

# Astronomical Society of Nevada

Constitution Revised 11 February 2022 (effective date April 2022)

## ARTICLE: I—NAME AND PURPOSE

### Section 1 NAME

The name of the Society shall be Astronomical Society of Nevada. (ASN)

### Section: 2 PURPOSES

The purpose of the Society shall be:

- (a) To encourage, foster, conduct, and support programs on astronomy and related sciences for the education and enlightenment of the general public and the membership.
- (b) To encourage, foster, and promote an interest in astronomy and related sciences in all interested parties.
- (c) To sponsor and promote telescope viewing sessions, commonly called “Star Parties” for the general public and membership.
- (d) To encourage and promote cooperation with other groups having similar objectives; to exchange and disseminate matters of interest in astronomy and related sciences.

## ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

### Section 1 REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

- (a) Anyone with an expressed interest in astronomy or related sciences may be elected to regular membership upon payment of dues with approval of Officers.

### Section 2 HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

- (a) Honorary membership may be conferred upon any person who has made outstanding contributions to the Society.
- (b) Honorary membership may be conferred upon persons, with the approval of two-thirds of the membership present at a regular or special meeting.
- (c) Honorary membership includes all of the privileges and duties of regular membership, except voting, holding office, and payments of dues.

## ARTICLE III OFFICERS

### Section 1 Officers

- (a) The Officers of the society shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian.

### Section 2 DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- (a) President—The president of the society shall preside over all Society meetings and shall perform such other duties as custom and Parliamentary usage may require.

- (b) Vice President – The Vice President shall act in the capacity of the President in the absence of the latter or at the request of the President. If the occasion arises, the Vice President shall succeed to the un-expired term to the President.
- (c) Secretary – The Secretary shall keep a record of all proceedings of the Society and carry on such correspondence as the Society may direct. The Secretary shall serve as custodian of the current documents of the Society.
- (d) Treasurer – The Treasurer shall collect dues, shall keep an up-to-date record of the financial transactions of the society, and pay all bills and accounts owed by the Society. Such payment shall be reported on and recorded in the minutes of each regular meeting.
- (e) Historian – The historian shall serve as the custodian of all past records, documents, and Memorabilia of the society, and shall provide for the safe Keeping of all Society property

### Section 3 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- (a) Officers shall be elected at a regular or special meeting in October by a simple majority of members in attendance and shall take office at the next regular meeting.
- (b) Nominations shall be opened at least one meeting prior to the election meeting.
- (c) In the event an Officer is unable or unwilling to complete the terms of office, the remaining Officers(s) shall appoint a member to the office for the remainder of the term. (Subject to Section 2(b), Article III.)
- (d) Officers shall be persons of proven maturity, integrity, and reliability.
- (e) An officer's Term shall expire upon their replacement.

### ARTICLE IV COMMITTEES

Section 1 -- The President and Officers shall have the authority to appoint temporary committees for any purpose and new committees shall be recorded in the Minutes. These committees shall automatically dissolve at the annual election of Officer unless newly elected officers vote to continue an existing committee.

### ARTICLE V MEETINGS

#### Section 1—MEETINGS

- (a) Regular meetings shall be held each month, unless otherwise specified.
- (b) Special meetings may be call at any time by the officers or by petition of any ten regular members of the Society, provided at least one week's notice is given all members

#### Section 2 – MEETING PROCEDURES

- (a) All meetings, regular and special, shall be chaired by the President, or in absence, the Vice President. A quorum shall consist at least 5 members including 3 Officers. A majority of those present shall pass a motion.
- (b) Special meetings may be called at time by the officers or by petition of any ten regular members of the Society, provided at least one week's notice is given all members.
- (c) Meetings shall be held at a time and place designated by the Membership.

## ARTICLE VI FUNDS

### Section 1 – ANNUAL DUES

- (a) The amount of dues shall be decided annually at a regular or special meeting in July.

### Section 2 – ADDITIONAL FUND RAISING

- (a) Any additional fund-raising projects, including donations are acceptable as approved those members in attendance at any regular or special meeting.

### Section 3 – FISCAL YEAR

- (a) The fiscal Year shall be from January 1, to December 31.

## ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENTS AND PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

### Section 1 – AMENDMENTS

- (a) Notice and text of all proposed amendments shall be sent to all members prior to the meeting preceding the meeting at which the amendment is to be voted on. Full discussion of proposed amendments shall be allowed during at least one meeting prior to the meeting at which the vote is taken.
- (b) A written ballot shall be required for all proposed amendments. At the discretion of the Officers, a mail or email ballot may be employed. Two-thirds of all votes cast shall be sufficient to approve amendment.

### Section 2 – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

- (a) The final procedural authority governing affairs of the society shall be the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order (Revised) unless otherwise provided for in this Constitution.
- (a) This Bylaw provides for the expenditure of ASN funds specifically for the procurement of goods and services that are consistent with the club's Purpose (stated in the Constitution), when approved by a majority vote of a quorum of members. Expenditures made without prior approval and discretionary spending found to be inconsistent with the club's Purpose are made at the buyer's risk.



## Section 2 – Discretionary spending by officers

(a) Discretionary spending by Officers. ASN officers are authorized to spend up to \$50 per month and be reimbursed by the Treasurer upon presentation of a receipt. Unused authorization does not carry forward to future months.

(b) Regular members will not be reimbursed unless the expenditure is approved by a vote in advance of the expenditure.

## Section 3 – Approval by voting.

(a) Any expenditure above \$50 must be approved by a vote of a majority of a quorum of members, as follows:

(b) Expenditures in the range of \$50 - \$1,000 can be made after approval by a vote at a single ASN monthly meeting.

(c) Expenditures in excess of \$1,000 require approval by two such votes made at consecutive monthly meetings.

(d) An exception can be made to (b) or (c) above provided that:

(i) A “time is of the essence” declaration has been made by the President and majority of Officers concerning the expenditure,

(ii) The expenditure has received favorable support at one meeting,

(iii) The funds are available for the expenditure

(iv) The expenditure is unanimously supported by the officers,

## ARTICLE IX – ANNUAL BUDGET

### Section 1 – Approval of an Annual Budget.

(a) Following officer elections, and as soon as possible thereafter, the Treasurer will present an annual budget that will be voted on at the following month’s meeting. This will cover recurring annual business expenses such as licenses and insurance. Once the budget is approved, the Treasurer may proceed without further authorization to procure the approved items.

Reviewed & approved on April 12, 2022, by the ASN Members present.

Certified by James P. Gaherty II President  
Signature Title

