

BYLAWS OF THE EASTON GARDEN CLUB
(adopted May 10, 2018)

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of this organization shall be Easton Garden Club whose fiscal year is July 1 to June 30.

ARTICLE II

OBJECT

The object of the club shall be to advance and encourage the education of gardening, the study of horticulture, floriculture and landscape architecture and the protection and conservation of natural resources and to promote civic beauty and roadside improvement in the Town of Easton.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

The membership is open to all residents and non-residents of the Town of Easton. The non-resident members shall not exceed 25 % of the total club membership. In keeping with the club's objectives, all members are encouraged to be active to maintain a working club. All members must pay annual dues no later than May 31st for the following year.

There are four membership categories: Active, Senior Active, Inactive and Patron.

The prospective Active Member must attend an initial meeting and submit an application along with the dues payment to the Membership Chairperson. Such application will be presented at the next Board Meeting after which time the Membership Chairperson will welcome the applicant as a new member.

Membership for Senior Active, Patron or Inactive will be reviewed by the Membership Chairperson and if determined that it meets with the criteria, the recommendation will go before the Board Meeting for approval. Their status will be converted at the beginning of the club year, which is July 1. No conversion to Senior Active or Patron shall occur during the club Year; however, an Active Member may convert to Inactive status at any time.

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS

Section 1

The officers of this club shall be a President(s), a Vice President(s), a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer and a Corresponding Secretary, which shall comprise the Executive Board.

Section 2

The President shall:

1. Have been an active member of the Executive Board or a committee chairperson.
2. Preside at all meetings of the club and Executive Board.
3. Be a member Ex-Officio of all committees except the Nominating Committee.
4. Appoint special committees, as needed.
5. Fill any vacancy of elected officer and committee chairperson except that of President for the unexpired term, with the approval of the Executive Board.

Section 3

The Vice President(s) shall assist the President(s) in all work of the Easton Garden Club. The Vice President(s) shall head a committee and will schedule all Board Meetings and arrange monthly programs for membership meetings, subject to the approval of the Board. In the absence of the President(s) the Vice President shall perform the duties of that office. In the event of the resignation or removal of the President(s), the Vice President(s) shall become President(s) and hold office until the next annual meeting.

Section 4

The Recording Secretary shall keep a record of each club meeting and Executive Board meeting.

Section 5

The Corresponding Secretary shall have charge of the correspondence of the club.

Section 6

The Treasurer shall collect and hold all funds belonging to the club, including dues and shall deposit said funds in a designated bank. The Treasurer shall pay all bills upon approval of the President(s) and the written submission from the member incurring the bill. The Treasurer shall present a statement of all funds at each meeting of the club. An auditor shall be appointed by the President to audit the Treasurer's books periodically.

Article V

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1

The Executive Board shall consist of all Officers. They shall be empowered to transact any business which needs immediate attention between the regular meetings of the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall be the enforcing body of the bylaws.

Section 2

The Executive Board and Standing Committees shall meet in advance of General Meetings to conduct necessary club business.

ARTICLE VI

STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 1

There shall be standing committees whose Chairperson will be approved at the annual meeting. Committees may be created or dissolved as necessary. Each Chairperson shall keep a record of their year's activity to leave for their succeeding Chairperson. They shall also be responsible to submit the record as an "end of year report" to the President before the annual meeting.

ARTICLE VII

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1

The Nominating Committee shall consist of five (5) members to include the Immediate Past President, the Vice President, the Membership Chairperson and two (2) (active status) members in good standing from the general membership to be chosen by the Chairman. The immediate Past President shall serve as Chairman of the Nominating Committee. The members of this committee shall be chosen in December. The term of the Nominating Committee shall run from January 1 until the annual election is held. The Nominating Committee shall inform the Board the slate of candidates, no later than May 1st, consisting of one candidate for each vacant position. The President or the Nominating Chairperson shall present the slate of candidates to the membership at the annual meeting.

Section 2:

1. The President or the Nominating Chairperson will present the proposed slate of officers and Committee Chairpersons. The membership will be asked if there are any nominations from the floor, and if none, then a motion to accept the proposed slate will be called for with a show of hands for an aye or nay vote by those present.
2. Should there be more than one nominee for any position, the general membership shall vote for one nominee.

Section 3:

No member shall serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same position except by the approval of the Nominating Committee and the vote of the General membership at the annual meeting. The position of Treasurer may serve up to three (3) terms.

ARTICLE VIII

MEETINGS

Section 1

Monthly meetings shall be held on the second Thursday evening from September through June, excluding December. The date(s) of the meetings may be changed at the discretion of the Executive Board.

Section 2

A Conservation meeting shall be held annually.

Section 3

A club member may bring a guest to one meeting, excluding a club subsidized workshop meeting. The same guest may not attend more than one meeting per club year.

Section 4

At any General Meeting or Board Meeting, one third of the active members present shall constitute a quorum.

Section 5

An annual meeting shall be held. At this meeting the annual reports shall be given, elections held, and any business conducted.

ARTICLE IX

PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in "Robert's Rules of Order" "revised" shall govern this club in all cases when they are applicable and when they are not inconsistent with the bylaws.

ARTICLE X

NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Easton Garden Club shall not permit in their conduct of club affairs, any restrictions or limitations whatsoever based on race, color, creed, gender, national origin or employment status.

ARTICLE XI

DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution, all of the remaining assets and property of the organization shall, after payment of necessary expenses, be distributed to such organizations as shall qualify under Section 501C(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding provisions of

any subsequent Federal Tax Laws or to the Federal Government, a State or Local Government for public purpose, subject to the approval of a court or competent jurisdiction within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

ARTICLE XII AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended by two-thirds vote of MEMBERS PRESENT AT ANY General Meeting, provided that the proposed amendment has been read at the previous regular meeting and/or sent to each member eligible to vote at least fourteen (14) days before the meeting.