

**BYLAWS  
NEW NETHERLAND INSTITUTE/  
FRIENDS OF NEW NETHERLAND**

**ARTICLE I**

Purpose:

The purpose of this society shall be to increase public awareness of the work of the New Netherland Institute and the influence of our Dutch heritage on the institutions and culture of our country; to sponsor activities related to the work of the Institute and the Friends of New Netherland; and to provide support for the Institute and the Friends through fund raising and other activities.

**ARTICLE 11**

Members:

Section 1. The membership of the New Netherland Institute/Friends of New Netherland shall not be limited to any set number.

Section 2. Any individual is eligible for membership upon payment of annual dues of thirty-five dollars payable in advance. A family or organization is eligible for membership upon payment of annual dues of sixty dollars payable in advance. Members shall be entitled to attend Board meetings with voice, not vote, to nominate and vote by ballot for officers and members of the Board of Trustees, and to participate in all events sponsored by the New Netherland Institute/Friends of New Netherland. Donors to the New Netherland Institute/Friends of New Netherland of \$35 or more shall be offered a trial membership in the New Netherland Institute/Friends of New Netherland for a year following the month in which their donation is received. The Secretary of the Friends of New Netherland shall notify members within a month if they become delinquent in payment of dues. Members will be dropped for nonpayment of dues by the end of the month in which they have received notification.

Section 3. The Circle of Corporate Friends shall have annual membership fees as follows:

Magistrate \$500

Burgomaster \$1000

High Councilor \$3000

Director General \$5000

Benefactor \$10,000

Corporate Circle members shall have none of the obligations of membership in the New Netherland Institute/Friends of New Netherland, but shall be entitled to all of the privileges except those of making motions, of voting, and of holding office.

Section 4. Upon recommendation by one member, seconded by another member, and by a three-fourth's vote of the membership

by mail ballot, honorary life membership may be conferred upon an individual or corporate member who shall have rendered notable service to the New Netherland Institute/Friends of New Netherland. An honorary member shall have none of the obligations of membership in the New Netherland Institute/ Friends of New Netherland, but shall be entitled to all of the privileges except those of making motions, of voting, and of holding office.

## **ARTICLE 111**

Officers and Board members election and term of service:

Section 1. The officers of the New Netherland Institute/Friends of New Netherland shall be identical to the officers of its Board of Trustees and shall constitute an Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees. These officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the New Netherland Institute/Friends of New Netherland.

Section 2. At a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, a Nominating Committee made up of three Trustees and two non-Board members of the Institute/Friends shall be appointed by the President. It shall be the duty of this Committee to nominate candidates for the offices of the Board and members of the Board of Trustees to be filled at the annual meeting of the Institute/Friends in January. The Nominating Committee shall report at a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, at which time additional nominations from the floor shall be permitted.

Section 3. The Officers and Board of Trustee members shall be elected by mail ballot to be mailed at least 30 days before the Annual meeting to the membership of the New Netherland Institute/Friends of New Netherland, the ballots counted and the results to be reported at the Annual meeting. Their term of office shall begin at the close of the Annual meeting and they shall serve for three years or until their successors are elected.

Section 4. No Officer shall hold more than one office at a time and shall serve no more than two consecutive terms.

Section 5. The Officers of the Board of Trustees of the New Netherland Institute/Friends of New Netherland shall consist of a President, a Vice President (who is President-elect upon expiration of the President's term of Office), a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

Section 6. A Board of Trustees member shall serve for three years

and may be invited to rejoin the Board at the discretion of the Nominating Committee. There is no limit to the number of terms of service for the Board of Trustees members.

#### **ARTICLE IV**

Powers of the Board of Trustees:

Section 1. The Board of Trustees shall have full power and authority over the affairs of the New Netherland Institute/ Friends of New Netherland except for the election of Trustees and Officers. The Trustees shall have power to adopt bylaws and shall have power by vote of two-thirds of all Trustees to change the number of Trustees to be no more than 25 or fewer than 5 members.

#### **ARTICLE V**

Meetings:

Section 1. The regular meetings of the Board of Trustees of the New Netherland Institute/Friends of New Netherland shall be held at least four times a year. At the first meeting after the Annual Meeting, the incoming President shall submit to the Board of Trustees a schedule of meetings for the year, for their approval or amendment. The Executive Board will meet as often as required, at the discretion of the President.

Section 2. The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees in January shall be the Annual Meeting and shall be open to the membership of the New Netherland Institute/Friends of New Netherland. The Annual Meeting is held for the purpose of receiving reports of the mail ballot election, reports of the Institute, Officers and committees, and for any other business that may arise.

Section 3. Special meetings may be called by the President of the Board of Trustees and shall be called upon the written request of ten members of the New Netherland Institute/Friends of New Netherland. The purpose of the special meeting shall be stated in the call. Except in cases of emergency, at least three days notice shall be given.

Section 4. A simple majority of the Board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum. For purposes of determining the number of members required for a quorum, Board members living more than 200 miles from Albany shall not be counted.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### Committees:

Section 1. Standing Committees of the Board of Trustees shall be Finance, Fund Raising, Corporate Circle of Friends, Events, Nominating, and Publicity.

Section 2. Other committees, either standing or special, shall be appointed by the President as the Board of Trustees deem necessary to carry on the work of the New Netherland Institute/Friends of New Netherland. The President shall be ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### Chapters:

Section 1. Whenever any group of ten (10) or more members of the New Netherland Institute/Friends of New Netherland in any community outside the State of New York requests permission of the Trustees to organize a Chapter of the Institute/Friends in and for that community, the Trustees shall assure themselves of the following and having done so may grant permission for the organization of the requested Chapter.

A. That those planning to organize the said Chapter understand, agree with, and present a reasonable likelihood of acting effectively to further the purposes of the Institute/Friends.

B. That the proposed Chapter has ready a slate of officers to install and has prepared a set of bylaws which will assure that the Chapter members will maintain their membership in the parent organization of the Institute/Friends and will provide the Chapter members with representative and orderly governance within the proposed Chapter.

C. That the activities of the Chapter and its finances will be reported to the Trustees regularly on a quarterly basis, and

D. That the members of the Chapter understand that a failure on their part to act appropriately as to A, B, and C above may cause the Trustees to direct that the Chapter disband and cease to call itself or function as a Chapter of the New Netherland Institute/Friends of New Netherland.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### Parliamentary Authority:

Section 1. The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the New Netherland Institute/Friends of New Netherland in all cases to which they are

applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the New Netherland Institute/Friends of New Netherland adopt.

## **ARTICLE IX**

Amendment of by-laws:

Section 1. These by-laws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Board of Trustees by a two-thirds vote of the Trustees, providing that the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting and distributed with the minutes of that meeting.

As adopted on February 4, 1987; and amended on October 7, 1987; October 5, 1988; June 3, 1992; November 15, 1995; November 18, 1998; January 20, 2001; June 8, 2002, and June 12, 2004.