

THE LINCOLN GROUP OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

BY-LAWS

As amended, May 16, 2006

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of the organization shall be The Lincoln Group of the District of Columbia, Inc., hereafter referred to as The Lincoln Group.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this organization shall be to collect, preserve, and disseminate the history, biography and world-wide influence of Abraham Lincoln, to promote the great American ideals as exemplified by him and to honor his memory by appropriate meetings, activities and educational programs.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership in this organization shall be open to all persons interested in Abraham Lincoln and in the promotion of the objectives for which The Lincoln Group was formed.

Section 2. Membership shall comprise the following classes:

a. Active Members: The title Active Member shall be given to those members who have joined The Lincoln Group and are current in their dues. There are four types of active memberships:

- (1) Regular: Those members living within the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area;
- (2) Subscriber: Those members living outside the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area;
- (3) Full-Time Student
- (4) Family

b. Honorary Members: The title Honorary Member shall be given to those individuals recognized as authorities on Abraham Lincoln. They shall be approved for election "to this class by a majority vote of the Board of Governors.

c. Life Members: The title Life Member shall be given to those individuals who are in the active membership and have paid life membership dues, the amount of which is set by a majority vote of the officers.

d. Sustaining Members: The title Sustaining Member shall be given annually to those

members who make a special contribution to the Lincoln Group in an amount to be set by a majority vote of the officers.

ARTICLE IV - DUES

Section 1. The fiscal year for The Lincoln Group begins January 1 and ends December 31. Dues are payable by the member upon acceptance to membership and thereafter annually every January. Dues for members joining after July 1 shall be pro-rated.

Section 2. Honorary members shall be exempt from dues, except on a voluntary basis, but shall otherwise enjoy all benefits and privileges of membership.

Section 3. Life members shall be exempt from dues after making a single payment to the Treasurer in the sum determined by majority vote of the Officers.

Section 4. The amount of dues shall be set by a majority vote of the Officers of The Lincoln Group.

Section 5. Non-payment of dues terminates membership in The Lincoln Group.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS AND DUTIES

Section 1. The elected officers shall be: President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Treasurer, Membership Secretary and Recording Secretary. Officers shall be chosen from the paid membership.

Section 2. The term of office shall be two years or until the Officer's successor is chosen. Any officer's position which becomes vacant during the term of office may be filled ad interim by special election. Officers are eligible for reelection but the President shall not serve more than two consecutive terms.

Section 3. The President shall preside at all meetings of the organization and of the Board of Governors. He or she shall appoint the chair and members of all committees.

Section 4. The First Vice-President shall act in the absence of the President and the Second Vice-President shall act in the absence of both the President and the First Vice-President.

Section 5. The Treasurer shall keep a record of all financial transactions, receipts, and disbursements and shall make payments of all duly authorized expenses. He or she shall prepare an annual budget report for publication in The Lincoln Group newsletter, The Lincolnian.

Section 6. The Recording Secretary shall keep complete and correct minutes of the Officers' meetings, and keep copies of the By-laws and correspondence of The Lincoln Group.

Section 7. The Membership Secretary shall retain accurate membership rolls and compile and distribute the membership directory.

Section 8. Nomination for terms of office shall be submitted by the Chair of the Nominating Committee to the general membership at the April meeting. Elections will be conducted at the May meeting and new officers will assume their duties at the September meeting.

Section 9. Each officer will orient his or her successor to the duties and responsibilities connected with that office.

ARTICLE VI - BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Section 1. The Board of Governors shall consist of not over 12 members and the immediate past President who will serve in an advisory capacity and may, at the request of the President, assume committee chairs and attend meetings.

Section 2. . Governors shall be chosen from among those persons with an avid interest in Abraham Lincoln and shall be individuals supportive and knowledgeable of the objectives of The Lincoln Group. They shall be entitled to an equal vote on matters brought before them. In cases of a tie, The President will vote.

Section 3. The President shall make recommendations for appointment to the Board. Acceptance of the recommendations shall be by majority vote of the Officers.

Section 4. A Chair of the Board shall be chosen from among the Board members by the President with the majority consent of the officers.

Section 5. The term of office shall be one year. Each member of the Board of Governors may succeed him or herself.

ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS

Section 1. The annual meeting shall be held in May and include the election of the Officers.

Section 2. Regular meetings shall be usually held the third Tuesday of each month from September to May except the February meeting which is held on Abraham Lincoln's birthday or a date closest to his birthday selected by the Officers.

Section 3. The President shall meet with the officers three times a year: September, January and June. Special meetings may be called by the President.

ARTICLE VIII - STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 1. The President may appoint the following standing committees: Program, Membership, Publication and Nominating.

Section 2. The Program Committee shall be responsible for the monthly public programs.

Section 3. The Membership committee shall actively promote the objectives of The Lincoln Group by developing methods to secure new members.

Section 4. The Publication Committee shall be responsible for The Lincoln Group's official publication, The Lincolnian, which is published bi-monthly.

ARTICLE IX - THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating committee shall be responsible for conducting annual nominations and elections. It shall consist of at least three members.

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS

These by-laws may be amended by a simple majority vote of all members in good standing present at a regular or special assembly of The Lincoln Group provided any changes to the by-laws have been published in The Lincolnian no less than 30 days prior to the date of the vote.

ARTICLE XI - PROCEDURES

Parliamentary procedures shall be governed by these by-laws and Robert's Rules of Order.