

**EXHIBIT "E"**

**BY-LAWS  
OF THE  
WATERCOLOR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.**

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**BY-LAWS  
OF THE  
WATERCOLOR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**Article I: Name, Principal Office, and Definitions**

1.1 Name.

The name of the corporation is the WaterColor Community Association, Inc. ("Association").

1.2. Principal Office.

The Association's principal office shall be located in Walton County, Florida. The Association may have other offices, either within or outside Florida, as the Board of Directors determines or as the Association's affairs require.

1.3. Definitions.

The words used in these By-Laws shall have their normal, commonly understood definitions. Capitalized terms shall have the same meaning as set forth in the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions for WaterColor, as it may be amended ("Declaration"), unless the context indicates otherwise.

**Article II: Membership: Meetings, Quorum, Voting, Proxies**

2.1 Membership.

The Association shall have two classes of membership, Class "A" and Class "B," as more fully set forth in the Declaration. Provisions of the Declaration pertaining to membership are incorporated by this reference. Any reference in these By-Laws to "Neighborhood Representatives" shall be deemed to refer to the Members if the matter in question requires the vote or presence of the Members personally.

2.2. Place of Meetings.

The Association shall hold meetings at its principal office or at such other suitable place convenient to the Members as the Board may designate.

2.3. Annual Meetings.

The Association shall hold its first meeting, whether a regular or special meeting, within one year after the date of the Association's incorporation. The Board shall set the date and time of subsequent regular annual meetings. Annual meetings may be conducted electronically (*i.e.*, *via* the Internet, intranet, or teleconference) if, and to the extent, permitted by law.

2.4. Special Meetings.

The President may call a special meeting of the Association. A special meeting shall also be called if by Board resolution, or upon petition of at least 10% of the Association's total Class "A" votes.

2.5. Notice of Meetings.

The Association's Secretary shall cause written notice stating the place, day, and hour of any Association meeting to be given in any manner permitted by Florida law as amended from time to time. If permitted, notice may be posted in a conspicuous, prominent place within the Community, delivered by hand delivery, or sent by facsimile, electronic mail, or other electronic communication device, or such other manner which is reasonably calculated, as determined in the Board's discretion, to provide personal notice to the Association Members. Notice of a meeting of the Members at which an election of Directors is to take place shall be given at least thirty (30) days before the date of the meeting. Notice for a meeting of the Members at which an election is not to take place shall be given at least fourteen (14) days before the date of the meeting.

In the case of a special meeting or when otherwise required by statute or these By-Laws, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called shall be stated in the notice. No other business shall be transacted at a special meeting except as stated in the notice.

If posted, notice shall be deemed delivered when posted. If mailed, the notice of a meeting shall be deemed delivered when deposited in the United States mail addressed to the Member at his or her address as it appears on the Association's records, with postage prepaid. If sent by facsimile, electronic mail, or such other electronic communication device, notice shall be deemed delivered when transmitted to the Member at his or her address or number as it appears on the Association's records. Failure of any Member to receive actual notice of an Association meeting shall not affect the validity of any action taken at such meeting, unless it is determined the meeting was not properly noticed in its entirety.

2.6. Waiver of Notice.

Waiver of notice of an Association meeting shall be the equivalent of proper notice. Any Member's attendance at a meeting shall be deemed a waiver by such Member of notice of the meeting unless the Member specifically objects to lack of proper notice at the time the meeting is called to order. Attendance at a special meeting also shall be deemed a waiver of notice of all business transacted at the meeting unless an objection on the basis of lack of proper notice is raised before the business is put to a vote.

2.7. Adjournment of Meetings.

If the Association cannot hold a meeting because a quorum is not present, the Board may adjourn the meeting to a time at least fourteen (14) days, but not more than forty-five (45) days from the date called for the original meeting. At the reconvened meeting, if a quorum is present, any business may be transacted which might have been transacted at the meeting originally called. If those in attendance at the original meeting do not fix a time and place for reconvening

the meeting or if for any reason a new date is fixed for reconvening the meeting after adjournment, the Association shall give the Members notice of the time and place for reconvening the meeting in the manner prescribed for regular meetings.

Members present at a duly called or held meeting at which a quorum is present may continue to do business until adjournment, notwithstanding the withdrawal of enough Members to leave less than a quorum, provided that at least a majority of the votes required to constitute a quorum approve any action taken.

#### 2.8. Voting.

Members shall have such voting rights as are set forth in the Declaration, which provisions are incorporated herein by this reference.

Members may vote at a meeting by voice vote or ballot or may vote by mail without the necessity of a meeting, as determined by the Board; provided, the Board shall hold meetings when required by the Declaration, these By-Laws, or Florida law. Votes for the election of directors shall be cast by secret written ballot. All Member votes cast at meetings are subject to the quorum requirements of Section 2.11. The Board may permit votes to be cast electronically (*i.e.*, via the Internet, intranet, or electronic mail) with sufficient verification of authenticity and if permitted by Florida law, as amended from time to time.

#### 2.9. Proxies.

On any matter as to which a Member is entitled personally to cast the vote for his Lot, such vote may be cast in person, by written ballot or proxy, subject to Florida law, as amended from time to time. Voting for the Association Board shall only be by written ballot.

Every proxy shall be in writing specifying the Lot for which it is given, signed by the Member or his duly authorized attorney-in-fact, dated, and filed with the Association's Secretary prior to the meeting for which it is to be effective. Unless otherwise specifically provided in the proxy, the Declaration, By-Laws or Florida law, a proxy shall be presumed to cover all votes which the Member giving such proxy is entitled to cast, and in the event of any conflict between two or more proxies purporting to cover the same voting rights, the later dated proxy shall prevail, or if dated as of the same date, both shall be deemed invalid.

Every proxy shall be revocable and shall automatically cease upon: (a) conveyance of any Lot for which it was given; (b) the Secretary's receipt of written notice of revocation of the proxy or of the death or judicially declared incompetence of a Member who is an individual; or (c) 90 days from the meeting date for which the proxy was originally given, unless the proxy specifies a shorter period.

#### 2.10. Majority.

As used in these By-Laws, the term "majority" shall mean those votes, Owners, or other group as the context may indicate totaling more than 50% of the total eligible number.

### 2.11. Quorum.

Except as these By-Laws or the Declaration otherwise provide, the presence of Members, either personally, by proxy, or through Neighborhood Representatives, representing 25% of the total eligible Class "A" votes in the Association shall constitute a quorum at all Association meetings.

### 2.12. Conduct of Meetings.

The President or other Board designee shall preside over all Association meetings. The Secretary shall ensure that minutes of the meetings are kept and that all resolutions adopted and all other transactions occurring at such meetings are recorded in the Association's minute book. Owners may tape record or videotape Association meetings subject to reasonable rules the Board imposes.

## **Article III: Board of Directors: Selection, Meetings, Powers**

### A. Composition and Selection.

#### 3.1. Governing Body: Composition.

The Board of Directors shall govern the Association's affairs. Each director shall have one vote. Except for Directors appointed by the Class B Member, Directors must be Class "A" Members. A Class "A" Director must be at least 18 years old, not more than thirty (30) days delinquent on any assessment and meet all requirements imposed by Florida law, as amended from time to time. In the case of a Member who is not an individual, any officer, director, partner, or trust officer of such Member shall be eligible to serve as a director unless otherwise specified by written notice to the Association signed by such Member; provided, no more than one such representative of any Member, nor more than one occupant of a particular Lot, may serve on the Board at any one time, except in the case of directors the Class "B" Member appoints.

#### 3.2. Number of Directors.

The Board shall consist of the number of directors provided for in Section 3.5. The initial Board shall consist of the three directors identified in the Articles of Incorporation.

#### 3.3. Directors During Class "B" Control Period.

The Class "B" Member shall have complete discretion in appointing its directors under Section 3.5. Class "B" Member-appointed directors shall serve at the pleasure of the Class "B" Member.

#### 3.4. Nomination and Election Procedures.

(a) Nominations and Declarations of Candidacy. Sixty (60) days prior to any election being held for a Director or Directors of Class "A" Members, the Association shall send

out to all Class "A" Members the Notice of Election, along with a form for every eligible person interested in serving as a Director to file as a candidate. Forty (40) days prior to the election of Directors by Class "A" Members, the filing as a candidate for a Director position shall be closed. A ballot shall be sent out to all Class "A" Members for purposes of casting votes for election of Class "A" Directors at least thirty (30) days prior to the election of Directors. Nominations from the floor, or write in candidates, are prohibited.

Each candidate shall be given an opportunity to provide a candidate information sheet to be sent along with any ballot, as well as reasonable equal opportunity to communicate his/her qualifications to the Members and to solicit votes. Ballots shall be opened and counted at a duly noticed Membership meeting and shall be open for inspection by all interested Members.

(b) Election Procedures. Cumulative voting is not allowed. The number of candidates which equals the number of positions to be filled and receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected.

### 3.5. Election and Term of Office.

Except as these By-Laws or the Declaration may otherwise specifically provide, election of directors shall take place at the Association's annual meeting. Notwithstanding any other provision of these By-Laws:

At the first annual meeting after the termination of the Class "B" Control Period, the Board shall hold an election at which the Class "A" Members shall elect three (3) Directors. In order to establish staggered terms for such directors, two (2) Directors elected with the most votes shall serve two-year terms and one (1) Director elected with the least votes shall serve a one-year term. Thereafter, all Directors shall be elected to a two (2) year term.

For so long as Declarant and its Affiliates (individually or collectively) owns at least five percent of the Lots permitted under the Master Plan for all phases of the development of the Community, the Class "B" Member may appoint one director. Thereafter, the director elected by the Class "B" Member shall resign.

The directors which are not appointed by the Class "B" Member are referred to collectively as "Class "A" Directors."

### 3.6. Removal of Directors and Vacancies.

(a) Any Class "A" Director may be removed, with or without cause, by the vote of Class "A" Members holding a majority of the votes entitled to be cast for the election of such director. Any director whose removal is sought shall be given notice prior to any meeting called for that purpose. Upon removal of a director, a successor shall be elected by the Class "A" Members to fill the vacancy for the remainder of such director's term. Class "A" Directors may not be removed by the Class "B" Member.

Any Class "A" Director who has three consecutive unexcused absences from Board meetings, or who is more than 30 days delinquent (or occupies a Unit for which assessments are

so delinquent) in the payment of any assessment or other charge due the Association, may be removed by a majority vote of the Board, excluding the director at issue. If the director is removed, the Board may appoint a successor to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term.

In the event of the death, disability, or resignation of a director, the Board may declare a vacancy and appoint a successor to fill the vacancy until the next annual meeting, at which time the Class "A" Members shall elect a successor for the remainder of the term.

This Section shall not apply to directors the Class "B" Member appoints nor to any director serving as Declarant's representative. The Class "B" Member or Declarant shall be entitled to appoint a successor to fill any vacancy on the Board resulting from the death, disability, or resignation of a director appointed by or elected as a representative of the Class "B" Member or Declarant.

(b) **Removal of Neighborhood Representatives and Vacancies.** Any Neighborhood Representative may be removed, with or without cause, by the vote of Class "A" Members holding a majority of the votes entitled to be cast for the election of such Neighborhood Representative. Any Neighborhood Representative, whose removal is sought, shall be given notice prior to any meeting called for that purpose. Upon removal of a Neighborhood Representative, a successor shall be elected by the Class "A" Members entitled to elect the Neighborhood Representative so removed to fill the vacancy for the remainder of such Neighborhood Representative's term.

Any Neighborhood Representative who has three (3) consecutive unexcused absences from the Neighborhood Representative meeting, or who is more than thirty (30) days delinquent, may be removed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. If the Neighborhood Representative is removed the Association Board of Directors may appoint a successor to fill the vacancy until the next annual meeting at which time the Class "A" Members entitled to cast a vote for the election of such a Neighborhood Representative, shall elect a successor for the remainder of the term.

In the event of a death, disability or resignation of a Neighborhood Representative, the Association Board of Directors may declare a vacancy and appoint a successor to fill the vacancy until the next Annual Meeting at which time the Class "A" Members entitled to cast a vote for the election of such a Neighborhood Representative shall elect a successor for the remainder of the term.

B. Meetings.

3.7. Organizational Meetings.

The Board shall hold its first meeting following each annual membership meeting within 10 days thereafter at such time and place as the Board shall fix.

3.8. Regular Meetings.

The Board may hold regular meetings at such time and place as the Board shall determine, but the Board shall hold at least four such meetings during each fiscal year with at least one per quarter.

3.9. Special Meetings.

The Board shall hold special meetings when called by written notice signed by the President, Vice President, or any two directors.

3.10. Notice; Waiver of Notice.

(a) Notices of Board meetings shall specify the time and place of the meeting and, in the case of a special meeting, the nature of any special business to be considered. The Board shall give notice to each director by: (i) personal delivery; (ii) first class mail, postage prepaid; (iii) telephone (either directly to the director or to a person at the director's office or home who would reasonably be expected to communicate such notice promptly to the director); or (iv) facsimile, electronic mail, or other electronic communication device, with confirmation of transmission. All such notices shall be given at the director's telephone number, fax number, electronic mail address, or sent to the director's address as shown on the Association's records. Notices sent by first class mail shall be deposited into a United States mailbox at least five business days before the time set for the meeting. Notices given by personal delivery, telephone, or other device shall be delivered or transmitted at least 72 hours before the time set for the meeting.

(b) Except for emergency meetings, notice of a Board meeting shall be posted in a conspicuous place within the Community at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting or provided in any other manner reasonably anticipated to provide notice to all Members, including publication in an Association newsletter with community-wide circulation, posting on a Community cable television channel, or posting on a Community Internet or intranet page. In lieu of notice of each regular Board meeting, the Board may post or publish a schedule of upcoming Board meetings.

(c) Transactions of any Board meeting, however called and noticed or wherever held, shall be as valid as though taken at a meeting duly held after regular call and notice if (i) a quorum is present; and (ii) either before or after the meeting each director not present signs a written waiver of notice, a consent to holding the meeting, or an approval of the minutes. The waiver of notice or consent need not specify the meeting's purpose. Notice of a meeting also shall be deemed given to any director who attends the meeting without protesting before or at its commencement about the lack of adequate notice.

(d) Notice of any meeting at which assessments are to be established shall state that fact and the nature of the assessment.

3.11. Telephonic Participation in Meetings.

Members of the Board or any committee designated by the Board may participate in a Board or committee meeting by means of telephone or other electronic means, through which all

persons participating in the meeting can hear each other. Participation in this manner shall constitute presence at the meeting for all purposes.

3.12. Quorum of Board.

At all Board meetings, a majority of the directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and the votes of a majority of the directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall constitute the Board's decision, unless these By-Laws or the Declaration specifically provide otherwise. A meeting at which a quorum is initially present may continue, notwithstanding the withdrawal of directors, if at least a majority of the required quorum for that meeting approves any action taken. If the Board cannot hold a meeting because a quorum is not present, a majority of the directors present at such meeting may adjourn the meeting to a time not less than five nor more than 30 days from the date of the original meeting. At the reconvened meeting, if a quorum is present, any business which might have been transacted at the meeting originally called may be transacted without further notice.

3.13. Conduct of Meetings.

The President shall preside over all Board meetings, and the Secretary shall keep a minute book of Board meetings, recording all Board resolutions and all transactions and proceedings occurring at such meetings. Owners may tape record or videotape Board meetings subject to reasonable rules the Board imposes. Meetings will be governed by Roberts Rules of Order.

3.14. Open Meetings; Executive Session.

Subject to the provisions of Section 3.15, all Board meetings shall be open to all Neighborhood Representatives and all Owners.

Notwithstanding the above, the President may adjourn any Board meeting and reconvene in executive session, and may exclude persons other than directors, to discuss with the Association's attorney matters relating to pending or threatened litigation which are protected by the attorney-client privileges, or to discuss among the Board any other matter of a sensitive nature, if Florida law permits.

3.15. Action Without a Formal Meeting.

Any action to be taken or which may be taken at a Board meeting may be taken without a meeting if all directors sign a consent in writing, setting forth the action so taken. Such consent shall have the same force and effect as a unanimous vote. Such action must be noticed and ratified at the next Board meeting.

C. Powers and Duties.

3.16. Powers.

The Board shall have all of the powers and duties necessary for administering the Association's affairs and for performing all of the Association's responsibilities and exercising

all of the Association's rights as set forth in the Governing Documents, and as provided by law. The Board may do or cause to be done on the Association's behalf all acts and things except those which the Governing Documents or Florida law require to be done and exercised exclusively by the membership.

3.17. Duties.

The Board's duties shall include, without limitation:

- (a) adopting, in accordance with the Declaration, an annual budget establishing each Owner's share of the Common Expenses and any Neighborhood Expenses;
- (b) providing for the operation, care, upkeep, and maintenance of the Common Maintenance Area consistent with the Community-Wide Standard;
- (c) designating, hiring, and dismissing personnel necessary to carry out the Association's rights and responsibilities and where appropriate, providing for compensation of such personnel and for the purchase of necessary equipment, supplies, and materials;
- (d) depositing all funds received on the Association's behalf in a bank depository which it shall approve, and using such funds to operate the Association; provided, any reserve funds may be deposited, in the Board's business judgment, in depositories other than banks;
- (e) opening bank accounts on the Association's behalf and designating the signatories required;
- (f) making or contracting for the making of repairs, additions, and improvements to or alterations of the Common Area in accordance with the Declaration and these By-Laws;
- (g) after termination of the Class "B" Control Period, submitting for bid any planned Association expenditure (whether for capital items, services, maintenance, or otherwise) anticipated to exceed \$10,000.00 in any one fiscal year; provided, the Board is not obligated to contract with or otherwise retain the services of the lowest bidder;
- (h) enforcing by legal means the provisions of the Governing Documents and bringing any proceedings which may be instituted on behalf of or against the Owners concerning the Association; provided, the Association's obligation in this regard shall be conditioned in the manner provided in the Declaration;
- (i) obtaining and carrying property and liability insurance and fidelity bonds, as provided in the Declaration, paying the cost thereof, and filing and adjusting claims, as appropriate;
- (j) paying the cost of all services rendered to the Association;
- (k) keeping books with detailed accounts of the Association's receipts and expenditures;

(l) making available to any Owner, the holders, insurers, and guarantors of any Mortgage on any Lot, and any prospective purchaser of a Lot, current copies of the Governing Documents and all other Association books, records, and financial statements as provided in Section 6.4;

(m) permitting utility suppliers to use portions of the Common Area reasonably necessary to the ongoing development or operation of WaterColor;

(n) indemnifying an Association director, officer, or committee member, or former Association director, officer, or committee member to the extent such indemnity is required by Florida law, the Articles of Incorporation, or the Declaration; and

(o) maintaining, and retaining for the time periods required, the "official records" of the Association, as provided in Chapter 720, Florida Statutes, as may be amended or renumbered from time to time.

### 3.18. Compensation.

The Association shall not compensate a director for acting as such, unless a majority of the directors otherwise approves. The Association may reimburse any director for expenses incurred on the Association's behalf if approved by a majority of the other directors. In addition, subject to Section 3.27, nothing herein shall prohibit the Association from compensating a director for services or supplies he or she furnishes to the Association in a capacity other than as a director pursuant to a contract or agreement with the Association. The foregoing also applies to any entity with which a director is affiliated.

### 3.19. Right of Class "B" Member to Disapprove Actions.

During the period of Class "B" membership, the Class "B" Member shall have a right to disapprove any action, policy, or program of the Association, the Board, and any committee which, in the Class "B" Member's sole and absolute judgment, would tend to impair rights or interests of Declarant, any Declarant Affiliate, or Builders, interfere with development or construction of any portion of the Community, or diminish the level of services the Association provides.

(a) Notice. The Association, the Board, and each committee shall give the Class "B" Member written notice of their meetings and proposed actions to be approved at their meetings (or by written consent in lieu of a meeting). The notice shall comply with Section 3.10 and shall, except in the case of the regular meetings held pursuant to the By-Laws, set forth with reasonable particularity the agenda to be followed at such meeting.

(b) Opportunity to be Heard. The Association, the Board, and each committee shall give the Class "B" Member the opportunity at any meeting to join in or to have its representatives or agents join in discussion from the floor of any prospective action, policy, or program which would be subject to the right of disapproval described in this Section.

(c) Exercise of Rights. The Class "B" Member, its representatives or agents, shall make its concerns, thoughts, and suggestions known to the Board and/or the members of the subject committee. The Class "B" Member may exercise its right to disapprove at any time within 10 days following the meeting at which such action was proposed or, if the action is approved without a meeting, at any time within 10 days following receipt of written notice of the proposed action. This right to disapprove may be used to block proposed actions but shall not include a right to require any action or counteraction by the Association, the Board, or any committee. The Class "B" Member shall not use its right to disapprove to reduce the level of services which the Association is obligated to provide or to prevent capital repairs or any expenditure required to comply with applicable laws and regulations.

(d) Condition of Implementation. No action, policy, or program subject to the Class "B" Member's right of disapproval shall become effective or be implemented until and unless the requirements of subsections (a) and (b) above have been met.

### 3.20. Management.

The Board may employ a professional management agent or agents, at such compensation as the Board may establish, to perform such duties and services as the Board shall authorize and are otherwise within the scope of the Board's authority. The Board may delegate such powers as are necessary to perform the manager's assigned duties, but shall not delegate policy-making authority or those duties set forth in Section 3.17(a) (with respect to adoption of the budget). The Board may contract with or employ Declarant or any Declarant Affiliate as managing agent or manager.

The Board may delegate to one of its members the authority to act on the Board's behalf on all matters relating to the duties of the managing agent or manager, if any, which might arise between Board meetings.

The Association shall not be bound, either directly or indirectly, by any management contract executed during the Class "B" Control Period unless such contract contains a right of termination which the Association may exercise with or without cause and without penalty at any time after termination of the Class "B" Control Period upon not more than 90 days written notice. After the Class "B" Control Period terminates, the Association may not terminate any management contract, or retain a new managing agent, without the approval of Neighborhood Representatives representing a majority of the Association's total Class "A" votes, and Declarant, for so long as Declarant or any Declarant Affiliate owns any property described on Exhibits "A" or "B" to the Declaration.

The Class "A" Members shall have no right to terminate a management contract during the Class "B" Control Period. Unless the Board otherwise grants such right, or unless the management contract otherwise provides, the Board may act in its discretion with respect to executing and terminating management contracts during the Class "B" Control Period. Any management contract may, among other things, authorize the managing agent to act as the Association's agent with respect to the expenditure of Association funds within the scope of the approved Association budget; provided, the managing agent shall not be permitted to spend

money in excess of the budget or reallocate greater than 10% of any budget line item without the Board's prior approval.

3.21. Accounts and Reports.

The following management standards of performance shall be followed unless the Board by resolution specifically determines otherwise:

- (a) accrual accounting, as defined by generally accepted accounting principles, shall be employed;
- (b) accounting and controls should conform to generally accepted accounting principles;
- (c) the Association's cash accounts shall not be commingled with any other accounts;
- (d) the managing agent shall accept no remuneration from vendors, independent contractors, or others providing goods or services to the Association, whether in the form of commissions, finder's fees, service fees, prizes, gifts, or otherwise; the Association shall benefit from anything of value received;
- (e) the managing agent shall disclose promptly to the Board any financial or other interest which it may have in any firm providing goods or services to the Association;
- (f) commencing at the end of the quarter in which the first Lot is sold and closed, the Board shall prepare financial reports for the Association at least quarterly containing:
  - (i) an income statement reflecting all income and expense activity for the preceding period on an accrual basis;
  - (ii) a statement reflecting all cash receipts and disbursements for the preceding period;
  - (iii) a variance report reflecting the status of all accounts in an "actual" versus "approved" budget format;
  - (iv) a balance sheet as of the last day of the preceding period; and
  - (v) a delinquency report listing all Owners who are delinquent in paying any assessments at the time of the report and describing the status of any action to collect such assessments which remain delinquent (any assessment or installment thereof shall be considered to be delinquent on the 15th day following the due date unless otherwise specified by Board resolution); and
- (g) an annual report consisting of at least the following shall be prepared within 60 days after the close of the fiscal year: (i) a balance sheet showing actual receipts and expenditures; (ii) an operating (income) statement; and (iii) a statement of changes in financial

position for the fiscal year. Such annual report shall be prepared on an audited, reviewed, or compiled basis, as the Board determines, by an independent public accountant. During the Class "B" Control Period, the annual report shall include certified financial statements.

The Association shall provide each Owner or its authorized agent a copy of the annual financial report within 10 business days following receipt of a written request for access. In addition, if Florida law requires, the Association shall send a copy of the annual report to each Member by mail or personal delivery within 90 days following the close of the fiscal year.

### 3.22. Borrowing.

The Association may borrow money for any legal purpose; provided, the approval of a majority of the Class "A" votes in the Association is required if the proposed borrowing is (a) for the purpose of making discretionary capital improvements; and (b) the total amount of such borrowing, together with all other debt incurred within the previous 12-month period, exceeds or would exceed 20% of the Association's budgeted gross expenses for that fiscal year.

During the Class "B" Control Period, no Mortgage lien shall be placed on any portion of the Common Area without the affirmative vote in writing, of at least 67% of the total Class "A" votes. After the Class "B" Control Period terminates, no Mortgage lien may be placed on the Common Area, nor may assessments be pledged as security for any loan, without the approval of a majority of the total Class "A" votes in the Association and such other approval as the Declaration may require.

### 3.23. Right To Contract.

The Association shall have the right to contract with any Person for the performance of various duties and functions. This right shall include, without limitation, the right to enter into common management, operational, or other agreements with trusts, condominiums, cooperatives, or Neighborhood and other owners or residents associations, within and outside of the Community.

### 3.24. Enforcement.

The Association may impose sanctions for any violation of the Governing Documents. To the extent the Declaration specifically requires, the Board shall comply with the following procedures prior to imposition of sanctions:

(a) Notice. The Board or its delegate shall serve the alleged violator with written notice describing (i) the nature of the alleged violation; (ii) the proposed sanction to be imposed; (iii) a period of not less than 14 days within which the alleged violator may present a written request for a hearing to the Board; and (iv) a statement that the proposed sanction shall be imposed as contained in the notice unless the alleged violator challenges the violation within 14 days of the notice. If a timely request for a hearing is not made, the sanction stated in the notice shall be imposed; provided, the Board or Covenants Committee may suspend any proposed sanction if the violation is cured, or if a diligent effort is made to cure, within the 14 day period. Such suspension shall not constitute a waiver of the right to sanction future violations of the same or other provisions and rules by any Person.

(b) Hearing. If the alleged violator requests a hearing within the allotted 14 day period, the hearing shall be held before the Covenants Committee. The alleged violator shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard. Prior to the effectiveness of any sanction hereunder, proof of proper notice shall be placed in the minutes of the meeting. Such proof shall be deemed adequate if a copy of the notice, together with a statement of the date and manner of delivery, is entered by the officer, director, or agent who delivered such notice. The notice requirement shall be deemed satisfied if the alleged violator or its representative appears at the meeting. The minutes of the meeting shall contain a written statement of the results of the hearing and the sanction, if any, imposed.

(c) Appeal. Following a hearing before the Covenants Committee, the alleged violator shall have the right to appeal the decision to the Board. To exercise this right, the alleged violator must submit a written notice of appeal to the Association's manager, President, or Secretary within 10 days after being informed of the results of the hearing by the Association's manager or another Board officer or representative.

(d) Additional Enforcement Rights. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Article, if permitted under the Declaration, the Board may elect to enforce any provision of the Governing Documents by self-help (specifically including, but not limited to, towing vehicles that violate parking rules) or, following compliance with the Declaration's dispute resolution procedures, if applicable, by suit at law or in equity to enjoin any violation or to recover monetary damages or both. In any such action, to the maximum extent permissible, the Owner or occupant responsible for the violation of which abatement is sought shall pay all costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees actually incurred.

### 3.25 Board Standards.

In performing their duties, directors and officers shall act as fiduciaries and are subject to insulation from liability as provided for directors of corporations by Florida law and as otherwise provided by the Governing Documents. Directors shall exercise the ordinary and reasonable care of directors of a corporation, subject to the Business Judgment Rule.

A director shall act in accordance with the business judgment rule so long as the director:

- (a) acts within the expressed or implied scope of the Governing Documents and his or her actions are not *ultra vires*;
- (b) affirmatively undertakes to make decisions which are necessary for the Association's continued and successful operation and, when decisions are made, they are made on an informed basis;
- (c) acts on a disinterested basis, promptly discloses any real or potential conflict of interests (pecuniary or other), and avoids participation in such decisions and actions; and
- (d) acts in a non-fraudulent manner and without reckless indifference to the Association's affairs.

A director acting in accordance with the business judgment rule shall be protected from personal liability. Unless the Governing Documents require that specific action be taken, the failure to take such specific action shall not, without further showing that the Board acted in violation of the business judgment rule, be deemed a violation of a Board duty.

Board determinations of the meaning, scope, and application of Governing Document provisions shall be upheld and enforced so long as such determinations are reasonable. The Board shall exercise its power in a fair, nondiscriminatory manner and shall adhere to the procedures established in the Governing Documents.

3.26. Conflicts of Interest; Code of Ethics.

The Board shall create and maintain a written "Code of Ethics" applicable to all directors, officers and committee members. Each director, officer and committee member shall acknowledge and agree in writing to abide by the Code of Ethics.

**Article IV: Officers**

4.1. Officers.

The Association's officers shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The officers may, but need not, be Board members, Owners, or residents of the Community. The Board may appoint such other officers, including one or more Assistant Secretaries and one or more Assistant Treasurers, as it shall deem desirable, such officers to have such authority and perform such duties as the Board prescribes. Any two or more offices may be held by the same person, except the offices of President and Secretary.

4.2. Election and Term of Office.

The Board shall elect the Association's officers at the first Board meeting following each Association annual meeting. Officers shall serve until their successors are elected.

4.3. Removal and Vacancies.

Any officer may be removed by a vote of at least 2/3 of the directors. The Board shall appoint a replacement to fill any vacancy in any office for the unexpired portion of the term.

4.4. Powers and Duties.

The Association's officers each shall have such powers and duties as generally pertain to their respective offices, as well as such powers and duties as the Board may specifically confer or impose. The President shall be the Association's chief executive officer. The Treasurer shall supervise the preparation of the Association's budget, but shall delegate all or part of the preparation and notification duties to a finance committee, management agent, or both. The Secretary shall prepare or supervise the preparation of meeting minutes as required by Florida law.

#### 4.5. Resignation.

Any officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Board, the President, or the Secretary. Resignation shall take effect on the date of the receipt of such notice or at any later time specified therein, and unless otherwise specified therein, acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

#### 4.6. Agreements, Contracts, Deeds, Leases, Checks, Etc.

All agreements, contracts, deeds, leases, checks, and other Association instruments shall be executed by an officer, unless the Board provides otherwise, or by such other person or persons as the Board may designate by resolution.

#### 4.7. Compensation.

Compensation of officers shall be subject to the same limitations as compensation of directors under Section 3.18.

### **Article V: Committees**

#### 5.1. General.

The Board may create such committees as it deems appropriate to perform such tasks and to serve for such periods as the Board may designate by resolution. In an effort to encourage and incorporate a broad base of Owner and resident participation in community governance, it shall be the Association's policy that the Board create and delegate its responsibilities to committees as reasonably appropriate.

Committees shall exercise only such authority as granted by Board resolution, provided the Board may, in the exercise of its reasonable discretion, elect not to follow a committee's advice on any matter. Committees may not act without specific Board authority and may not bind the Association contractually or financially. Committee Members are subject to the Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics set forth in Section 3.27.

#### 5.2. Covenants Committee.

The Board shall appoint a Covenants Committee consisting of at least three members. The Covenants Committee members shall be Members of the Association who are not directors, officers, or employees of the Association or the spouse, parent, child, brother, or sister of a director, officer, or employee. Acting in accordance with the provisions of the Declaration, these By-Laws, and any Board resolutions, the Covenants Committee shall be the Association's hearing tribunal and shall conduct all hearings held pursuant to Section 3.24. The Board may not impose a fine without a majority vote of the Covenants Committee.

### 5.3. Neighborhood Committees.

In addition to any other committees appointed as provided above, each Neighborhood which has no formal organizational structure or association may elect a Neighborhood Committee to determine the nature and extent of services, if any, the Association shall provide to the Neighborhood in addition to those provided to all Members in accordance with the Declaration. A Neighborhood Committee may advise the Board on any other issue but may not bind the Association on any matter. Neighborhood Committees, if elected, shall consist of at least three Members elected by the Owners of Lots within the Neighborhood.

Any director elected to the Board from a Neighborhood shall be an *ex officio* member of the Neighborhood Committee. The Neighborhood Representative shall be the chairperson of the Neighborhood Committee, shall preside at its meetings, and shall be responsible for transmitting any and all communications to the Board.

In the conduct of its duties and responsibilities, each Neighborhood Committee shall abide by the notice and quorum requirements applicable to the Board under these By-Laws. Meetings of a Neighborhood Committee shall be open to all Owners of Lots in the Neighborhood and their representatives. Members of a Neighborhood Committee may act by unanimous written consent in lieu of a meeting.

### 5.4. Other Committees.

In addition to the above, at such time as Class "A" Members other than Builders own 50% of the Lots anticipated for the Community under the Master Plan, or whenever the Class "B" Member earlier determines, the Board shall create the following committees, each of which shall have at least three members:

(a) Finance Committee. The Finance Committee shall actively assist the Board, the Treasurer, and the Association's managing agent, if any, in preparing the Association's budget. After termination of the Class "B" Control Period, Board approval of the Association's budget shall be subject to the Finance Committee's review and comment, which shall be advisory only and shall not bind the Board.

(b) Physical Maintenance Committee. After termination of the Class "B" Control Period, the Physical Maintenance Committee shall preside over maintenance of the Common Maintenance Areas.

(c) Dispute Resolution Committee. The Dispute Resolution Committee shall be established to mediate disputes concerning the interpretation of Use Restrictions, rules, and other Governing Document provisions and to advise the Board on initiating litigation involving the Association (as provided in the Declaration); provided, the Dispute Resolution Committee shall not preside over matters relating to the collection of assessments or other fees and charges. Each member of the Dispute Resolution Committee shall attend a Board-approved course on dispute resolution.

The Board shall establish by resolution the specific scope and limitations on the authority of the above committees.

**Article VI: Miscellaneous**

6.1. Fiscal Year.

The Association's fiscal year shall be the calendar year unless otherwise established by Board resolution.

6.2. Parliamentary Rules.

Except as may be modified by Board resolution, *Robert's Rules of Order* (the then current edition) shall govern the conduct of Association proceedings when not in conflict with Florida law or the Governing Documents.

6.3. Books and Records.

(a) Inspection by Members and Mortgagees. The Board shall make available for inspection and copying by any holder, insurer, or guarantor of a first Mortgage on a Lot, any Member or the duly appointed representative of any of the foregoing at any reasonable time and for a purpose reasonably related to his or her interest in a Lot: the Governing Documents, the membership register, books of account, and the minutes of meetings of the Members, the Board, and committees. The Board shall provide for such inspection to take place at the Association's office or at such other place within the Community as the Board shall designate.

(b) Rules for Inspection. The Board shall establish reasonable rules with respect to (i) notice to be given to the custodian of the records; (ii) hours and days of the week when such an inspection may be made; and (iii) payment of the cost of reproducing documents requested. Records shall be made available within 10 business days of the receipt of a written request by an Owner or his or her authorized agent.

(c) Inspection by Directors. Every director shall have the absolute right at any reasonable time to inspect all Association books, records, and documents and the physical properties the Association owns or controls. The director's right of inspection includes the right to make a copy of relevant documents at the Association's expense.

6.4. Notices.

Except as the Declaration or these By-Laws otherwise provide, all notices, demands, bills, statements, or other communications under the Declaration or these By-Laws shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given if delivered personally or if sent by United States mail, first class postage prepaid:

(a) if to a Member or Neighborhood Representative, at the address which the Member or Neighborhood Representative has designated in writing and filed with the Secretary

or, if no such address has been designated, at the address of the Lot of such Member or Neighborhood Representative;

(b) if to the Association, the Board, or the managing agent, at the principal office of the Association or the managing agent or at such other address as shall be designated by notice in writing to the Members pursuant to this Section; or

(c) if to any committee, at the principal address of the Association or at such other address as shall be designated by notice in writing to the Members pursuant to this Section.

#### 6.5. Amendment.

(a) By Class "B" Member. During the Class "B" Control Period, the Class "B" Member unilaterally may amend these By-Laws. Thereafter, the Class "B" Member unilaterally may amend these By-Laws at any time and from time to time if such amendment is necessary (i) to bring any provision into compliance with any applicable governmental statute, rule, or regulation, or judicial determination; (ii) to enable any reputable title insurance company to issue title insurance coverage on the Lots; or (iii) to enable any institutional or governmental lender, purchaser, insurer, or guarantor of mortgage loans, including, for example, the Federal National Mortgage Association or Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, to make, purchase, insure, or guarantee mortgage loans on the Lots. No amendment may adversely affect the title to any Lot unless the Owner shall consent thereto in writing.

(b) By the Board. Except as provided above, these By-Laws may be amended only by the affirmative vote or written consent of Neighborhood Representatives representing at least 67% of the Association's total Class "A" votes, and the consent of the Class "B" Member, if such exists. Notwithstanding the above, the percentage of votes necessary to amend a specific clause shall not be less than the prescribed percentage of affirmative votes required for action to be taken under that clause. The approval requirements set forth in Article XVI of the Declaration also shall be met, if applicable.

(c) Validity and Effective Date of Amendments. Amendments to these By-Laws shall become effective upon Recordation unless a later effective date is specified therein. Any procedural challenge to an amendment must be made within six months of its Recordation, or such amendment shall be presumed to have been validly adopted. In no event shall a change of conditions or circumstances operate to amend any provisions of these By-Laws.

No amendment may remove, revoke, or modify any right or privilege of Declarant or the Class "B" Member without the written consent of Declarant, the Class "B" Member, or the assignee of such right or privilege. No amendment may remove, revoke, or modify any right or privilege assigned specifically to the Owners of Non-Residential Lots without such Owners' written consent.