

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

P R E A M B L E

Ultimately the local community is the proving ground for the social progress of the nation. Solid and continuing progress can become a reality only through the spiritual and moral coordination of groups and community agencies. Every community has the basic potential for the solution of social problems and the implementation of legal decisions which re-define the ideals set forth by the founders of this nation.

*Set*

Enveloped in a world of war complex and constantly geared for bloody conflict as a means of settling human differences, it is not easy to persuade the masses, where differences are deeply entrenched, that spiritual and moral forces are the only means through which lasting settlements of social problems can be realized. We are convinced that only the spiritual and moral approach will offer adequate and lasting solutions to social problems in a community. It becomes the responsibility of an organized force to sensitize a mass conscience to the responsibility in the fulfillment of the highest ideals of human society. The ~~Montgomery Improvement Association~~ <sup>Association</sup> purposes to take its responsibility in making the necessary adjustments whereby a fair share of the goodness of our society may be available to all, and that there shall be restrictions to none in the pursuit of happiness.

In recognition of the truths and opinions above stated the MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION directs a course of action in an effort to improve the status of all people who are deprived any of the blessings of the society in which they live. The organization shall teach people to discipline themselves for ordeals that may arise because of persistent efforts to make real and practical the Christian and democratic way of life; and, that violence is not the answer to personality or group differences. The organization takes the position that the teachings of Jesus set forth the principle that the social and spiritual life of man are inseparable and that the abundant life is to be accomplished here on earth, therefore; the association includes this principle in its teaching process.

*Aims + Objectives*

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of this organization shall be "THE MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION."

ARTICLE II

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this organization shall be composed of individuals who recognize the value of freedom, have an urge for the enjoyment of freedom and full citizenship, and, are willing to discipline themselves to pay the full cost of these benefits.

ARTICLE III

OFFICERS

The officers of this organization shall consist of a president, a first vice president, a second vice president, a secretary, a treasurer, and a parliamentarian who shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Executive Board. These officers shall hold office for one year.

## ARTICLE IV

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

The government and direction of this organization shall be vested in the Executive Board which shall consist of not less than fifteen members and not more than twenty-five members. The officers of the organization shall be members of the Executive Board.

## ARTICLE V

## MEETINGS

- Section 1. The Annual meeting of the association shall be held on December 5th.
- Section 2. The Executive Board shall have power to fix the date of the regular meeting.
- Section 3. The Annual Meeting of the Executive Board shall be held at least 30 days before the Annual meeting of the Association.
- Section 4. Special meetings of the Executive Board shall be called whenever deemed advisable by the president of the Executive Board or by the request of at least six members of the Executive Board.

## ARTICLE VI

## AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended at any regular or special meeting of this organization by a ~~three-fourths~~<sup>2/3</sup> vote of those voting, provided the proposed amendment shall have been approved by the executive board and that notice has been given at the regular meeting preceding the meeting at which the amendment is to be voted upon.

## BY-LAWS

- Section 1. Membership
- Section 2. Officers.  
The president shall be ex-officio member of all committees.
- Section 3. (Executive Secretary)

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### The Executive Board

Section 4. Within three days following the election of the Executive Board, they shall elect from their own number a president, a vice president and a treasurer. They shall also elect a secretary who upon election automatically becomes a non-voting member of the board. The president of the organization shall serve as president of the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall have power to fill all vacancies on the board, to adopt rules for the conduct of the business of the organization, this organization or the control of its property.

### Committees

*the Chairmen*

Section 5. The president shall appoint all committees, subject to approval by the Executive Board.

Section 6. Starting committees of the Association shall be:

Transportation Committee  
 Housing Committee  
 Education Committee  
 Public Relations Committee  
 Social Service Committee  
 Finance Committee  
 Program Committee  
 Policy Committee  
 Political Action Committee