

Greater Nashville Prime Timers

Constitution and By-Laws

ARTICLE I: NAME

This organization shall be known as the Greater Nashville Prime Timers, hereafter referred to as GNPT. Greater Nashville Prime Timers is an affiliate chapter of Prime Timers Worldwide.

ARTICLE II: OBJECTIVES

GNPT is a social organization whose objectives include the promotion of friendships, social interactions, cultural activities, educational activities, and a supportive atmosphere for mature gay men and their admirers.

ARTICLE III: LEADERSHIP

There shall be a Steering Committee or a Board of Directors, hereafter referred to as the Leadership. The choice of Leadership structure shall be determined by vote of the membership.

The Leadership shall have the management and general control of the chapter's property, finances, and affairs. It is the responsibility of each Leadership member to be aware of all the by-laws of the chapter and to carry out his individual responsibilities. The Leadership cannot contract for spending more than the amount of uncommitted funds in the treasury.

If a vacancy occurs in the Leadership, the other Leadership members may offer the position to someone of the general membership or hold a special election.

In addition to term expiration, a vacancy in the Leadership will exist in the following circumstances:

- a Leadership member is absent without reasonable excuse from three Leadership meetings. He will receive a written warning after the first two absences.
- a Leadership member dies.
- a Leadership member tenders his resignation in writing.
- a Leadership member is expelled by a vote of at least three members of a Steering Committee; or by at least five members of a Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS

Regular Leadership meetings shall be held once per month, and more often if necessary, on a day set by the Leadership. Special Board meetings may be called at the discretion of the President.

Meetings of the general membership shall be held as needed, with the day and time published at least two weeks in advance in the calendar, in the newsletter, and through email. Special meetings may be called from time to time at the discretion of the Leadership.

ARTICLE V: MEMBERSHIP

Membership in GNPT shall be available to all gay and bisexual males and their male admirers who are twenty-one (21) years of age or older. Candidates are considered active members upon Leadership acceptance of a completed application for membership and survey form and payment of the annual dues. Guests are welcome at up to three events, after which they are required to become members to continue participating.

ARTICLE VI: DUES

The Leadership shall determine membership dues. There will be two levels of dues assessment: the first for a single membership, and the second for couples in a committed relationship. Membership continues for one calendar year from the receipt of the membership application or renewal and payment of dues.

ARTICLE VII: STEERING COMMITTEE

The Steering Committee will consist of five members. All Steering Committee members serve for two-year terms, with terms beginning in even or odd years, as follows:

- Members 1, 3, and 5: even years
- Members 2 and 4: odd years

One Steering Committee member shall be chosen to act as Treasurer for the duration of his term. The Treasurer shall receive all monies of the organization and deposit funds in a **GNPT** bank account. He is custodian of all financial documents and pays bills after their approval by the Board. He keeps a written record which shows all monthly receipts and disbursements, reports of which he submits at the monthly meeting of the Steering Committee. He will ensure that a mandatory quarterly account of income and expenses is published in the newsletter. He shall also be responsible for preparing and presenting the budget for the upcoming fiscal year along with a comparison of actual income and expenses for the current year. The budget will be published in the January newsletter.

ARTICLE VIII: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors will consist of seven members: the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and three at-large members. The immediate past-president shall be a non-voting member of the Board unless he is elected as a Board member. All Board members serve for two-year terms, with terms beginning in even or odd years, as follows:

- President, Vice-President: even years
- Secretary, Treasurer: odd years
- at-large Board member 1 & 2: even years
- at-large Board member 3: odd years

PRESIDENT – The President is the Chairman of the Board of Directors and shall preside at Board meetings and general membership meetings. The President votes at Board meetings only to break a tie. He shall be a liaison between GNPT and Prime Timers Worldwide, and to chapters in other cities, and to other gay organizations. He shall have the authority to appoint committees, coordinators and other liaison people as needed, with the approval of the Board. He also serves as an ex-officio member of all committees, except a nominating committee or a grievance committee. He will provide guidance to the nominating and grievance committees as an adviser only.

VICE-PRESIDENT – The Vice-President shall serve as acting president in the absence of the President.

SECRETARY – The Secretary shall be responsible for recording the minutes of all Board meetings and general membership meetings where chapter business is conducted. He shall also maintain the records of the organization, including minutes of the meetings, correspondence, financial reports and other information pertinent to the history of the organization. Meeting minutes and correspondence (other than legal documents) shall be kept for three years. The secretary conducts correspondence as directed and performs other administrative duties as requested by the Board. The Secretary shall serve as acting president in the absence of the President and Vice-President.

TREASURER – The Treasurer shall receive all monies of the organization and deposit funds in a GNPT bank account. He is custodian of all financial documents and pays bills after their approval by the Board. He keeps a written record which shows all monthly receipts and disbursements, reports of which he submits at the monthly meeting of the Board. He will ensure that a mandatory quarterly account of income and expenses is published in the newsletter. He shall also be responsible for preparing and presenting the budget for the upcoming fiscal year along with a comparison of actual income and expenses for the current year. The budget will be published in the January newsletter. The Treasurer shall serve as acting president in the absence of the President, the Vice-President, and the Secretary.

ARTICLE IX: COMMITTEES

The Leadership may create ad hoc committees, appoint committee chairmen, and create other management positions such as web page designer and newsletter editor. The appointed chairman of any committee may ask for volunteers and appoint members to his committee when help is needed.

The Leadership shall appoint an Audit Committee for at least an annual audit of financial records.

ARTICLE X: ELECTIONS

Each year in October the Leadership will appoint an ad hoc Nominations Committee to solicit nominations for positions to be elected. Nominations will be presented to the chapter members during the month of November. Nominees may make a statement at a general meeting, in the newsletter, or on the web site. Voting will occur at the December general membership meeting and votes will be tabulated by at least two members of the Nominations Committee. A simple majority of the vote will determine the winner, who will take office the following January 1.

ARTICLE XI: GRIEVANCES & DISCIPLINE

Investigation into allegations of misconduct will be conducted by the Leadership upon receiving a written complaint by one or more members of the chapter. If a standing grievance committee exists, complaints may be initiated through its chairman. An investigation must be done, a hearing by the grievance committee held, and a recommendation to the Leadership by the committee made. By majority vote the Leadership may censure, suspend, or expel a member for conduct injurious to the character and welfare of the chapter.

ARTICLE XII: PROPERTY TITLE

The title to and ownership of all property, effects and assets of the chapter will be in the name of **Greater Nashville Prime Timers**, in trust for the benefit and enjoyment of members. A resignation, death or forfeiture of membership for any cause will be considered as assignment and release to the Leadership, as trustees of the chapter, of all rights, title and interest of that member in and to the property and assets of the chapter. In the event of dissolution of GNPT, such assets and property shall be distributed by donation to a local charity or charities chosen by the Leadership, unless other binding agreements have been made.

ARTICLE XIII: PRIVATE PROPERTY

The GNPT chapter is not responsible for the loss or damage to property belonging to individual members. Any claim for property damaged during a GNPT event will be assessed on an individual basis by the Leadership. Compensation is **not** to be construed **to be promised**.

ARTICLE XIV: AMENDMENTS & ADOPTION

Amendments to the constitution and by-laws may be proposed by the Leadership or by a petition of ten percent of the members, or by five members, whichever number is greater. Before the amendment is to be voted upon, it must be published and sent to members, or e-mailed to members, thirty (30) days prior to the vote being taken. Amendments to the Constitution and by-laws require a simple majority vote of the membership present at any general membership meeting.

This constitution and by-laws take effect upon acceptance by the majority of members present at the October, 2010 general membership meeting.