliciting donations and contributions to the Association from individuals and businesses in the community to be used in accordance with Article IV.

10. The Social Chair shall be responsible for organizing at least one annual social event for Association members and their guests.

**ARTICLE VII
MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERSHIP**

1. A monthly meeting of the members of the Association shall be held on the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Trustee's Room of the Bath Township Administration Building, or at such other time and/or place as the membership shall determine by the majority vote of all members attending the monthly meeting where such determination is sought.

2. An annual meeting of the members of the Association shall be held on the first Tuesday of the month of January at 5:30 p.m. in the Trustee's Room of the Bath Township Administration Building, or at such other time and/or place as the membership shall determine by the majority vote of all members attending the monthly meeting where such determination is sought. At the annual meeting, a report of the past year's activities and of projects for the future shall be made by the President and such other Officers as the President may invite to report, an annual financial report shall be made by the Treasurer, and Officers shall be elected in accordance with Article VI.

**ARTICLE VIII
AMENDMENTS**

These Articles may be amended in a writing signed by two-thirds of all of the members.

These Articles may be executed in counterparts and shall become binding and effective when they have been duly accepted and signed by two-thirds of the members of the Association.

I hereby accept these Articles.

Signature _____ Date _____

Print Signature: _____

Full Name of Member: _____