Doc # 2023052360, OR BK 20614 Page 1705, Number Pages: 6, Recorded 03/16/2023 02:27 PM, JODY PHILLIPS CLERK CIRCUIT COURT DUVAL COUNTY RECORDING \$52.50

# BYLAWS

of

Belmont Lakes Homeowners Association, INC.

### ARTICLE I

#### NAME AND LOCATION

The name of the corporation is BELMONT LAKES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., a Florida not-for-profit corporation, hereafter referred to as the "Association." The principal office of the Association shall be located at 1941 Mayport Road, Atlantic Beach, FL 32233, but may be changed from time to time. Meetings of Members and Directors may be held at such places within the State of Florida, County of Duval, as may be designated by the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE II**

#### **DEFINITIONS**

- <u>Section 1.</u> "Association" shall mean and refer to the BELMONT LAKES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., a Florida not-for-profit corporation, its successors and assigns.
- <u>Section 2.</u> "Property" shall mean and refer to that certain real property described in the Declaration, and such additions thereto as may hereafter be brought with the jurisdiction of the Association.
- Section 3. "Owner" shall mean and refer to the record owner, whether one or more persons or entities of the fee simple title to any Lot in Belmont Lakes, but excluding those having such interest merely as security for the performance of an obligation.
- Section 4. "Declaration" shall mean and refer to the Revitalized Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions applicable to the Property recorded in the Public Records of Orange County, Florida.
- Section 5. "Member" shall mean and refer to those persons entitled to membership as provided in the Declaration.
- Section 6. "Belmont Lakes" shall mean and refer to all of the real property which is described in the Plat of Belmont Lake, recorded in Plat Book 54, Page 11, Public Records of Duval County, Florida.

# ARTICLE III

#### MEETING OF MEMBERS

- <u>Section 1.</u> <u>Annual Meetings.</u> The annual meeting of the Members shall be held the last week of October, at a time to be designated by the president of the Association.
- <u>Section 2.</u> <u>Special Meetings.</u> Special meetings of the Members may be called at any time by the president or by the Board of Directors, or upon written request of the Members who are entitled to vote one-fourth (1/4) of all of the votes of the membership.
- Section 3. Notice of Meetings. Written notice of each meeting of the Members shall be given by, or at the direction of, the secretary or person authorized to call the meeting, by mailing a copy of such notice, postage prepaid, or electronically transmitted, at least fourteen (14) days before such meeting to each Member entitled to vote thereat, addressed to the Member's address of record last appearing on the books of the Association, or supplied by such Member to the Association for the purpose of notice. Such notice

shall specify the place, day and hour of the meeting, and, in the case of a special meeting, the purpose of the meeting.

Section 4. Quorum. The presence at the meeting of Members entitled to cast, or of proxies entitled to cast, thirty percent (30%) of the votes of the Members shall constitute a quorum for any action except as otherwise provided in the Articles of Incorporation, the Declaration, or these By-Laws. If, however, such quorum shall not be present or represented at any meeting, the Members entitled to vote thereat shall have power to adjourn the meeting from time to time, without notice other than announcement at the Meeting, until a quorum as aforesaid shall be present or be represented.

<u>Section 5.</u> <u>Proxies.</u> At all meetings of Members, each Member may vote in person or by proxy. All proxies shall be in writing and filed with the secretary. Every proxy shall be revocable and shall automatically cease upon conveyance by the Member of the Lot.

#### ARTICLE IV

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS: SELECTION: TERM OF OFFICE

Section 1. Number. The affairs of this Association shall be managed by a Board of three (3) directors, who shall be Members of the Association.

Section 2. Term of Office. The term of the directors shall be one (1) year.

<u>Section 3.</u> Removal. Any director may be removed from the Board, with or without cause, by a majority vote of the Members of the Association. In the event of death, resignation or removal of a director, the director's successor shall be selected by the remaining members of the Board and shall serve for the unexpired term of the director's predecessor.

<u>Section 4.</u> <u>Compensation.</u> No director shall receive compensation for any service he may render to the Association. However, any director may be reimbursed for his actual expenses incurred in the performance of his duties.

<u>Section 5.</u> Action Taken Without a Meeting. The directors shall have the right to take any action in the absence of a meeting which they could take at a meeting by obtaining the written approval of all the directors. Any action so approved shall have the same effect as though taken at a meeting of the directors.

#### <u>ARTICLE V</u>

## NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Nomination. Nomination for election to the Board of Directors shall be made by a Nominating Committee. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the annual meeting. The Nominating Committee shall consist of a Chairman, who shall be a member of the Board of Directors, and two or more Members of the Association. The Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors prior to each annual meeting of the Members, to serve from the close of such annual meeting until the close of the next annual meeting and such appointment shall be announced at each annual meeting. The Nominating Committee shall make as many nominations for election to the Board of Directors as it shall in its discretion determine, but not less than the number of vacancies that are to be filled. Such nominations may be made from among Members or non-members.

<u>Section 2.</u> <u>Election.</u> Election to the Board of Directors shall be by secret written ballot. At such election, the Members or their proxies may cast, in respect to each vacancy, as many votes as they are entitled to exercise under the provisions of the Declaration. The persons receiving the largest number of votes shall be elected. Cumulative voting is not permitted.

#### ARTICLE VI

#### MEETINGS OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Regular Meetings. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors may be held with fortyeight (48) hours' notice, at such place and hour as may be fixed from time to time by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held when called by the president of the Association, or by any two directors, after not less than three (3) days' notice to each director.

Section 3. Quorum. A majority of the number of directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Every act or decisions done or made by a majority of the directors present at a duly held meeting at which a quorum is present shall be regarded as the act of the Board.

#### ARTICLE VII

# POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

# Section 1. Powers. The Board of Directors shall have power to:

- a. adopt and publish rules and regulations governing the maintenance of properties, and the personal conduct of the Members and their guests thereon, and to establish penalties for the infraction thereof;
- b. suspend the voting rights of a Member during any period in which such Member shall be in default in the payment of any Assessment levied by the Association which is more than ninety (90) days' delinquent;
- c. exercise for the Association all powers, duties and authority vested in or delegated to this Association and not reserved to the membership by other provisions of these By-Laws, the Articles of Incorporation, or the Declaration;
- d. declare the office of a member of the Board of Directors to be vacant in the event such member shall be absent from three (3) consecutive regular meetings of the Board of Directors:
- e. employ a manager, an independent contractor, or such other employees as they deem necessary, and to prescribe their duties; and
- f. make decisions by unanimous consent carrying the full weight and effect of a vote at a dully notice board meeting.

# Section 2. Duties. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to:

- a. cause to be kept a complete record of all its acts and corporate affairs and to present a statement thereof to the Members at the annual meeting of the Members, or at any special meeting when such statement is requested in writing by at least one-fourth (1/4) of the Members who are entitled to vote;
- b. supervise all officers, agents and employees of this Association, and to see that their duties are properly performed;
- c. as more fully provided in the Declaration, to:
  - 1) fix the amount of the annual assessment against each Lot at least thirty (30) days in advance of each annual assessment period;

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- 2) send written notice of each assessment to every Owner subject thereto at least thirty (30) days in advance of each annual assessment period; and
- 3) foreclose the lien against any Lot for which assessments are not paid, or to bring an action at law against the Owner personally obligated to pay the same, within forty-five (45) days after the Owner has been provided notice, pursuant to Section 720.3085, Florida Statutes, of the Association's intent to foreclose and collect the unpaid amount
- d. Issue, or to cause an appropriate officer to issue, upon demand by any person, a certificate setting forth whether or not any assessment has been paid. A reasonable charge may be made by the Board for the issuance of these certificates. If a certificate states an assessment has been paid, such certificate shall be conclusive evidence of such payment;
- e. cause all officers or employees having fiscal responsibilities to be bonded, as it may deem appropriate.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

## OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

<u>Section 1.</u> Enumeration of Offices. The officers of this Association shall be a president, treasurer, and secretary, who shall at all times be members of the Board of Directors, a vice president, and such other officers as the Board may from time to time by resolution create.

<u>Section 2.</u> Election of Officers. The election of officers shall take place at the first meeting of the Board of Directors following each annual meeting of the Members.

<u>Section 3.</u> Term. The officers of this Association shall be elected annually by the Board and each shall hold office for one (1) year unless he shall sooner resign, or shall be removed, or otherwise disqualified to serve.

Section 4. Special Appointments. The Board may elect such other officers as the affairs of the Association may require, each of whom shall hold office for such period, have such authority, and perform such duties as the Board may, from time to time determine.

<u>Section 5.</u> Resignation and Removal. Any officer may be removed from office with or without cause by the Board. Any officer may resign at any time giving written notice to the Board, the president or the secretary. Such resignation shall take effect on the date of receipt of such notice or at any later time specified therein, and unless otherwise specified therein, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

<u>Section 6.</u> Vacancies. A vacancy in any office may be filled by appointment by the Board. The officer appointed to such vacancy shall serve for the remainder of the term of the officer he replaces.

<u>Section 7.</u> Multiple Offices. The offices of secretary and treasurer may be held by the same person. No person shall simultaneously hold more than one of any of the other offices except in the case of special offices created pursuant to Section 4 of this Article.

Section 8. Duties. The duties of the officers are as follows:

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#### President

The president shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors; shall see that orders and resolutions of the Board are carried out; shall sign all leases, mortgages, deeds and other written instruments and shall co-sign all checks and promissory notes.

## Vice-President

The vice-president shall act in the place and stead of the president in the event of his absence, inability or refusal to act, and shall exercise and discharge such other duties as may be required of him by the Board.

### Secretary

The secretary shall record the votes and keep the minutes of all meetings and proceedings of the Board and of the Members; keep the corporate seal of the Association and affix it on all papers requiring said seal; serve notice of meetings of the Board and of the Members; keep appropriate current records showing the Members of the Association together with their addresses and shall perform such other duties as required by the Board.

#### **Treasurer**

The treasurer shall receive and deposit in appropriate bank accounts all monies of the Association and shall disburse such funds as directed by resolution of the Board of Directors; shall sign all checks and promissory notes of the Association; keep proper books of account; cause an annual audit of the Association books to be made by a public accountant at the completion of each fiscal year and shall prepare an annual budget and a statement of income and expenditures to be presented to the membership at its regular annual meeting, and deliver a copy of each to the Members.

## ARTICLE IX

#### **COMMITTEES**

The Association may appoint an Architectural Control Committee, as provided in the Declaration, and a Nominating Committee, as provided in these By-Laws. In addition, the Board of Directors may appoint other committees as deemed appropriate in carrying out its purpose.

## ARTICLE X

## **BOOKS AND RECORDS**

The books, records and papers of the Association shall at all times, during reasonable business hours, be subject to inspection by any Member. The Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws of the Association shall be available for inspection by any Member at the principal office of the Association, where copies may be purchased at a reasonable cost.

## <u>ARTICLE XI</u>

#### **ASSESSMENTS**

As more fully provided in the Declaration, each Member is obligated to pay to the Association annual and special assessments which are secured by a continuing lien upon the Lot against which the Assessment is made. Any assessments which are not paid when due shall be delinquent. If the assessment is not paid within fifteen (15) days after the due date, the assessment shall be subject to a late fee and shall

bear interest at a rate of eighteen percent (18%) per annum and the Association may bring an action at law against the Owner personally obligated to pay the same or foreclose the lien against the Lot, and interest, costs, and reasonable attorney's fees of any such action shall be added to the amount of such assessment. No Owner may waive or otherwise escape liability for the assessments provided for herein by nonuse or abandonment of Owner's Lot.

## **ARTICLE XII**

### **CORPORATE SEAL**

The Association may have a seal in circular form having within its circumference the words: BELMONT LAKES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

## **ARTICLE XIII**

## **AMENDMENTS**

These Bylaws may be amended, at a regular or special meeting of the Members, by a vote of a majority of a quorum of Members present in person or by proxy.

## <u>ARTICLE XI</u>V

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

The fiscal year of the Association shall begin on the first day of January and end on the 31st day of December of every year.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we, being all of the directors of the BELMONT LAKES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., have hereunto set our hands this 29th day of October, 2022.

Title: President

Patricia Smith Print Name: Patricia Smith

Title: Secretary/Treasurer

ELIZABETH CRAWFORD Notary Public - State of Florida Commission # GG 366123 My Comm. Expires Aug 14, 2023 Bonded through National Notary Assn.