

Plympton Historical Society
By-Laws
DRAFT- Revised January 21, 2026

ARTICLE I

The undersigned, ~~a majority of whom are citizens of the United States~~, as elected Officers of a nonprofit Corporation under the nonprofit Corporation law of Massachusetts do hereby certify:

- First:** The name of the Corporation shall be Plympton Historical Society.
- Second:** The place in this state where all the principal office of the Corporation is to be located is the town of Plympton, Plymouth County, **Massachusetts**
- Third:** Said Corporation is organized in order to assemble, identify, and preserve material concerning the history of Plympton and such portions of adjacent towns as have been part of Plympton; and in order that items of Interest concerning its landmarks, its people, their occupations and crafts, their dwellings and possessions and the customs and events of their times maybe perpetuated and in an interesting and worthy manner. Also, for literary and educational purposes in connection with the foregoing.

ARTICLE II
Executive Committee Composition

Section 1. Officer and Terms

The officers of the Corporation shall be known as the Executive Committee and shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, a Treasurer, three Directors, and one Curator. Such officers shall hold office for a term of ~~one (1) year~~ **two (2) years** but will continue in office until their successors are elected. No officer will be elected to the same office for more than ~~three (3)~~ **two (2)** consecutive terms.

Section 2. Vacancies

Any vacancy in an office shall be filled by the Executive Committee for the unexpired term of said office.

Section 3. The President

The President shall preside at all meetings and act in an advisory capacity to all other officers. They shall also exercise general supervision of the affairs of the Corporation and will see to it that such affairs are conducted in accordance with the charter of the Corporation and with these Bylaws. They shall be an ex-officio member of all Committees established by the Executive

Committees and have voting privileges in case of a tie. The President shall, at the end of their term of office, present a written report of the club's activities.

Section 4. The Vice President

In the event of a vacancy in the office of President or his/her inability to act for any reason, the powers and duties of this office shall be exercised by the Vice President.

Section 5. The Secretary

The Secretary shall make or cause to be made, a record of all meetings of the Plympton Historical Society and the Executive Committee. The Secretary shall be custodian of all records and papers pertaining to the club, including all correspondence, assist in the efforts of mailings if necessary, and send appropriate cards in time of illness or death. As necessary, the Secretary will confirm programs with speakers and hosts including the arrangements for any necessary equipment.

Section 6. The Treasurer

The Treasurer shall receive and disburse the funds of the Corporation under the direction of the Executive Committee. They shall deposit all funds in the name of the Corporation and all security is in such depository or depositories as the Executive Committee may from time-to-time designate or approve. They shall have custody of all records and documents relating to the property of the Corporation, keep proper books of account which shall be open at all times to inspection by the Executive Committee, and surrender to the Executive Committee and the membership at all scheduled meetings a report of all their activities as Treasurer.

Section 7. The Directors (3)

The Directors shall be responsible for assisting with the responsibilities and duties of the Executive Board as prescribed.

Section 8. The Curator

The Curator shall be designated to be in charge of the Museum exhibits & Archives.

Section 9. Other Duties

All officers of the Corporation shall have other responsibilities and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE III

Executive Committee Responsibilities & Duties

Section 1. Responsibilities

The Executive Committee shall have charge of all the property belonging to the society, shall see that it is properly cared for, so arrange for special meetings at such times as they see fit

and shall, in general have to charge of the Affairs of the Society. Five members (5) of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2. Duties

1. Hold meetings on a regular basis.
2. Oversee the activities and affairs of Society in accordance with its Bylaws and votes.
3. Promote the welfare and carry out the purposes of the society including proper care and management of the property and collections.
4. Develop a yearly budget for the Committee to include estimates on expenses and income needs. The Executive Committee shall have the power to authorize the reasonable expenditure of money pertaining to activities. Extraordinary expenditure of funds requires the vote of the General Membership.
5. Work with town of Plympton on ~~continue~~ maintenance, signage and utilities ~~that to~~ maintain the building and grounds.
6. Oversee the inventory and audit of the artifacts.
7. Develop a yearly calendar of educational events and fundraising.
8. Oversee the procurement of donations, historical artifacts such as photographs and other materials.
9. Develop Educational plans to provide programs and activities to expand the public's knowledge and appreciation for Plympton's history including but not limited to publications, coordination of education events, newsletters and building tours.
10. Develop/maintain a yearly plan for visiting hours within the building.
11. Identify and recruit new board members as needed.
12. Attend meetings and participate in Society hosted events.

Section 3. Committees

In addition to the Executive Committee members, there shall be the following Committee Chairperson positions with responsibilities as described below, to be appointed as needed by the Executive Committee either from their own Board or from the General membership. The Chairpersons may include but are not limited to:

-Membership Chairperson

Coordinates efforts to build and maintain membership and to welcome new members to the club. The Membership Chairperson will maintain current membership records, notify members of upcoming renewals, and keep records of past members.

-Finance Committee Chairperson

Collaborates with the Treasurer to produce a yearly budget and reviews the organization's year end financials.

-Technology/ Website Chairperson

Build and maintain the Society's website, ~~and internet communications systems~~ and social media communication.

ARTICLE IV

Internal Revenue Requirements

~~Section 1.~~

No part of the earnings of the Corporation shall to the benefit of, or be distributed to its members trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the Corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for the services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article 1, third heading thereof. No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall be carrying out of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publication or distribution of statements) any political Campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the Corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried out on (a) by a Corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue law) or (b) buy a Corporation, contributions to which a deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue law).

ARTICLE V

Section 1. General Membership

Membership is open to ~~to~~ all persons interested in joining the society for its stated purposes. Members of the organization shall initiate and maintain their membership status by paying annual dues by the prescribed due date. All members shall have voting rights and each member shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to the membership for a vote so long as their membership dues are paid in full. Each member shall have the right to vote and hold office. The annual dues shall be payable at the Annual Meeting to the Treasurer. Members in arrears for 2 years shall be automatically placed on inactive status, but may be reinstated by paying ~~of the membership fee in arrears and~~ the Annual Membership fee.

Section 2. Membership Classifications

Lifetime: The payment of Five Hundred (\$500) dollars at one time to constitute a life membership and shall exempt that member from all subsequent dues.

Sponsor: The annual payment of One Hundred (\$100) dollars will constitute a Sponsor level membership.

Donor: The annual payment of Fifty (\$50) dollars will constitute a Donor level membership.

Senior: The annual payment of Ten (\$10) Dollars will constitute a Senior level membership

Individual and Senior Family: The annual payment of ~~Fifteen (\$15)~~ Ten (\$10) Dollars will constitute an Individual membership or a senior level membership for two Seniors.

Family: The annual payment of Twenty-Five (\$25) Dollars will constitute a Family level membership and includes two adults and children belonging to that family.

Section 3. Honorary Membership

By recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Corporation may elect by unanimous vote to grant Honorary Membership any person who has rendered distinguished service to the community or to the ~~Corporation~~ Society . Honorary member shall be exempt from all dues and assessments.

Section 4. Memorial Member

On receipt of a contribution in the name of a person deceased, the Secretary shall, with the approval of the Executive Committee, enter that name on the list of Memorial Members.

Section 5. Junior Members

Junior members up to the age of 16 years old shall be accorded free membership with no voting privileges.

ARTICLE VI **Meetings**

Section 1. Annual and Special Meetings

The Members of the Plympton Historical Society shall meet annually on a date to be determined by the Executive Committee. Special meetings of the members shall be held at the direction of the Executive Committee. The business of the Annual Meeting shall include the election of officers, the reports of officers and committees and such other business as may be late before the Plympton Historical Society by the President. All members of the Plympton Historical Society shall be given an opportunity to ~~lay~~ speak before the meeting, under the heading of "Other Business", such matters as they may wish to have considered.

Section 2. Meetings

There shall be a minimum of three (3) meetings each year, the date to be determined by the Executive Committee.

Section 3. Notices

Notices of all meeting shall be given to all members at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

Section 4. Executive Committee Meeting

Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held at the discretion of the President or by the written request of three members of the Executive Committee.

Section 5. Quorums

At any meeting of the members of the Plympton Historical Society Eleven (11) voting members present ~~in person or by written proxy~~ shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business other than the Amendment of the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VII

Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended by an affirmative vote of not less than 2/3 of the total Membership present ~~in person, or by proxy~~, at any meeting of the general membership, provided that notice of any proposed amendments shall have been communicated in writing to all members at least 7 days in advance of such meeting.

Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, the Executive Committee shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the Corporation, dispose of all the assets of the Corporation exclusively for the purpose of the Corporation in such manner, or two such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue law), as the Executive Committee, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations as said Court ~~she'll~~ shall determine, which are organized exclusively for such purposes.

In witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names this 25th day of March, 2026.

Christine Joy, President

Stefani Teran, Vice President

John Traynor , Secretary

Barry DeCristofano, Treasurer

Alan Wheelock, Director

Doug Reese, Director

Mike Slawson, Director

Martha Burns, Curator