

## **Goals & Objectives**

The intent of the Mt. Rainier Visitor Association is to provide for the Ashford, Elbe, Alder, and Mineral business communities with an organization that:

- Is responsive to the needs of the business community
- Helps to create a positive business community environment
- Is supportive of new and growing businesses
- Maintains a vision for economic growth
- Is service oriented within the community
- Provides a visible business leadership role
- Acts as a liaison between government agencies, other businesses, and the community
- Will become more proactive at creating a stable year-round economic climate, thus minimizing dependency on Mt. Rainier National Park as the only tourist destination.

## **Bylaws**

### **Article I – Name, Location, and Organization**

The name of the organization shall be Mt. Rainier Visitor Association. The mailing address of the organization shall be Post Office Box 214, Ashford, Washington 98304

The Mt. Rainier Visitor Association is organized exclusively for the purposes under Section 501(c) (6) of the Internal Revenue code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

### **Article II – Purpose and Function**

Section 1 Support for New and Growing Business

- 1.1 The Mt. Rainier Visitor Association shall maintain a supportive, helping relationship with all new businesses and new business owners.

Section 2 A Vision for Economic Growth

- 2.1 The Mt. Rainier Visitor Association shall maintain a source of information for all members concerning changes in the community that may effect the business climate.
- 2.2 The Mt. Rainier Visitor Association shall establish a consensus position on questions of community growth and planning.

Section 3 Community Service

- 3.1 The Mt. Rainier Visitor Association shall support community efforts that lead to a positive business climate.

Section 4 Business Leadership

- 4.1 The Mt. Rainier Visitor Association shall initiate efforts to create a positive business climate

Section 5 Liaison Between Government Agencies, Other Businesses, and the Community

- 5.1 The Mt. Rainier Visitor Association shall maintain open communication with governmental agencies whose actions affect the community business climate.
- 5.2 The Mt. Rainier Visitor Association shall provide a communication channel between all local businesses.
- 5.3 The Mt. Rainier Visitor Association shall provide a communication channel to members of the community at large.

Section 6: Compliance with governmental standards

- 6.1 No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the purpose clause hereof.
- 6.2 No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.
- 6.3 Notwithstanding any other provision of this document, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
- 6.4 Upon dissolution of the organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(C)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively, for which purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

## **Article III – Membership**

- Section 1     Membership
  - 1.1     Members shall be understood to indicate specific businesses or their appointed representatives.
  - 1.2     Members shall have all rights and privileges granted through these by laws.
- Section 2     Eligibility
  - 2.1     Any business established within the Elbe, Ashford, Alder and Mineral areas (Mt. Rainier corridor) shall be eligible for membership. Members must provide proof of business license to the association.
- Section 3     Dues
  - 3.1     Dues for all members shall be established by a simple majority of members
  - 3.2     Dues shall be for the period from January 1 through December 31
  - 3.3     A grace period of 15 days after January 1 shall be allowed to continuing members to submit their dues.
  - 3.4     Payment in full of dues shall be a condition for members.
  - 3.5     Dues for new or returning members shall be prorated monthly from the date of initial or renewal of membership until the next December 31.

## **Article IV – Elected Officers and their Duties**

- Section 1     President
  - 1.1     The president shall call and chair all regular meetings.
  - 1.2     The president shall maintain correspondence with all community and governmental agencies.
- Section 2     Vice President
  - 2.1     The vice president shall act for the president in all matters delegated by the president.
- Section 3     Treasurer
  - 3.1     The treasurer shall maintain an accurate record of all association financial transactions.
  - 3.2     The treasurer shall present a summary of all monthly financial transactions and balances at each regular meeting.
  - 3.3     The treasurer shall present to the voting membership a complete record of all financial transactions for the fiscal year at the September regular meeting.
- Section 4     Secretary
  - 4.1     The secretary shall maintain all internal and external communications.

- 4.2 The secretary shall maintain an accurate record of all regular and executive meetings.

## **Article V – Meetings**

### Section 1 Regular Meetings

- 1.1 The time and place of regular meetings shall be decided by the voting membership.
- 1.2 The president shall notify all members of the time, place, and agenda items for all regular meetings.

### Section 2 Executive Meetings

- 2.1 The president may call for an executive meeting to include the president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary.
- 2.2 The secretary shall maintain minutes of all executive meetings and shall make them available to all members at the next regular meeting.
- 2.3 No action in an executive meeting shall have a binding effect on the general membership.

### Section 3 Special Meetings

- 3.1 The president may call a special meeting by written notification to the general membership.

### Section 4 Manner of Acting

- 4.1 All association actions shall result from a majority vote of the members present at the official meeting.

## **Article VI – Election of Officers**

### Section 1 General Guidelines

- 1.1 The offices of president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary, shall be nominated at the regular September meeting.
- 1.2 All nominations for officers shall be placed with the association secretary at or before the regular September meeting.
- 1.3 Members may vote for elected officers at the regular October meeting or by registering their vote with the association secretary at least seven (7) days prior to the regular October meeting.
- 1.4 To be eligible to be a candidate for the offices of President and Vice-President one must first be an "active" member of the Mt. Rainier Visitor Association for a period of two years
- 1.5 Each business member of the organization shall be eligible to present one candidate for any office or as a member of the board of directors. Therefore, no business shall have more than one representative in an executive capacity for the organization. Also, no family member of such representative shall be considered for employment of the organization while serving his/her term of office.

Section 2 Term Limits

- 2.1 Elected offices shall be for a term of fourteen months, beginning in November following the elections and continuing through December of the following year, with an overlap of incoming and outgoing board members from November thru December.

Section 3 Special Elections

- 3.1 The president shall call a special election to fill an elected vacancy.
- 3.2 Special elections shall follow the procedure established under the general guidelines with the exception of the specified months of the election process.
- 3.3 The voting membership shall establish the months for any special elections.

**Article VII – Administrative Provisions**

Section 1 Books and Records

- 1.1 For accounting purposes, the fiscal year shall be from January 1 through December 31.
- 1.2 Books shall be understood to mean documentation of all financial transactions for the association.
- 1.3 Records shall be understood to mean communications, both internal and external, generated by the association.

Section 2 Rules of Procedure

- 2.1 Roberts Rules of Order shall be the governing authority for all procedural matters during regular and executive meetings.
- 2.2 A quorum at a regular meeting shall be a simple majority of members present, but no less than 25% of all voting members.

**Article VIII - Amendments to the Bylaws**

Section 1 These Bylaws may be amended by a vote of the members.

- 1.1 All amendments shall be by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of all members.
- 1.2 All proposed amendments shall be placed with the association secretary at or before the regular meeting prior to the vote and no less than thirty (30) days prior to the vote.
- 1.3 All members shall be notified of the proposed amendment by the association secretary no less than twenty-one (21) days prior to the vote.
- 1.4 Members may vote for the proposed amendment at the designated regular meeting or by registering their vote with the association secretary at least seven (7) days prior to the designated regular meeting.