# **BYLAWS**

**OF** 

# BERKELEY WALK AT SAVANNAH QUARTERS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

A Nonprofit Corporation (the "Association")

# **ARTICLE I**

# **DEFINITIONS**

These By-Laws are the By-Laws of the Association, which is the corporation created by Articles of Incorporation filed with the Secretary of State of Georgia on March 21, 2018, the "Articles of Incorporation"). All references herein to the "Declaration" shall refer to that certain recorded instrument know as "Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Easements and Restrictions for Berkeley Walk", in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Chatham County, Georgia, as the same has been amended and supplemented from time to time. All capitalized of underlined terms used herein shall have the meaning assigned thereby the Declaration unless the context clearly otherwise requires.

# **ARTICLE II**

## **MEETING OF MEMBERS**

<u>Section 1</u>. <u>Annual Meetings</u>. Annual meetings of the member shall be held in the month of November. At each such meeting, the members shall by majority vote, elect the number of directors whose terms are expiring.

<u>Section 2</u>. <u>Special Meetings</u>. Special meetings of the Members may be called at any time by the President or by the Board of Directors, or upon written request of the Members who are entitled to vote fifty-one percent (51%) of all of the votes of the Class A membership.

<u>Section 3</u>. <u>Notice of Meetings</u>. Written notice of each meeting of the Members shall be given by, or at the direction of, the secretary or person authorized to call the meeting, by mailing a copy of such notice, postage prepaid, at least fifteen (15) days before such meeting to each Member entitled to vote thereat, addressed to the Member's address last appearing on the books of the Association, or supplied by such Member to the Association for the purpose of notice. Such notice shall specify the place, day, and hour of the meeting, and. in the case of a special meeting, the purpose of the meeting.

<u>Section 4. Quorum.</u> The presence at the meeting of Members entitled to cast, or of proxies entitled to cast, one-tenth (1/10) of the votes of each class of membership shall constitute a quorum for any action except as otherwise provided in the Articles of Incorporation, the Declaration, or these Bylaws. If, however, such quorum shall not be present or represented at any meeting, the Members entitled to vote thereat shall have power to adjourn the meeting from time

to time, without notice other than announcement at the meeting, until a quorum as aforesaid shall be present or be represented.

<u>Section 5</u>. <u>Proxies</u>. At all meetings of Members, each Member may vote in person or by proxy. All proxies shall be in writing and filed with the secretary. Every proxy shall be revocable and shall automatically cease upon conveyance by the Member of his or her Lot.

# **ARTICLE III**

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS: SELECTION: TERM OF OFFICE**

Section 1. Governing Body: Composition. The affairs of this Association shall be governed by a Board of Directors, each of whom shall have one (1) equal vote. The directors shall be eligible Members; provided however, no Owners representing the same Lot may serve on the Board at the same time. An Owner that owns multiple lots may have one Director for each lot, if so elected. No Owner shall be eligible to serve as a director if any assessment for such Owner's Lot is delinquent. For the purpose of these By-Laws an officer must be eighteen (18) years of age or older whose principal place of residence is a Lot within the Properties or a Builder and/or Developer owning at least one lot within the Properties.

<u>Section 2.</u> <u>Number of Directors.</u> The affairs of this Association shall be managed by a Board of five (5) directors.

<u>Section 3</u>. <u>Term of Office</u>. At the First Regular Meeting, the Members shall elect two (2) directors for a term of one year and three (3) directors for a term of two (2) years, and at each annual meeting thereafter, the Members shall elect for a term of two (2) years the number of directors whose terms are expiring.

<u>Section 4</u>. <u>Removal</u>. Any director may be removed by the Board, with or without cause or, by a majority vote of the Members of the Association at a properly called meeting of the Members.

Any director elected by the Members who has three (3) or more consecutive unexcused absences from Board meetings, or who is more than thirty (30) Days delinquent in the payment of any assessment or other charge due the Association, may be removed by a majority of the directors, and the Board may appoint a successor to fill the vacancy until the next annual meeting, at which time the Members entitled to fill such directorship may be elect a successor for the remainder of the term.

In the event of death, resignation, or removal of a director, his or her successor shall be selected by the remaining Members of the Board and shall serve for the unexpired term of his predecessor.

<u>Section 5</u>. <u>Compensation</u>. No director shall receive compensation for any service he or she may render to the Association. However, any director may be reimbursed for his or her actual expenses incurred in the performance of his or her duties.

<u>Section 6</u>. <u>Action Taken Without a Meeting</u>. The directors shall have the right to take any action in the absence of a meeting, which they could take at a meeting by obtaining the written approval of all the directors. Any action so approved shall have the same effect as though taken at a meeting of the directors.

## ARTICLE IV

# NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Nomination. After the period of Declarant control, nomination for election to the Board of Directors shall be made by a Nominating Committee or by another procedure approved by the Board of Directors. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the First Regular Meeting or the annual meetings thereafter. The Nominating Committee shall consist of a Chairman, who shall be a member of the Board of Directors, and two or more Members of the Association. The Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors from time to time as needed. The Nominating Committee shall make as many nominations for election to the Board of Directors as it shall in its discretion determine, but not less than the number of vacancies that are to be filed. Such nominations may be made from among Members or non-Members.

<u>Section 2</u>. <u>Election</u>. Election to the Board of Directors shall be by secret written ballot. At such election, the Members or their proxies may cast, in respect to each vacancy, as many votes as they are entitled to exercise under the provisions of the Declaration. The persons receiving the largest number of votes shall be elected and the persons with the highest totals shall fill the vacancies with the longest term. Cumulative voting is not permitted.

<u>Section 3</u>. <u>Declarant Rights</u>. Declarant shall be entitled to appoint all Directors until voluntary relinquishment of that right or upon conversion of the Class B membership to Class A membership as provided in the Declaration.

## ARTICLE V

# **MEETINGS OF DIRECTORS**

<u>Section 1.</u> <u>Location of Meetings</u>. Meetings of the board of directors, regular or special, shall be held within Chatham County in the State of Georgia, or such place as the Board of Directors may determine.

<u>Section 2</u>. <u>Regular Meetings</u>. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors may be held with such frequency and at such time and at such place as shall from time to time be determined by the board. If the board has so fixed the frequency, time and place of regular meetings, no notice thereof shall be necessary.

<u>Section 3</u>. <u>Special Meetings</u>. Special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held when called by the President of the Association, or by any two directors, after not less than three (3) days' notice to each director.

<u>Section 4.</u> <u>Notice of Meetings</u>. Notice of a meeting need not be given to any director who signs a waiver of notice either before or after the meeting, or who attend the meeting without protesting, prior thereto or at its commencement, the lack of notice thereof. Neither the business to be transacted at, nor the purpose of, any regular or special meeting of the board of directors need be specified in the notice or waiver of notice of such meeting.

<u>Section 5</u>. <u>Quorum</u>. A majority of the number of directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business unless a greater number is required by law or by the Articles of Incorporation. If a quorum shall not be present at any meeting of directors, the directors present may adjourn the meeting from time to time until a quorum shall be present, without notice of the time and place that the meeting will be reconvened other than announcement at the adjourned meeting.

<u>Section 6.</u> <u>Majority</u>. The act of a majority of the directors present at any meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the board of directors, unless the act of a greater number is required by law or by the Articles of Incorporation.

<u>Section 7.</u> <u>Action by Consent.</u> Any action required or permitted to be taken at a meeting of directors or a committee thereof may be taken without a meeting if consent in writing, setting forth the action so taken, is signed by all directors or members of the committee, as the case may be, entitled to vote with respect to the subject matter thereof. Such consent shall be filled with the minutes of the proceedings of the board or committee.

# **ARTICLE VI**

## POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Powers. The Board of Directors shall have power to:

- (a) adopt and publish rules and regulations governing the use of the Common Area and facilities, the personal conduct of the Members and their guests thereon, and to establish penalties for the infraction thereof;
- (b) suspend the voting rights and right to use of the recreational facilities of a Member during any period in which such Member shall be in default in the payment of any assessment levied by the Association. Such rights may also be suspended after notice, for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days for infraction of published rules and regulations.
- (c) exercise for the Association all powers, duties, and authority vested in or delegated to this Association and not reserved to the membership by other provisions of these Bylaws, the Articles of Incorporation, or the Declaration;
- (d) declare the office of a member of the Board of Directors to be vacant in the event such member shall be absent from three (3) consecutive regular meetings of the Board of Directors; and
- (e) employ a manager, an independent contractor, or such other employees as they deem necessary, and to prescribe their duties. Provided further, that the Board of Directors shall ratify

and approve the management agreement provided, that the Association has the right to terminate such management agreement upon not less than sixty (60) days written notice to said managing agent.

# <u>Section 2</u>. <u>Duties</u>. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to:

- (a) cause to be kept a complete record of all its acts and corporate affairs and to present a statement thereof to the Members at the annual meeting of the Members, or at any special meeting when such statement is requested in writing by fifty-one percent (51%) of the Members who are entitled to vote;
- (b) supervise all officers, agents, and employees of this Association, and to see that their duties are property performed;
  - (c) as more fully provided in the Declaration, to:
    - (1) fix the amount of the annual assessment against each Lot at least thirty (30) days in advance of each annual assessment period;
    - (2) send written notice of each assessment to every Owner subject thereto at least thirty (30) days in advance of each annual assessment period; and
    - (3) foreclose the lien against any property for which assessments are not paid within a time period determined by the Board of Directors, after due date or to bring an action at law against the owner personally obligated to pay the same.
- (d) issue, or to cause an appropriate officer to issue, upon demand by any person, a certificate setting forth whether or not any assessment has been paid. A reasonable charge may be made by the Board for the issuance of these certificates. If a certificate states an assessment has been paid, such certificate shall be conclusive evidence of such payment;
- (e) procure and maintain adequate liability and hazard insurance on property owned by the Association or as required in the Declaration;
  - (f) cause the Common Area to be maintained;
  - (g) cause the exterior of the residential units to be maintained;
  - (h) perform all other duties and responsibilities provided in the Declaration.

## **ARTICLE VII**

# **OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES**

<u>Section 1</u>. <u>Enumeration of Offices</u>. The officers of this Association shall be a president and vice president, who shall, at all times, be members of the Board of Directors; a secretary, a treasurer; and such other officers as the Board may from time to time by resolution create.

Section 2. Election of Officers. The election of officers shall take place at the first meeting of the Board of Directors following each annual meeting of members and shall hold offices until their respective successors have been elected and shall have qualified, and if the board of director shall fail in any year or years to meet and elect officers, the officers last elected shall continue to hold office. The officers shall be a member of the board of directors and a member of the Association.

<u>Section 3</u>. <u>Term.</u> The officers of this Association shall be elected annually by the Board, and each shall hold office for one (1) year, unless he or she shall sooner resign, shall be removed, or otherwise disqualified to serve.

<u>Section 4.</u> <u>Special Appointments</u>. The Board may elect such other officers as the affairs of the Association may require, each of whom shall hold office for such period, have such authority, and perform such duties as the Board may, from time to time, determine.

<u>Section 5.</u> <u>Resignation and Removal.</u> Any officer may be removed from office with or without cause by the Board. Any officer may resign at any time, giving written notice to the Board, the president, or the secretary. Such resignation shall take effect on the date of receipt of such notice or at any later time specified therein, and unless otherwise specified therein, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

<u>Section 6</u>. <u>Vacancies</u>. A vacancy in any office may be filled by appointment by the Board. The officer appointed to such vacancy shall serve for the remainder of the term of the officer he or she replaces.

<u>Section 7</u>. <u>Multiple Offices</u>. The offices of secretary and treasurer may be held by the same person. No person shall simultaneously hold more than one of any of the other offices, except in the case of special offices created pursuant to Section 4 of this Article or as determined by the Board of Directors during the period of Declarant's control.

Section 8. Duties. The duties of the officers are as follows:

#### President

(a) The president shall be the chief executive officer of the Association, shall preside at all meetings of members and the board of directors, shall have general and active management of the business of the Association and shall see that all orders and resolutions of the board of directors are carried into effect. He or she with the approval of the board of directors shall have the authority and power to execute on behalf of the Association bonds, mortgages, notes, contracts, leases and other documents and instruments (whether or not requiring a seal of the Association) except where such documents or instruments are required by law to be otherwise signed and executed and except where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the board of directors to some other officer or agent of the Association.

#### Vice President

(b) The vice president shall act in the place and stead of the president in the event of his or her absence, inability, or refusal to act, and shall exercise and discharge such other duties as may be required of him or her by the Board.

# Secretary and Assistant Secretary

(c) The secretary shall attend all meetings of the members and the board of directors and shall record the proceedings of such meetings in the books to be kept for that purpose, and shall perform like duties for the committees of the directors when required. He or she shall give, or cause to be given, notice of all meeting of the members and special meetings of the board of directors, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the board of directors of the president, under whose supervision he shall be. He or she shall have custody of the corporate seal of the Association and shall have the authority to affix it to any instrument requiring it and when so affixed it may be attested by his signature. If the association has an assistant secretary, in the absence or disability of the secretary, perform the duties and exercise the powers (including affixation of the Corporate Seal) of the secretary and shall perform such other duties and have such other powers as the board of directors may from time to time prescribe.

#### Treasurer

(d) The treasurer shall receive and deposit in appropriate bank accounts all monies of the Association and shall disburse such funds as directed by resolution of the Board of Directors; absent some resolution from the Board of Directors specifying otherwise shall sign all checks and promissory notes of the Association; keep proper books of account; and shall prepare an annual budget and a statement of income and expenditures to be presented to the membership at its regular annual meeting and deliver a copy of each to the Members.

# **ARTICLE VIII**

# **COMMITTEES**

The Association shall appoint an Architectural Control Committee, as provided in the Declaration, and a Nominating Committee, as provided in these Bylaws. In addition, the Board of Directors shall appoint other committees as deemed appropriate in carrying out its purpose.

# **ARTICLE IX**

## **BOOKS AND RECORDS**

The books; records, and papers of the Association shall, at all times during reasonable business hours, be subject to inspection by any Member. The Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation, and the Bylaws of the Association shall be available for inspection by any Member at the principal office of the Association, where copies may be purchased at reasonable cost.

# **ARTICLE X**

## **ASSESSMENTS**

<u>Section 1</u>. <u>General</u>. As more fully provided in the Declaration, each Member is obligated to pay to the Association assessments and special assessments, which are secured by a continuing lien upon the property against which the assessment is made. Any assessments, which are not paid when due, shall be delinquent. The Association may bring an action at law against the Owner personally obligated to pay the same or foreclose the lien against the property, and interests, costs, and reasonable attorney's fees of any such action shall be added to the amount of such assessment. No Owner may waive or otherwise escape liability for the assessments provided for herein by non-use of the Common Area or abandonment of his or her Lot.

<u>Section 2</u>. <u>Annual Budget</u>. The Board shall cause to be prepared an estimated annual budget for each fiscal year of the Association. The annual budget shall provide for a reserve for contingencies for the year and a reserve for capital expenditures, in reasonable amounts as determined by the Board, according to the Declaration.

<u>Section 3</u>. <u>Records and Statement of Account</u>. The Board shall cause to be kept detailed and accurate records of the receipts and expenditures affecting (i) the Properties, (ii) the Lots, and (iii) the Common Area, specifying and itemizing the common expenses incurred. Payment vouchers may be approved in such manner as the Board may determine.

Section 4. Discharge of Liens. The Board may cause the Association to discharge any mechanic's lien or other encumbrance, which in the opinion of the Board may constitute a lien against the Properties or the Common Area, other than a lien against only a particular Lot. When less than all the Owners are responsible for the existence of any such lien, the Owners responsible shall be jointly and severally liable for the amount necessary to discharge the same and for all costs and expenses, including attorneys' fees, incurred by reason of such lien.

<u>Section 5</u>. <u>Forbearance</u>. The Association shall have no authority to forebear the payment of assessments by any Owner.

# **ARTICLE XI**

## **INDEMNIFICATION**

Section 1. General. The Association shall indemnify and hold harmless each of its directors and officers, each member of any committee appointed pursuant to the By-Laws of the Association, the Board, and Declarant, against all contractual and other liabilities to others arising out of contracts made by or other act of such directors, Board, officers, committee members, or Declarant, on behalf of the Owners, or arising out of their status as directors, Board, officers, committee members, unless any such contract or act is contrary to the provisions of the laws of the State of South Carolina, the Declaration or these By-Laws or shall have been made fraudulently or with gross negligence or criminal intent. It is intended that the foregoing indemnification shall include indemnification against all cost and expenses (including, but not limited to, counsel fees, amounts of judgment paid and amounts paid in settlement) reasonably incurred in connection with the defense of any claim, action, suit or proceeding, whether civil,

criminal, administrative or other, in which any such director, officer, Board, committee member or Declarant, may be involved by virtue of such persons being or having been such directors, officer, Board, committee member or Declarant; provided, however, that such indemnity shall not be operative with respect to (a) any matter as to which such person shall have been finally adjudged in such action, suit or proceeding to be liable for gross negligence or fraud in the performance of his duties as such director, officer, Board, committee member, or Declarant; or (b) any matter settled or compromised, unless, in the opinion of independent counsel selected by or in a manner determined by the Board, there is not reasonable ground for such persons being adjudged liable for gross negligence or fraud in the performance of his duties as such director, Board, officer, committee member or Declarant.

Section 2. Success on Merits. To the extent that the Declarant or a member of the Board of Directors or an officer of the Association or a member of any committee appointed pursuant to the Bylaws of the Association has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit or proceeding referred to in Section I, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, he or she shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonable incurred by him or her in connection therewith.

Section 3. Advance Payment. Expenses incurred in defending a civil or criminal action, suit or proceeding may be paid by the Association in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding as authorized by the Board of Directors in the specific case upon receipt of any undertaking by or on behalf of the person or entity seeking such indemnification or payment in advance to repay such amount unless it shall ultimately be determined that he or she is entitled to be indemnified by the Association as authorized in this Article XIII.

Section 4. Miscellaneous. The Association and the Board shall have the power to raise and the responsibility for raising by special assessment or otherwise, any sums required to discharge its obligations under this article. Every agreement made by the directors, Board, officers, members of such committees, Declarant or by the Managing Agent on behalf of the Owners shall provide that the directors, Board, officers, members of such committees, Declarant or the Managing Agent, as the case may be, are acting only as agents for the Association and shall have no personal liability thereunder. The indemnification provided by this Article XI shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which those seeking indemnification may be entitled under any statute, agreement, vote of Members of the Association or disinterested members of the Board of Directors or otherwise, both as to action in his or her official capacity and as to action in another capacity while holding such office. Such right to indemnification shall continue as to Declarant and any person or entity who has ceased to be Declarant or a member of the Board of Directors, officer of the Association or a member of such committee, and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns of Declarant such person or entity.

## **ARTICLE XII**

# **MISCELLANEOUS**

Section 1. Fidelity Bond. The Board shall require (1) that all officers, employees or other persons who either handle or are responsible for funds held or administered by the Association shall

furnish fiduciary insurance coverage which covers the maximum amount of funds that will be in custody of the Association plus the Association reserve funds, the premium cost of which will be paid by the Association and (2) that all management companies who either handle or are responsible for funds held or administered by the Association shall furnish a fidelity bond to the Association which covers the maximum amount of Association funds and the Association reserves that will be in the custody of the management company, the premium cost of which will be paid by the Association, and shall at all times maintain a separate account for each reserve fund, for the total operating funds of the Association managed by the management company and for all other monies of the management company. The management company may hold all operating funds of the Association which it manages in a single operating account but shall at all times maintain records identifying all monies of each Association on such operating account.

<u>Section 2</u>. <u>Applicability of Documents to Lessees of a Lot</u>. The Declaration, By-Laws, and other Rules and Regulations of the Association shall be applicable to any person leasing the Lot and shall be deemed to be incorporated in any lease for any Lot in the Properties.

# **ARTICLE XIII**

# **CORPORATE SEAL**

The Association may have a seal in circular form, having within its circumference the words: Berkeley Walk Homeowners Association, Inc.

## **ARTICLE XIV**

## **AMENDMENTS**

<u>Section 1</u>. These Bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed or new By-Laws may be adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the board of directors.

<u>Section 2</u>. In the case of any conflict between the Articles of Incorporation and these Bylaws, the Articles shall control; and in the case of any conflict between the Declaration and these Bylaws or the Articles, the Declaration shall control.

## ARTICLE XV

# **FISCAL YEAR**

The fiscal year of the Association shall begin on the first day of January and end on the 31st day of December of every year, except that the first fiscal year shall begin on the date of incorporation.