

CONSTITUTION OF THE MONTGOMERY GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.

ARTICLE I

Name

Montgomery Gem & Mineral, Society, Incorporated, referred to hereafter as the Society.

ARTICLE II

Objectives

1. To cooperate with educational and scientific institutions or other groups engaged in increasing the knowledge and popular interest in Geology, Mineralogy, Lapidary Arts, and related subjects.
2. To foster the cultural aspects of, and the comradeship engendered by the study of subjects listed in Objectives Section 1.
3. To cooperate or affiliate with similar clubs and societies.
4. To provide means and makes arrangements for the exhibition of collections at expositions, fairs, and other public gatherings.
5. All of the assets, property, and funds of the Society shall be devoted to the furtherance of the primary objectives and purposes of the Society. Its works, purposes, and objectives are primarily educational, recreational, and social; and are solely in the interests of the advancement of its members, and of the public along scientific and educational lines.

ARTICLE III

The Society shall be non-political, non-profit, and non-discriminatory as to sex, race, color, religion, creed, or national origin.

ARTICLE IV

A. Membership in the Society shall be as follows:

1. Single: Persons 18 years old and above.
2. Family: A family membership may consist of family members including a father, mother, and any minor children. A family membership may also include adult children living in the same household as the family holding the membership.
3. Honorary: Persons suggested to the Society may be elected to honorary membership as follows: the suggestion is referred to a committee appointed by the President; the committee shall report its findings to the Executive Board, if approved by the Executive Board, the proposed honorary membership may be submitted to the Society and will be granted upon the

vote of two thirds of the membership present at a general membership meeting. This honor is available to only one person per year. Honorary memberships shall have all the privileges and powers of this constitution and by-laws.

B.

1. Membership must be requested on a written application in a form to be prescribed by the board, signed by a member in good standing as sponsor, and accompanied by the prescribed dues for the first year.
2. The request for membership is given to the treasurer who will submit the applications to the Executive Board for approval; upon approval of the board the applications is presented to the membership at the general membership meeting where a two thirds vote will elect the applicant to membership. All applications shall be presented individually for action by the board for membership.

C.

1. The dues shall be set by the membership each year at the regular business meeting in the month of November for the next year and shall include an assessment for the Federation dues.
2. The dues will be prorated semi-annually if application is made and applicant is accepted after the first half of the Society year.
3. To remain in good standing a member must pay his dues no later than the second meeting of each year, if payment of dues is not made by the second month of the Society year, the member is automatically suspended from membership and the Society notified of this fact.

D. All members shall be urged to display each year examples of their current lapidary work or recent additions to their collections.

E. Termination of membership may be made at the member's request, by resignation, or at the Society's request for activities detrimental to the Society's interests. No person shall continue as a member of the Society whose dues are not current. Except for non-payment of dues, where termination is automatic, a member whose termination is being considered at the request of the Society shall have a hearing, if he/she so desires, before the executive board. Termination shall not become final until concurred in by two thirds of those present at a regular business meeting.

ARTICLE V

All regular members over sixteen are entitled to vote, and children under sixteen shall be allowed to vote upon matter which are not controversial. Any member over sixteen, or the chairman may raise the point that an issue is controversial, and the presiding officer's determination of this point shall be final. A member must be present to vote.

ARTICLE VI

The Society shall have the following officers who shall be nominated by a nominating committee supplemented by nominations from the floor and elected by majority vote at the general membership meeting in the month of November, and who shall hold the office for a period of one year commencing with the general membership meeting of January.

1. President – The President shall be the chief official representative of the Society at official functions, preside at meetings of the Executive Board and General Membership, appoint committees or designate committee chairmen, oversee committee activities to expedite society business, provide leadership in accomplishing the objectives of the Society, and perform other duties set forth in the by-laws.
2. First Vice President – The First Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in the absence or incapacity of the same and shall work closely with the President as the President shall direct. That person shall be the Chairman of the Program Committee.
3. Second Vice President – The Second Vice President shall perform the duties of the First Vice President in the absence or incapacity of the same and shall work closely with the President as the President shall direct. That person shall be the Chairman of the Field Trip Committee.
4. Secretary – The Secretary is responsible for the archives of the Society, recording and maintaining minutes of meetings and for communications, oral or written, within or without the Society. Assistants may be appointed by the Executive Board at the request of the Secretary.
5. Treasurer – The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection, safekeeping, accounting for, reporting on, and disbursal of all Society funds in strict accordance with the by-laws of the Society and rules adopted by the Executive Board, and such additional duties as may be set forth in the by-laws.
6. Junior Rockhound – The Junior Rockhound shall attend the Executive Board meetings to advise the board of events, projects, field trips, promotions, recruitment involving members age 17 and below. The junior rockhound is entitled to vote upon matters which are not controversial (see section ARTICLE V). The junior rockhound must be present to vote. The junior rockhound is highly encouraged to attend the general membership meetings and shall be given the opportunity to write articles for the Society newsletter on a quarterly basis.
7. Directors – In addition to the five Society officers listed above, the Executive Committee shall comprise of the past Presidents for the two preceding years and two Directors elected from the membership. A Director shall have the duties of keeping in touch with the needs and desire of the membership and making these known at meetings of the Executive Board. They shall perform other such duties as requested by the President or as set forth in the by-laws.

The above listed officers shall constitute the Executive Board which shall be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Society and for the preparations of proposals to present to the general membership.

An office may be held by any member in good standing over 21 years of age. If an office becomes vacant between June and October, inclusive, it shall be filled by the Executive Board, otherwise it shall be filled by a special election following the regular election procedure. The only exception is the position of Junior Rockhound which is held by a member at the age of 17 and younger.

An officer may be impeached for inactivity in his duties or conduct detrimental to his position or to the Society at the written petition of one third of the entire membership or oneself of the entire Executive board. He shall be given a hearing before a quorum of the general membership and if three fourths of those present concur, he shall be removed from office.

ARTICLE VII

The Society shall have a general membership meeting once each month. A special meeting may be called at any time the President deems it necessary and shall be called upon the request by written petition of ten percent of the membership. Meetings shall follow a standard agenda set forth in the by-laws. The place of each meeting shall be announced in advance of the meeting.

A quorum shall be not less than six persons and the presiding officer, or ten percent of the members in good standing, whichever is greater.

ARTICLE VIII

This Constitution may be amended at any regular or special membership meeting by a two thirds vote of those present constituting a quorum provided that written advance notice of the proposed amendment has been furnished to the membership not less than one week in advance of the meeting.

ARTICLE X

This Constitution shall be adopted upon acceptance by two thirds of the membership present at a regular membership meeting.

Amended and Adopted - August 2001

Amended and Adopted - July 2017

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