

## JCTA MISSION STATEMENT, CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWYS

# JOINT COUNCIL OF TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATIONS OF LONG BEACH ISLAND

The Joint Council of Taxpayers' Associations of Long Beach Island (JCTA) is made up of representatives from each participating taxpayer organization. The principal contact in each participating organization is the president, who may participate in meetings and/or may assign one or two delegates to participate in meetings and/or committees.

### MISSION STATEMENT

A collaborative effort by multiple Long Beach Island taxpayer associations to identify and address the issues that mutually affect all property values and life experiences on Long Beach Island

### TERMS USED THROUGHOUT THIS DOCUMENT

**Joint Council** and the Joint Council of Taxpayers' Associations of Long Beach Island are the same organization.

**JCTA** and the Joint Council of Taxpayers' Associations of Long Beach Island are the same organization.

**Municipality** as used in this document stands for the five boroughs and one township on Long Beach Island: Barnegat Light, Beach Haven, Harvey Cedars, Long Beach Township, Ship Bottom and Surf City.

Officially recognized geographic sections within Long Beach Township are Brant Beach, High Bar Harbor, Holgate, Loveladies and North Beach.

**Taxpayer** refers to all who pay taxes on Long Beach Island as well as primary residents even if they are a tenant. Residents are represented by the taxpayer associations in their borough or municipality.

**Taxpayer Association & Taxpayer Organization** are umbrella terms and include all taxpayer associations, homeowner associations and property owner associations.

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## **CONSTITUTION**

(Adopted 1986, unless amended as stated)

### **Article I**

#### **Organization and Objectives**

**Section 1** This organization shall be known as the JOINT COUNCIL OF TAXPAYERS' ASSOCIATIONS OF LONG BEACH ISLAND, INC.

**Section 2** Its purposes shall be as follows:

- a. To preserve and promote the quality of life of the residents and taxpayers of Long Beach Island;
- b. To study and make recommendations on matters of common concern to each participating taxpayer organizations;
- c. To promote efficiency in government at all levels including but not limited to economic, cultural and environmental matters of common concern;
- d. To foster public interest in all government operations pertinent to Long Beach Island;
- e. To represent the member taxpayer associations before the Municipal, County, State, Federal and other public and quasi-public bodies on matters of common concern to the member taxpayer associations;
- f. To assist and advise as a land use advisory group for the development of Long Beach Island and other areas where development may have an impact on Long Beach Island;
- g. To assist member taxpayer organizations with issues affecting common interests and which are consistent with the objectives set forth above. Such assistance or action by the Council shall in no way restrict independent action by a member taxpayer organization, and
- h. To encourage communications between member taxpayer organizations.

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## Article II

### Membership

**Section 1** An organization to be eligible for membership shall be:

- a. A taxpayer association which represents the concerns of the owner/residents of each municipality or of an officially recognized geographical section within a municipality on Long Beach Island
- b. Formally organized to the extent that it has regular meetings, and
- c. One in which officers have been designated to represent it.

**Section 2** A member taxpayer organization in good standing shall be one which has paid the annual dues to the Joint Council and shall have complied with such other requirements as approved by the Joint Council.

**Section 3** A member taxpayer organization in good standing is eligible to vote with one vote per taxpayer association and to participate in activities of the Joint Council (amended 10/7/19)

**Section 4** Upon written notice to the Secretary, any member taxpayer organization may withdraw from the Joint Council. Such notice shall be deemed to take effect immediately.

**Section 5** If a representative from a taxpayer association fails to attend three consecutive meetings or three meetings in one calendar year, then an officer of JCTA shall contact the president or another officer of the taxpayer association and advise him/her of the absence. If the representative is no longer interested in attending, then the JCTA officer shall request that a new representative to the JCTA be appointed.

**Section 6** If a situation arises which creates a conflict of interest that cannot be overcome between a representative from a taxpayer association and the objectives of the Joint Council, an officer of the JCTA shall contact the president or another officer of the taxpayer association, advise him/her of the conflict of interest and request that a replacement representative from that taxpayer association be appointed.

## Article III

### Membership of Past Presidents

**Section 1** All Past Presidents of this organization shall be Honorary Members, entitled to attend and participate in the business of this organization, but shall not be entitled to a vote. In the event that a Past

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President is duly appointed as a delegate from a member organization, then he or she shall be a voting member provided the member taxpayer organization is in good standing.

### Article IV

#### Meetings

**Section 1** Regular meetings shall be held periodically no less than six times per calendar year on a schedule set forth by the officers of the organization. *(potentially amended 2020)*

**Section 2** Special meetings may be called by the President and/or duly elected officers upon notification to the members in writing or otherwise with a least 24 hours' notice, if possible. *(amended 9/19/90)*

**Section 3** At the regular meeting in August, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee, which shall nominate officers for the year starting in October. The Committee shall report at the September meeting and present its roster of nominees to the Joint Council. *(potentially amended 2020)*

**Section 4** At the October meeting, the new slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee will be put in nomination by a member of that Committee and put to a vote. All taxpayer member organizations shall cast one vote for its choice of each officer; votes may be made in person or via conference call. To be elected, a nominee must be affirmed by no less than 50% of all the Joint Council members. *(potentially amended 2020)*

If there are three or more nominees for an officer position, there will be a vote on the officer position. If a candidate fails to receive the majority vote during the first ballot, then there will be a run-off vote between the two top candidates until one candidate receives at least 50% of the votes of all the Joint Council members. *(potentially amended 2020)*

The newly elected officers shall take office immediately. An officer's term is two years and it can be renewed. All officers' terms begin in October. The terms of the president and secretary expire September 30 in odd years; the terms of the vice president and treasurer expire September 30 in even years.

Each member taxpayer organization shall be represented by not more than two delegates appointed by the officers of the member taxpayer organization or, in their absence, their alternates. *(amended 9/19/90)*

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## Article V

### Changes to the Constitution and Adoption and Changes to By-Laws

**Section 1** The Constitution may be amended after a proposed amendment has been given due notice and JCTA members have had two subsequent opportunities to consider the change. The amendment shall be adopted after ratification by no less than two-thirds of the member taxpayer organizations. All member taxpayer organizations shall cast one vote; votes may be made in person or via conference call.

**Section 2** By-laws for the Joint Council may be adopted or amended after a proposed By-Law or amendment has been given due notice and JCTA members have had one subsequent opportunity to consider the change. The By-Law or amendment shall be adopted after ratification by at least two-thirds of the member taxpayer organizations. All member taxpayer organizations shall cast one vote; votes may be made in person or via conference call.

## BY – LAWS

### Article I

#### Dues

**Section 1** Annual membership dues shall be in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) or such amount as approved by at least 50% of member taxpayer associations and shall be payable to the Treasurer by January 1<sup>st</sup> for the ensuing year. (amended 1/19/94)

### Article II

#### Officers & Trustees

**Section 1** The officers shall consist of the following:

- a. A *President* who shall preside at all meetings, ~~and~~ be an ex-officio member of all committees and be a designated spokesperson for the Joint Council;
- b. A *Vice President* who shall preside at all meetings in the absence of the President committees and be a designated spokesperson for the Joint Council;

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c. *A Treasurer* who shall have custody of the Joint Council funds and perform all functions usual to that office; and

d. *A Secretary* who shall prepare and keep a written record of all regular and special meetings, keep a correct roll of the members and perform the other functions usual to that office.

**Section 2** The duly elected officers shall also serve as Trustees and, together, they shall form the Joint Council Trustees. Any Trustee may be authorized by the president to be a designated spokesperson for the Joint Council for a particular issue.

**Section 3** The officers may serve on committees and perform such functions consistent with responsibilities and objectives of the Joint Council. In the event of the inability of any officer to continue in office for the year for which he or she is elected, the remaining officers have the authority, by a simple majority, to appoint any delegate to fill the unexpired term.

### **Article III** **Committees**

**Section 1** The President shall have the authority at any time during his or her Term of Office to appoint committees and to assign any matter for study and action to the standing or ad hoc committees deemed most appropriate.

**Section 2** The President shall appoint an Audit Committee from the delegates for the purpose of auditing the books of the Joint Council at such times as seems advisable, but at least once per year.

**Section 3** The following shall be standing committees:

- a. *Public Affairs Committee*
- b. *Audit Committee*
- c. *Nominating Committee*

**Section 4** Members of committees shall be appointed to the committee by the President and shall serve on the committee at the discretion of the President.

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## Article IV Meetings

**Section 1** At the regular meetings, the following order shall be observed:

- a. Approval of the Minutes
- b. Reports of officers
- c. Reports of committees
- d. Old business
- e. New business
- f. Election of officers (when applicable)
- g. Adjournment

**Section 2** At all meetings, a quorum shall consist of representation not less than 50% of the member taxpayer organizations in good standing.