



Apollo Beach Garden Club, Inc.

A Not-for-Profit Corporation

By-Laws

Article I

Object and Mission of the Apollo Beach Garden Club, Inc.:

The Object of the corporation is to enrich the outdoor garden experiences through education programs, public awareness, and oversight of the Apollo Beach Community Forest Garden.

The Mission is for residents of Apollo Beach and the South Shore community to learn about various common, edible and Florida-friendly plants, and also to understand the significance of local environmental issues, opportunities and regenerative efforts.

Article II

Membership:

Section I. Membership is open to all Apollo Beach, South Shore residents and other citizens interested in gardening. Guests are welcome anytime.

Section II. The annual meeting will be held in May at which time new officers will be installed and annual dues are payable.

Section III. Annual dues are made up of:

- Apollo Beach Garden Club dues: \$15.00 single, \$25.00 per couple.
- Florida Federation of Garden Clubs: \$12.00 per person, \$14.00 per couple. Joining the federation is encouraged.

Total annual combined dues are \$27.00 per person or \$39.00 per couple.

Dues will not be prorated if a member joins mid-year.

Article III

Officers:

The Executive Board shall consist of 3 officers (President, Secretary and Treasurer) and a minimum of 4 Directors which include the immediate past President, Community Garden Coordinator(s), Media Director and remaining directors At Large. It is preferred that the members of the board are full time residents of Apollo Beach or the surrounding areas.

The term of office is two years. Election of officers will take place at the annual meeting by a majority vote of the membership present. An e-mail ballot may be requested 3 weeks in advance of the annual meeting.

A board vacancy may be filled by appointment with a majority vote of the current board members.

Hillsborough County Parks and Recreation Department will have a non-voting liaison to the Board.

Article IV

Duties of the Officers:

President: Presides over meetings, represents the Apollo Beach Garden Club, Inc. (Club) at community functions or Club business and serves as Past President for two years following the end of their term. Submits an Annual Report to the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State on-line at: www.sunbiz.org.

Secretary: Shall record the minutes of each meeting, be custodian of all records, handle the Club's correspondence and notify the media of Club events.

Treasurer: Will have responsibility of handling Club's funds and accounts, collecting dues, paying out funds as directed by the Board and preparing monthly and yearly financial reports for presentation at Club meetings. The Treasurer will submit reports to the IRS and the State of Florida as required and submit a financial report for the yearly audit.

Directors:

- **Media Director:** Shall keep the website, Facebook group and page up to date and will work with the Secretary on media notifications.
- **Community Forest Garden Coordinator(s):** Supervises and coordinates the activities of the Apollo Beach Community Forest Garden, including working with the Hillsborough County Parks and Recreation Department liaison. Ensures that the guidelines stated in the 'Raised Bed Lease Agreement' are met by each member.
- **Additional members** will be elected to complete the Board. Their responsibilities will be assigned by the Board based on the needs of the Club. One Director will chair the Nominating Committee.

Hillsborough County Parks and Recreation Department Liaison: Provides guidance and assistance to the Club. Can attend meetings and assist on the development and supervision of the Apollo Beach Community Forest Garden.

Article V

Meetings:

Section I: There shall be monthly membership meetings held the third Tuesday of the month at 7 PM at 664 Golf and Sea Blvd, Apollo Beach, Florida 33572. Generally, there will be no meeting held in the summer months of July and August. However, the Board can call a

meeting, if necessary, aside from the annual calendar of meeting dates, and the monthly newsletter will contain a reminder of each monthly meeting. All decisions affecting the Club will be made by a majority vote of those in attendance at the meeting.

Section II: Board meetings are held prior to the regular monthly meeting and are open to any member wishing to attend.

Section III: A special meeting can be called by any Board member with notice of at least 7 days. The notice shall include the reason for the special meeting.

Section IV: All meetings will be conducted using Parliamentary procedures –Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised, Current Edition.

Article VI

Apollo Beach Community Forest Garden (ABCFG):

Section I: The ABCFG is a space where Club and community members can experience and practice gardening with emphasis on agriculture (food cultivation), beneficial insect host plants, orchids and epiphytes and Florida-friendly plants. The garden is composed of a raised bed section and a forest garden. The raised beds are available for lease by the public. The forest garden is a common ground maintained by Club members to share with the community.

The ABCFG is intended to showcase the possibilities, methods and plants for Florida gardening that the community can replicate in other spaces and to provide the opportunity to every child and adult community member to taste and experience trees, plants, fresh fruit and vegetables grown locally in Apollo Beach, Florida.

Section II: Access to the ABCFG by non-members is available when Club members are present in the Garden.

Section III: The Apollo Beach Garden Club, Inc. acts as the keeper and manager of the ABCFG and as such is in charge of the space. All business related to the ABCFG is handled by the Apollo Beach Garden Club, Inc.

When leading activities, planting or being in the garden the Club, its members and Community Forest Garden members are to follow the guidelines provided in the ‘Raised Bed Lease Agreement’ document.

Section IV: A maximum of two raised beds can be leased per household.

Section V: When the Club receives a grant from a third party or entity to install, improve or add any plants, materials, structures, or other items in the ABCFG, and such entity wishes to place a plaque in recognition of their donation inside the garden, the following guidelines for the plaque and positioning have to be met:

The plaque is to be 8.5 inches wide by 5.5 inches tall and monocolored lettering. It is to be placed in front of the most relevant item donated by the grantor with approval from the Club Board.

Article VII

Dissolution of Corporation:

The provisions for disposition of the corporation assets in the event of dissolution of the corporation including the prioritization of rights of shareholders and members to the corporate assets are:

All assets are to pass to the Apollo Beach Recreation Center in the event of dissolution of the Apollo Beach Garden Club, Inc. after all creditors are paid.

Article VIII

The address of business of the corporation is:

Apollo Beach Garden Club, Inc.

PO Box 3294

Apollo Beach, FL 33572

Article IX

Liability:

Provision eliminating or limiting the personal liability of an officer or director or both, to the corporation or the shareholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as an officer or director or both is:

The officers, directors, and members of the Apollo Beach Garden Club, Inc. shall not be liable for monetary damages for breach of the fiduciary duties to the full extent permitted by Florida Chapter 48.091, Florida Statutes.

Article X

Amendments:

These By-Laws as well as the 'Raised Bed Lease Agreement' may be amended by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members at any regular or special meeting, provided that notice of the proposed amendment is made at a previous meeting or via e-mail 30 days in advance.

Dated and signed by Officers this 20th day of September 2022.

President _____

Secretary _____

Treasurer _____

Comm. Forest Garden Coord. _____

Comm. Forest Garden Coord. _____

Media Director _____

Director _____