

Hamilton Public Library, Inc.

By-Laws

Article I

The Name of this body is the Hamilton Public Library, Inc.

Article II

The purpose of this corporation is to establish, maintain and operate library facilities in Hamilton, Texas for the use of the citizens of the city and county of Hamilton. The aims of the library are as follows:

- A. To assemble, preserve, and administer, in organized collections, books, and related educational and recreational material to promote, through guidance, stimulation and communication of ideas, an enlightened citizenship and enriched personal lives;
- B. To serve the community as a center for reliable information;
- C. To provide a place where inquiring minds may encounter the stimulus of good reading to encourage free competition in ideas in accord with the traditional American heritage;
- D. To support educational, civic, and cultural activities of groups and organizations;
- E. To provide opportunities and encouragement for children, young people, and adults to educate themselves continually;
- F. To seek continually to identify community needs, to provide programs of service to meet such needs, and to cooperate with other organizations, agencies and institutions which can provide programs or services to meet community needs;
- G. To provide opportunities for recreation through the use of literature, music, films, tapes, and other art forms;
- H. To evaluate and anticipate the changing needs and demands of the community and to maintain a fresh and topical supply of material pertinent to problems and interests known to exist in the community.

Article III

The Hamilton Public Library, Inc. is a non-profit organization sponsored by the City of Hamilton and Hamilton County, Texas. The library is governed by a board of directors.

- A. The Board of Directors shall be composed of five voting members and three non-voting members. The three non-voting members shall be comprised as follows: one member shall be a representative from the City of Hamilton, appointed annually by the City Council; one member shall be a representative from Hamilton County, appointed annually by the Commissioners Court; and one member shall be appointed annually from the membership of the Friends of the Library.
- B. The five voting members of the Board shall be established with staggered terms, each member serving a three-year term, and members shall be elected each year. Directors shall be eligible for re-election at the end of their terms.
- C. There shall be a President of the Board, a Vice-President, and a Secretary to be elected by the Board Members for terms of one year.
- D. In the event a vacancy occurs in an elected position on the Board of Directors, the Board shall elect a replacement to fulfill the remaining portion of the term.
- E. The Board of Directors shall meet every other month as follows: January, March, May, July, September, and November, unless otherwise agreed to by a majority of the Board.
- F. The President may call special meetings upon reasonable notification to each Voting Board member and Non-Voting Representatives may be included in Special Called meetings if the President deems it necessary.
- G. All Board of Directors are expected to conduct themselves professionally in all aspects as Library Board members. It is the policy that all members will not disclose confidential information belonging to, or obtained through their affiliation with, Hamilton Public Library. Board members are reminded that confidential financial, personnel, and other matters concerning the organization, donors, staff, or patrons/consumers may be included in board materials or discussed from time to time. Each member is expected to demonstrate professionalism, good judgment, and care in handling any information related to Hamilton Public Library to avoid unauthorized or improper disclosures of information. While board and committee members are expected and encouraged to discuss the organization with one another, they shall not report opinions expressed in meetings, nor shall they report independently on committee action. Board members are expected to represent the organization in a positive and supportive manner. All Board and representative members are expected to have a Hamilton Public Library card and be a library patron in good standing. If a majority of the voting board members determine that a member has an agenda that is not in support of the library board and the library's policies, the member will be placed on notice and further action may be initiated.

Article IV

The President of the Board of Directors shall appoint committees.

Article V

The selection of library books and materials shall adhere to the policies developed and approved by the Board of Directors, which shall be reviewed periodically.

Article VI

The duties of the Board shall be as follows:

- A. Recruit and employ a library director; and approve such other staff as appropriate.
- B. Determine and interpret library objectives;
- C. Secure adequate funds for the operation of the library;
- D. Establish policies governing the library program and operation of the library, acting upon the recommendations of the library director;
- E. Approve the budget and expenditures of the library funds;
- F. Establish a program of public relations;
- G. Support library director in obtaining adequate personnel for proper functioning of the library.

Article VII

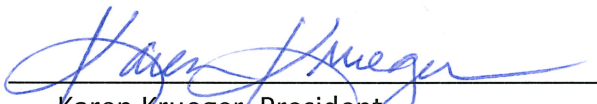
All requests to hold promotional events at the library must have board approval.


Article VIII

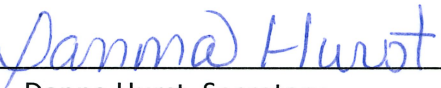
The By-Laws can be amended by the following procedure: a copy of suggested amendment(s) shall be submitted in writing to members of the Board of Directors no less than seven days before a regular or called meeting of the Board. Amendments shall require a simple majority vote of the entire Board membership.

Adopted this 12th day of April, 2023

Hamilton Public Library, Inc.

By: 
Karen Krueger, President

By: 
Chad Reinert, Vice-President

By: 
Danna Hurst, Secretary