

Friends of the Mustangs Bylaws

Article I

Name and Purpose

1.01 Name

The name of the organization shall be Friends of the Mustangs, a non-profit organization, hereinafter referred to as "FOM". The mission of FOM is to promote the welfare and awareness of mustangs in particular and to assist the Bureau of Land Management in the maintenance and protection of mustangs, including the Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Herd and Range.

1.02 Purpose

FOM shall provide educational opportunities to promote awareness of mustangs via participation in community events including fairs, horse shows, expos, parades, farmers markets, open houses, training and demonstration clinics as well as providing, upon request, audio/visual presentations and discussion formats for civic groups, churches, schools, museums and other organized groups.

FOM shall also provide support for the Bureau of Land Management, primarily the Grand Junction Field Office, in the form of financial support, goods, and volunteers. FOM volunteers will coordinate their efforts with the BLM for the benefit of the BLM Range Management Plan for the Little Book Cliffs Range and Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Herd.

Article II

Membership

2.01 Eligibility

Any individual, who will have the best interest of the mission of FOM and the horses, and pays dues, shall be eligible for membership in FOM.

2.02 Eligibility for Gatherers

To participate in a BLM gather, a member must have a current paid family or individual FOM membership for at least one ~~year~~ **month** prior. ~~Member must ask the board of directors for approval at least six months before the gather date and be willing to undergo a training session regarding gather procedures.~~ **All members who wish to participate in the gather must complete a training session regarding gather procedures.**

2.03 Classification

The following is a list of the membership classifications:

- A. Individual **Membership: Must be 18 years old.**
- B. Family **Membership: 1 or 2 adults, 18 years or older, who reside at the same address along with their children.**
- C. ~~Honorary (at the discretion of the board of directors)~~ **Membership: Conferred as an honor by election of majority vote of club members present at a monthly meeting. An honorary member will receive the newsletter, have a vote and does not pay dues.**
- D. ~~Life membership~~ **Junior Membership: Any person under 18 years old, with written consent from a parent or guardian who has signed a volunteer form with BLM is qualified to be a Junior member. They must be under direct supervision of a specified adult and are allowed to vote on horse names. *Lifetime Membership deleted, and Junior Membership put in its position.***

2.04 Non-discrimination

No person shall be excluded from membership in FOM due to race, color, creed, gender, national or ethnic origin, or physical or mental disability.

2.05 Number of Members and Transfer of Membership

The number of members shall not be limited. Membership is non-transferable.

2.06 Dues

Membership dues are payable January 1st of each year. Membership will be canceled for any member who fails to pay dues by March meeting of that year. The amount of annual membership dues may be changed by ~~the board of directors upon~~ approval of a majority of the members present at the annual meeting.

2.07 Suspension or Expulsion

~~The board of directors may, upon the affirmative vote of four of its members, recommend suspending or expelling any member who fails to observe any policies or Bylaws, or whose conduct is contrary to the interests of FOM. Said person will receive written notice not less than 20 days after the board of directors and members vote on the recommendation and said person will have an opportunity to be heard by the board of directors. The board of directors shall make a recommendation to the general membership to suspend or expel a member. The general membership must approve the suspension or expulsion by a majority vote of the members present at any regular meeting. No monies paid by this member shall be refundable should that member be suspended or expelled.~~

Officers shall hear any grievances brought against a member who fails to follow the bylaws, policies or who conduct is contrary to the interests of FOM. The officers will decide if the grievance has merit. If so the offending member shall be notified and have an opportunity to address the grievance with the officers at a special meeting. If after this initial meeting the officers decide that further action is warranted, then a special meeting (Section 4.04) shall be called for club members only that shall meet

within 10 days of notice. A vote for or against suspension or expulsion shall be taken at that meeting. Minutes for all meetings shall be accurately taken and kept on file.

Article III

Voting

3.01 Eligibility and Number of Votes

~~All members present and in good standing are entitled to vote. All general FOM business will be voted on by members in attendance at regular meetings and can be done by show of hands or secret ballot upon request. Individual members are entitled to one vote. Family memberships are entitled to one vote for each member over the age of 16 years. Junior members 15 and under may vote only on the names of the mustangs. An Honorary membership has no voting privileges. Members may choose to abstain from voting in the election of officers or changes to bylaws.~~

All members aged 18 years or older, in good standing are entitled to vote. All general FOM business will be voted on by members that are in attendance at the monthly meeting when the vote takes place.

Individual members are entitled to one vote per member.

Family members are entitled to one vote per adult, maximum of 2 votes per household.

All members, including junior members under 18 years old, are entitled to vote on horse names.

3.02 Election of ~~Board of Directors~~ Officers

~~Nominations for positions on the board of directors~~ officers, as defined by Article 7 of these bylaws, will take place at the October meeting each year. An election committee will be formed from volunteers who are not running for an office and will be responsible for mailing ballots with nominated candidates to all members in November. ~~Written ballots will be provided to all members in November.~~ Members will submit their ballots prior to the December meeting, and votes will be counted by at least 3 members.

3.03 Requirement for Election of Officers and Bylaw Changes

A quorum of 10% of all members entitled to vote is required for the election of officers and amendments to the bylaws.

Article IV

Meetings

4.01 Regular Meetings

Meetings will be held on the 2nd Thursday of every month. Date, time, and location will be published on the FOM website and newsletter.

4.02 Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting shall be held in January. New ~~board of directors~~ **officers** will assume their duties at the **start of the** January meeting.

~~4.03-Quorum~~ **Deleted, edited and moved to 3.03 above.**

~~The presence at the meeting of members entitled to vote (current on dues), shall constitute a quorum for proposed changes or additions to regular FOM business. A quorum of 10% of members entitled to vote, is required for the election of board of directors and amendments to the Bylaws.~~

4.04 Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the president or by the **officers if an urgent need arises between regular monthly meetings**. ~~Notice of such meetings shall be given no less than 10 days nor more than 30 days prior to the date of the meeting.~~ **Notice of Special Meetings shall be given no more than 10 days prior to the meeting date. Minutes shall be kept of all meetings and these are open to all members.**

Article V

Parliamentary Procedure

Roberts Rules of Order, current edition, shall govern the proceedings of this organization, at the discretion of the president, and when not in conflict with these Bylaws or Articles of Organization.

Article VI

Financial

6.01 Fiscal Year

The fiscal year shall be January 1st through December 31st.

6.02 Financial Record Reviews

Internal reviews of the financial records shall take place every three (3) years. A financial review committee shall be made up of volunteers ~~or appointed by the board of directors~~. The financial review committee shall present a written report to the ~~board of directors and~~ general membership at the next regular membership meeting following the conclusion of the review. External reviews of the financial records may be ~~scheduled at the discretion of the board of directors~~, requested from the floor at a regular monthly meeting and scheduled if approved by a majority of members present.

6.03 Expenditures

All expenditures over \$200.00 must be approved by a majority vote of members present at a regular monthly meeting.

Article VII

Officers

7.01 ~~Board of Directors~~ The Board of Directors shall be referred to as the Officers within these Bylaws.

The ~~board of directors~~ **officers** shall be comprised of the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, and two members at large that volunteer for this position. If more than two members at large volunteer, the club will choose two by a majority vote. The board of directors may designate additional officer positions of the FOM and may appoint and assign duties to other non-director officers of the organization.

Members at large office deleted.

7.02 Eligibility, Term, and Vacancy

Officers shall be elected for a term of one year. Only members 18 years of age or older and in good standing will be considered for office. Any member nominated for president must be a member for a period of one year prior to being nominated and must possess a good understanding of the background and history of the FOM organization, along with the club's desire to have a balance between the caring of **for** the mustangs, the range land and promoting the mustangs. Vacancies ~~in the board of directors~~ **of an office** due to resignation, death or removal shall be filled ~~by the board~~ for the balance of the term of the ~~director~~ **officer** being replaced **by a member who shall be selected and voted on by members present at the next regular monthly meeting.**

7.03 President

~~The president shall be the chief executive officer of FOM and shall lead the board of directors in performing its duties and responsibilities.~~ The president shall have the general powers and duties of management usually vested in the office of president, including presiding at all meetings of the members. The president shall also serve as an authorized signor of bank accounts and legal documents.

7.04 Vice-President

In the absence or disability of the board president, the vice-president shall perform the duties of the ~~board~~ president. When so acting the vice-president shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the ~~board~~ president. ~~The vice-president shall have such other powers and perform such other duties prescribed for them by the board of directors or the board president.~~ The vice-president has the authority to sign legal documents ~~as requested by the president~~ **in lieu of the president as needed if he is in acting in the position of president.**

7.05 Secretary

The secretary will keep, ~~or cause to be kept,~~ **and archive** accurate minutes of all **business** meetings of the membership and the ~~board of directors~~ **officers**. The secretary will be responsible for giving notice of all meetings of the membership and the board of directors and shall have such powers and perform such duties as may be assigned by the president. The secretary has the authority to sign legal documents as requested by the president. **The secretary shall keep a copy of the reports from the treasurer and archive them for future reference as needed.**

7.06 Treasurer

The treasurer, ~~subject to the order of the board of directors,~~ shall have the care and custody of the money, funds, ~~valuable papers and~~ **all items with monetary value**, ~~documents of FOM as well as a~~ **current record of all hard assets**. The treasurer shall keep accurate accounts of all FOM transactions, which shall be the property of FOM, and shall ~~tender financial reports and statements of condition when so requested by the board of directors or the president.~~ The treasurer will perform all duties commonly vested in the office of treasurer and such other duties as may, from time to time, be assigned by the president. **tender financial reports and statements of all transactions at each regular monthly meeting.** The treasurer shall deposit all funds in a timely manner. The treasurer shall also serve as the primary signor of bank accounts and is authorized to sign legal documents as requested by the president.

7.08 Removal of an Officer

Any officer may be removed from office by a majority vote of the members by ballot whenever in its collective judgment, the best interest of FOM will be served. ~~In the event of a vacancy, the board will appoint a member to fill the position until the next annual meeting of members.~~ **The vacancy shall be filled by nomination and vote of the club members present at the meeting.**

7.09 Compensation of Officers

All officers of FOM shall be volunteer, non-compensated positions chosen from and elected by the general membership. If at any time FOM enters into a transaction or arrangement with an individual officer, the Conflict of Interest Policy will apply.

7.10 Liability

The officers and agents of FOM shall not be personally liable for the debts, liabilities, or other obligations of the organization.

7.11 Indemnification

The officers and agents of the organization shall be indemnified by the organization to the fullest extent permissible under the laws of the State of Colorado.

Article VIII Ancillary Offices

~~7.07~~ **8.01** Historian ~~(non-director officer)~~

The historian shall keep a scrapbook of all functions and activities of FOM. The historian is responsible for obtaining articles and clippings which pertain to FOM, along with any pictures or other items of interest, to be kept in chronological order and with identifying captions.

8.02 Events Co-Ordinator**8.03 Range Activities Co-Ordinator**

Members at large positions are removed.

Article ~~VIII~~ IX Fundraising

FOM shall engage in fundraising activities for the purpose of supporting its mission. Recommendations for **these** activities may be presented ~~in writing, by members, to the board of directors~~ at any regular meeting. ~~After review by the board of directors, the~~ **Approval** of the fundraising activity will require a majority vote of the members present at that meeting. ~~A fundraising committee will be formed at the time of approval; they will work closely with the treasurer for oversight of the fundraising activity and will report to the board of directors on a monthly basis.~~ **All active fundraising activities shall be overseen by the officers and reported to the membership at the regular monthly meetings, including written documentation of all income and expenditures.**

~~8.01~~ **9.01** Fundraising Activities

FOM may choose to undertake fundraising in the forms of mail, email, phone or personal solicitations, foundation or grant solicitations, accept donations on the FOM website, donations from other organizations' websites, sale of FOM merchandise, silent auctions, or other activities. ~~as deemed prudent by the board of directors.~~ All fundraising activities must also follow the guidelines set forth by Colorado state laws pertaining to fundraising activities **and shall not be in conflict with the purpose of FOM as stated in these bylaws.**

~~8.02~~ — Fundraising Committee

~~A fundraising committee will be established to monitor specific fundraising activities and research Colorado laws pertaining to them. Committee members can be either volunteer, elected or appointed as deemed appropriate by the board of directors. The treasurer will be included as a member of any fundraising committee.~~

Article ~~IX~~ **X**

Dissolution

The organization (FOM) may be dissolved by a majority vote of the members present at a meeting called for that purpose. Upon dissolution of the organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the county in which the principle office of the organization 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. It is the intention of FOM, upon dissolution, to donate all assets to one or more organizations, that meet the 501(c)(3) criteria, with a similar interest in promoting the welfare of mustangs, as decided on by a majority vote of the members present at the meeting called for this purpose.