

SEVAS Bylaws Update

ARTICLE I. NAME

This organization is known as Southeast Volusia Audubon Society, Inc.,(SEVAS) is a not-for-profit organization hereinafter referred to as the Chapter, functioning as a chapter of the National Audubon Society (NAS) and Audubon Florida (AF).

ARTICLE II. MISSION AND PURPOSE

Our Mission: Protecting birds and their habitats through Conservation Education, Advocacy, and Action

Our Purpose: The purpose and objectives of the Chapter are to advance our mission and engage in educational, scientific, literary, historical and charitable pursuits that promote an understanding of humanity's interrelationship with the environment and the conservation of Earth's natural resources. These purposes and objectives shall conform with the provisions of Section 501 (C) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1.

Any person supportive of the purposes and objectives of the Chapter is eligible for membership upon paying annual dues as determined by the Board of Directors. For the purpose of this document, a member whose dues to SEVAS are current shall be considered a "voting member".

Section 2. Each voting member shall have the right to cast one vote at any Chapter regular or special meeting of members unless otherwise stated in the bylaws.

ARTICLE IV. MEETINGS

Section 1.

Regular Chapter meetings shall be held monthly, October through April, unless otherwise determined by the Board of Directors. The Annual Meeting of members, at which time new officers will be elected by a majority of voting members present, shall take place at the April meeting, after which the newly-elected officers will assume their duties.

Special Meetings of members may be called by the President or pursuant to a resolution of the Board, or by petition of not less than one-tenth of all voting members. In the absence of a President, the Steering Committee may call Special Meetings.

Section 2.

Notice of all meetings shall be given in the Chapter's newsletter and/or by other means determined by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V.

OFFICERS

Section 1.

The officers of the Chapter shall be one or more Presidents, one or more Vice-Presidents, one or more Secretaries, and a Treasurer. Other officers may be added or duties of officers combined, provided that at least three officers shall serve at any given time. In the event that the Chapter does not have a President, a Steering Committee will be formed by the Board with a minimum of three members and a maximum of six members and they collectively will act in place of the President until a new President is elected. When a new President is elected, the Steering Committee will disband. The President or Presidents of the Chapter or the Steering Committee in the absence of a President shall provide guidance for the Board of Directors as well as overseeing all Chapter activities. All officers and members of the Board and Steering Committee shall be current with dues to the Chapter during their terms of service.

Section 2.

Term Limits: The presidency shall be a two-year term not to exceed two consecutive terms and all other officers and Board members shall serve one-year terms without limits. The Steering Committee members shall serve one year terms without limits.

ARTICLE VI.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1.

The Board of Directors shall consist of the elected officers, the Steering Committee (should there be no president), Committee Chairs, and at-large members. At-large members shall be appointed by the President or Steering Committee with a simple majority Board approval.

Section 2.

It is recommended that the Board of Directors meet at least six times per year to conduct the business of the Chapter. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the currently serving Board. All Board meetings are open to the general membership. Minutes of each meeting shall be made available to all Chapter members.

Section 3.

A Board member may be replaced if they:

- Are absent without notice from two consecutive board meetings
- Engage in behavior that negatively impacts the reputation of the Chapter
- Engages in illegal behavior

For a Board member to be removed for any of the above items, a simple majority of the Board must vote to remove that Board member.

ARTICLE VII. REPORTS

Section 1.

An annual financial report to the Chapter shall be prepared by the Treasurer and submitted to the Board of Directors at the end of the fiscal year, which is defined as May 1 through April 30.

Section 2.

Other reports shall be prepared as requested by the President or Steering Committee (if one exists) or by the Board.

ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENTS AND AUTHORITY

Section 1.

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of voting members present at a regular meeting, provided written notice of such action is furnished and/or published to all members 15 days prior to such meeting.

Section 2.

In procedural matters not covered by these Bylaws, Robert's Rules of Order Newly revised 12th edition, shall govern.

Section 3.

Upon termination of the Chapter's status as a chapter of NAS, all funds remaining after settlement of outstanding obligations shall be presented to Audubon Florida.

ARTICLE IX. RELATIONSHIP TO NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

The relationship between this chapter and the National Audubon Society shall be governed by the Chapter Policy.

Amended April, 2024