BYLAWS OF THE GARDEN DISTRICT SINGLE-FAMILY HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

SECTION 1

DEFINITIONS

The words, phrases and terms used in these Bylaws shall have the meanings as set forth in the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for the "Single-Family Homes in the Garden District (the "Declaration"), executed by Arvida Mid-Atlantic Homes, Inc. and recorded or to be recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

SECTION 2

ADMINISTRATION OF PROPERTIES

- Section 2.1 <u>Authority and Responsibility</u>: Except as otherwise specifically provided in the Declaration, the Association shall have the following duties and responsibilities:
- A. To own, purchase, manage, maintain, repair and replace any or all of the equipment, or other property of any type, used in connection with the maintenance and preservation of the Private Drives.
- B. To make assessments against the Owners of Lots in the Properties for payment of other expenses incurred on behalf of Owners of Lots in the Properties, all in accordance with the provisions of the Declaration.
- C. To promulgate such rules and regulations with respect to the Properties, and to perform such deeds and acts as are deemed necessary to achieve the aforesaid objectives, and to promote the recreation, health, safety and welfare of the members of this corporation, all in accordance with the provisions of the Declaration.
- D. For any other lawful act or activity for which non-profit corporations may be organized under Chapter 55A of the General Statutes of North Carolina.
- Section 2.2 <u>Official Action</u>: Unless specifically required in the Declaration, all actions taken or to be taken by the Association shall be valid when such are approved by the Board as hereinafter set forth or when taken by the committee, person or entity to whom such authority has been duly delegated by the Board as set forth in the Declaration or these Bylaws. The Association, its Board, officers and members shall at all times act in conformity with the Nonprofit Corporation Act of the State of North Carolina, and the Declaration.

SECTION 3

OFFICES - SEAL - FISCAL YEAR

- Section 3.1 <u>Principal Office and Registered Office</u>: The initial principal office and registered office of the Association shall be located at 517 S. Sharon Road, Suite 100, Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina 28211.
- Section 3.2 Other Offices: The Association may have other offices at such other places within the State of North Carolina as the Board may from time to time determine or as the affairs of the Association may require.
- Section 3.3 <u>Seal</u>: The seal of the Association shall contain the name of the Association, the word "Seal", year of incorporation and such other words and figures as desired by the Board.
 - Section 3.4 Fiscal Year: The fiscal year of the Association shall be the calendar year.

SECTION 4

MEMBERSHIP

Section 4.1 <u>Qualification</u>: Membership in the Association shall be limited to the Owners, and every Owner of a Lot shall automatically be a member of the Association. Membership in the Association shall be appurtenant to and may not be separated from Lot ownership. The date of recordation in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Mecklenburg County of the deed conveying any Lot shall govern the date of ownership for that Lot. However, in the case of death, the transfer of ownership shall occur on the date of death (in the case of intestacy), or on the date of probate of the will (in the case of testacy). Until a decedent's will is probated, the Association will rely upon the presumption that a deceased Owner died intestate.

As provided in the Declaration, there shall be two classes of membership in the Association: Class A Members being those Members owning Lots 1 through 9 in Block 3, Lots 2 through 9 in Block 4, and Lots 3 through 9 in Block 5 of the Plat; and Class B Members being those Members owning Lots 1 through 6 in Block 2 of the Plat.

- Section 4.2 <u>Place of Meetings</u>: All meetings of the membership shall be held at a place in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina designated by the Board.
- Section 4.3 <u>Annual Meetings</u>: A meeting of the Association shall be held at least once each year. Annual meetings of the Association shall be held on the second Monday in September of each year at 8:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time. If the second Monday in September shall be a legal holiday, the Annual Meeting shall be held at the same hour on the first day following which is not a legal holiday. At such meetings, the Board shall be elected in accordance with Section 5.3 of these Bylaws, and the Members shall transact such other business as may properly come before them.

Section 4.4 <u>Substitute Annual Meetings</u>: If an Annual Meeting shall not be held on the day designated by these Bylaws, a Substitute Annual Meeting may be called in accordance with the provisions of Sections 4.5 and 4.6. A meeting so called shall be designated and treated for all purposes as the Annual Meeting.

Section 4.5 <u>Special Meetings</u>: After the first Annual Meeting of the Members, special Meetings of the Members may be called at any time by the President; by not less than twenty percent (20%) of all Members; or by not less than fifty-one percent (51%) of the Board members. Business to be acted upon at all Special Meetings shall be confined to the subjects stated in the notice of such meeting.

Section 4.6 <u>Notices of Meetings</u>: Written or printed notice stating the time and place of a membership meeting, including Annual Meetings, and the items on the agenda, including the general nature of any proposed amendment to the Declaration or these Bylaws, any budget changes, and any proposal to remove a director or officer, shall be delivered not less than ten (10) nor more than fifty (50) days before the date of any such membership meeting, either personally or by mail, by or at the discretion of the President or the Secretary, to the address of each Lot. Notice shall be deemed given upon deposit in the mail depository of each Lot.

Notice given to any one tenant in common, tenant by entirety or other joint Owner of a Lot shall be deemed notice to all joint Owners of the subject Lot.

The notice of meeting shall specifically state the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called.

Section 4.7 Quorum: Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, the presence in person or by proxy of Members entitled to cast sixty percent (60%) of the votes which may be cast for election of the Board shall, constitute a quorum at all meetings of the Members. If a quorum is not present or represented at any meeting, the Members entitled to vote thereat shall have the power to adjourn the meeting from time to time, without notice other than the announcement at the meeting, until a quorum is present or is represented. The Members at any meeting at which a quorum is present may continue to do business until adjournment, notwithstanding the withdrawal of enough Members to leave less than a quorum.

Section 4.8 <u>Voting Rights</u>: The voting rights of Members in the Association shall be as set forth in the Declaration. If fee simple title to a Lot is owned of record by more than one person or entity, all such persons or entities shall be Members of the Association, but the vote with respect to any such jointly owned Lot shall be cast as hereinafter provided.

If the fee simple title to any Lot is owned of record by two or more persons or entities (whether individually or in a fiduciary capacity), the vote with respect to any such jointly owned Lot may be cast by any one of the joint Owners in person or by proxy, except that the holder or holders of a life estate in a Lot shall have the sole right to cast the votes allocated to the Lot. If more than one of the joint Owners vote or more than one life estate holder in a Lot vote, the unanimous action of all joint Owners or joint life estate holders voting shall be necessary to effectively cast the vote allocated to the particular Lot.

Such unanimous action shall be conclusively presumed if any one of such multiple Owners casts the votes allocated to that Lot without protest being made promptly to the person presiding over the meeting by any of the other of such joint Owners.

In no event may the vote which may cast with respect to any Lot be divided among joint Owners of the Lot or cast in any manner other than as a whole, it being the intention of this Section 4.8 that there be no "splitting" of votes that may be cast by any Member or Members.

Section 4.9 <u>Proxies</u>: Members may vote either in person or by agents duly authorized by written proxy executed by the subject Member or by his duly authorized attorney-in-fact. A proxy is not valid after the earlier of the term stated therein or the expiration of twelve (12) months from the date of its execution. Unless a proxy otherwise provides, any proxy holder may appoint in writing a substitute to act in his place. In order to be effective, all proxies must be filed with the Secretary or duly acting Secretary either during or prior to the meeting in question. A member may not revoke a proxy given pursuant to this Section 4.9 except by written notice of revocation delivered to the person presiding over a meeting of the Association.

All of the above provisions concerning voting by joint Owners shall apply to the vote cast for any one Lot by two or more proxy holders.

Section 4.10 <u>Majority-Vote</u>: The casting of a majority of the votes represented at a meeting at which a quorum is present, in person or by proxy, shall be binding for all purposes except where a different percentage vote is stipulated by these Bylaws, the Declaration, or the Articles of Incorporation of the Association.

Section 4.11 <u>Actions Without Meeting</u>: Any action which may be taken at a meeting of the membership may be taken without a meeting if consent or ratification, in writing, setting forth the action so taken or to be taken shall be signed by all of the persons who would be entitled to vote upon such action at a meeting and such consent is filed with the Secretary of the Association and inserted in the minute book of the Association.

SECTION 5

BOARD

Section 5.1 <u>General Powers</u>: The business and affairs of the Association shall be managed by the Board or by such committees as the Board may establish pursuant to Section 6 of these Bylaws. Provided, however, the Board may not act on behalf of the Association to amend the Declaration, to terminate the Declaration, to elect members of the Board, or to determine the qualifications, powers and duties, or terms of office of Board members. The Board may, however, fill vacancies in its membership for the unexpired portion of any term.

Section 5.2 <u>Number, Term and Qualification</u>: The initial Board shall consist of the three (3) individuals appointed by Declarant whose names are set forth in the Articles of Incorporation of the Association. Within thirty (30) days after the date that seventy-five percent (75%) of the Lots are deeded to Owners other than Declarant, all directors appointed by Declarant shall resign, the Members shall elect five (5) Board members, each to serve for a term

of one (1) year, and thereafter the Board shall have five (5) members. Board members may succeed themselves in office.

- Section 5.3 <u>Election of Board Members</u>: The election of all Board members shall be by ballot. Persons receiving the highest number of votes (see Section 4.8) shall be elected. Cumulative voting is not permitted.
- Section 5.4 <u>Removal</u>: Any Board member, other than a member appointed by Declarant, may be removed from the Board, with or without cause, by a vote of at least sixty-seven percent (67%) of the votes entitled to be cast by all Members present and entitled to vote at any meeting of the Membership at which a quorum is present; provided, however, that the notice of the meeting must state that the question of such removal will be acted upon at the subject meeting. If any Board members are so removed, their successors as Board members may be elected by the membership at the same meeting to fill the unexpired terms of the Board members so removed.
- Section 5.5 <u>Vacancies</u>: A vacancy occurring in the Board may only be filled by a majority of the remaining Board members, though less than a quorum, or by the sole remaining Board member; but a vacancy created by an increase in the authorized number of Board members shall be filled only by election at an Annual or substitute Annual Meeting or at a Special Meeting of Members called for that purpose or by unanimous consent of the Members without meeting. The Members may elect a Board member at any time to fill any vacancy not filled by the Board members. As indicated in Section 5.4, the Membership shall have the first right to fill any vacancy created by the Membership's removal of a Board member.
- Section 5.6 <u>Chairman</u>: A member of the Board shall be elected as Chairman of the Board by the Board members at the first meeting of the Board. The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Board and perform such other duties as may be directed by the Board. Prior to election of a Chairman and/or in the event that the Chairman is not present at any meeting of the Board, the President shall preside.
- Section 5.7 <u>Compensation</u>: No Member of the Board shall receive any compensation from the Association for acting as such. Provided, however, each Board member shall be reimbursed for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred and paid by him on behalf of the Association, and nothing herein shall prohibit the Board from compensating a Board member for unusual and extraordinary services rendered on the basis of <u>quantum meruit</u>; provided, however, that each Board member, by assuming office, waives his right to institute suit against or make claim upon the Association for compensation based upon <u>quantum meruit</u>.
- Section 5.8 <u>Loans to Board Members and Officers</u>: No loans shall be made by the Association to its Board members or officers. The Board members who vote for or assent to the making of a loan to a Board member or officer of the Association, and any officer or officers participating in the making of such loan, shall be jointly and severally liable to the Association for the amount of such loan until the repayment thereof.
- Section 5.9 <u>Liability of Board Members</u>: To the extent permitted by the provisions of the North Carolina Nonprofit Corporation Act in effect at the applicable time, each Board

member is hereby indemnified by the Association with respect to any liability and expense of litigation arising out of his activities as a Board member. Such indemnity shall be subject to approval by the Members only when such approval is required by said Act.

Section 5.10 <u>Meetings of the Board</u>:

- A. <u>Regular Meetings</u>: Regular Meetings shall be held, without notice, at such hour and address as may be fixed from time to time by resolution of the Board. Should any such meeting fall upon a legal holiday, then that meeting shall be held at the same time on the next day which is not a legal holiday.
- B. <u>Special Meetings</u>: Special Meetings shall be held when called by the President of the Association, or by any board member, after not less than three (3) or more than thirty (30) days written notice to each Board member.
- C. <u>Notices of Special Meetings</u>: The notice provided for herein may be waived by written instrument signed by those Board members who do not receive said notice. Except to the extent otherwise required by law, the purpose of a Board members' special meeting need not be stated in the notice. Notices shall be deemed received upon the happening of any one of the following events: (1) one day following deposit of same in the United States mail with proper postage paid and addressed to the Board member at his last known address on file with the Association; (2) deposit of same in his Lot mail box; (3) delivery to the Board member. Attendance by a Board member at a meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting unless the subject Board member gives a written statement at the meeting to the person presiding objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called and gives such notice prior to the vote on any resolution.
- D. <u>Approved Meeting Place</u>: All Board meetings shall be held in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.
- E. Quorum: A majority of the Board members then holding office shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business and every act or decision done or made by a majority of the Board members present at a duly held meeting at which a quorum is present shall be regarded as the act or decision of the Board.
- Section 5.11 <u>Action Without Meeting</u>: The Board members 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 Board members. Any action so approved shall have the same effect as though taken at a meeting of the Board. Said written approval shall be filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board, whether done before or after the action so taken.
- Section 5.12 <u>Presumption of Assent</u>: A Board member who is present at a meeting of the Board at which action on any corporate matter is taken shall be presumed to have assented to the action taken unless his contrary vote is recorded or his dissent is otherwise entered in the minutes of the meeting or unless he shall file his written dissent to such action with the person acting as the Secretary of the meeting before the adjournment thereof or shall forward such dissent by registered mail to the Secretary of the Association immediately after the adjournment

of the meeting. Such right to dissent shall not apply to a Board member who voted in favor of such action.

- Section 5.13 <u>Powers and Duties</u>: The Board shall have the authority to exercise all powers and duties of the Association necessary for the administration of the affairs of the Properties except such powers and duties as by law or by these Bylaws may not be delegated by the Owners to the Board. The powers and duties to be exercised by the Board shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:
- A. Operation, care, upkeep and maintenance of the Private Drives, to the extent such operation, care, upkeep, and maintenance is not the obligation of the Owners;
- B. Determination of the funds required for operation, administration, maintenance and other affairs of the Properties and collection of the assessments from the Owners, as provided in the Declaration;
- C. Employment and dismissal of personnel necessary for the efficient operation, maintenance, repair, and replacement of the Private Drives;
- D. Adoption of rules and regulations covering the details of the operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, use and modification of the Private Drives;
- E. Opening of bank accounts on behalf of the Association and designating the signatories required therefor;
- F. Obtaining insurance as required or permitted under the terms of the applicable provisions of the Declaration;
- G. Keeping detailed, accurate records of the receipts and expenditures of the Association; obtaining annual audits of the financial records of the Association from the Association's public accountant; furnishing the annual reports; and furnishing current budgets. All books and records shall be kept in accordance with good and accepted accounting practices and the same shall be available for examination by all Owners or their duly authorized agents or attorneys, at convenient hours on working days;
- H. Keeping a complete record of the minutes of all meetings of the Board and Membership in which minute book shall be inserted actions taken by the Board and/or Members by consent without meeting;
- I. Supervising all officers, agents and employees of the Association and insuring that their duties are properly performed;
- J. Enforcing, on behalf of the Association, the obligations and assessments provided in the Declaration, including, but not limited to, the institution of civil actions to enforce payment of the assessments as provided in the Declaration, the institution of actions to foreclose liens for such assessments in accordance with the terms of the Declaration and the procedures set forth in N.C.G.S. §47F-3-116, the imposition of changes for late payment of assessments, and

after notice and an opportunity to be heard as provided in Section 8.7, levying reasonable fines for violations of the Declaration, Bylaws and rules and regulations of the Association;

- K. Making of repairs, additions, and improvements to or alterations or restoration of the Property in accordance with the other provisions of these Bylaws and the Declaration, after damage or destruction by fire or other casualty, or as a result of a condemnation or eminent domain proceeding;
- L. Enforcing by any legal means or proceeding the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation of the Association, these Bylaws, the Declaration or the rules and regulations hereinafter promulgated governing use of the Private Drives;
- M. Paying all taxes and assessments which are or may become liens against any part of the Private Drives, and to assess the same against the Owners in the manner herein provided;
 - N. Hiring attorneys and other professionals;
- O. Maintaining and repairing any Lot, if such maintenance or repair is required by the Declaration or is necessary in the discretion of the Board to protect the Private Drives or any Lot or if the Owner of such Lot has failed or refused to perform such maintenance or repair within a reasonable time after written notice of the necessity of said maintenance or repair has been delivered or mailed by the Board to said Owner, provided that the Board shall levy a special assessment against such Owner for the costs of said maintenance or repair;
- P. Entering any Lot when necessary in connection with any maintenance or construction for which the Board is responsible; provided, such entry shall be made during reasonable hours with as little inconvenience to the Owner as practicable, and any damage caused thereby shall be repaired by the Board and such expenses shall be treated as an expense of the Association; and entering any Lot for the purpose of correcting or abating any condition or situation deemed by the Board to be an emergency;
- Q. Signing all agreements, contracts, deeds and vouchers for payment of expenditures and other instruments in such manner as from time to time shall be determined by written resolution of the Board. In the absence of such determination by the Board, such documents shall be signed by either the Treasurer or the Assistant Treasurer of the Association, and countersigned by any Board member;
- R. Furnishing certificates setting forth the amounts of unpaid assessments that have been levied upon a Lot to the Owner or Mortgagee (as defined in Section 9.1 below) of such Lot, or a proposed purchaser or Mortgagee of such Lot, and imposing and collecting reasonable charges therefor; and
- S. Exercising any other powers and duties reserved to the Association exercisable by the Board in the Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation, or these Bylaws.

SECTION 6

COMMITTEES

- Section 6.1 <u>Creation</u>: The Board, by resolutions adopted by a majority of the number of Board members then holding office, may create such committees as they deem necessary and appropriate in aiding the Board to carry out its duties and responsibilities with respect to the management of the Properties. Each committee so created shall have such authorities and responsibilities as the Board members deem appropriate and as set forth in the resolutions creating such committee. The Board shall elect the members of each such committee. Provided, each committee shall have in its membership at least one (1) member of the Board.
- Section 6.2 <u>Vacancy</u>: Any vacancy occurring on a committee shall be filled by a majority of the number of Board members then holding office at a regular or special meeting of the Board.
- Section 6.3 <u>Removal</u>: Any member of a committee may be removed at any time with or without cause by a majority of the number of Board members then holding office.
- Section 6.4 <u>Minutes</u>: Each committee shall keep regular minutes of its proceedings and report the same to the Board when required.
- Section 6.5 <u>Responsibility of Board Members</u>: The designation of committees and the delegation thereto of authority shall not operate to relieve the Board or any member thereof of any responsibility or liability imposed upon it or him by law.

If action taken by a committee is not thereafter formally considered by the Board, a Board member may dissent from such action by filing his written objection with the Secretary with reasonable promptness after learning of such action.

SECTION 7

OFFICERS

- Section 7.1 <u>Enumeration of Officers</u>: The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and such Vice Presidents, Assistant Secretaries, Assistant Treasurers and other officers as the Board may from time to time elect. Except for the President, no officer need be a member of the Board.
- Section 7.2 <u>Election and Term</u>: The officers of the Association shall be elected annually by the Board. Such elections shall be held at the first meeting of the board next following the Annual or Substitute Annual Meeting of the Members. Each officer shall hold office until his death, resignation, removal or until his successor is elected and qualified.
- Section 7.3 <u>Removal</u>: Any officer elected or appointed by the Board may be removed by the Board whenever in its judgment the best interest of the Association will be served thereby.

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- Section 7.4 <u>Vacancy</u>: A vacancy in any office may be filled by the election by the Board of a successor to such office. Such election may be held at any meeting of the Board. The officer elected to such vacancy shall serve for the remaining term of the officer he replaces.
- Section 7.5 <u>Multiple Offices</u>: The person holding the office of President shall not also hold the office of Secretary or Treasurer at the same time. Any other offices may be simultaneously held by one person. Any officer may also be a member of the Board.
- Section 7.6 <u>President</u>: The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Association and shall preside at all meetings of the Members. In the absence of an elected Chairman, he shall also preside at all meetings of the Board. He shall see that the orders and resolutions of the Board are carried out; he shall sign all written instruments regarding the Private Drives and co-sign all promissory notes of the Association, if any; and he shall have all of the general powers and duties which are incident to the office of President of a corporation organized under Chapter 55A of the General Statutes of North Carolina in the supervision and control of the management of the Association in accordance with these Bylaws.
- Section 7.7 <u>Vice Presidents</u>: The Vice Presidents in the order of their election, unless otherwise determined by the Board shall, in the absence or disability of the President, perform the duties and exercise the powers of that office. In addition, they shall perform such other duties and have such other powers as the Board shall prescribe.
- Section 7.8 <u>Secretary</u>: The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of Members and of the Board; he shall have charge of such books and papers as the Board may direct; and he shall, in general, perform all duties incident to the Office of Secretary of a corporation organized under Chapter 55A of the General Statutes of North Carolina.
- Section 7.9 <u>Treasurer</u>: The Treasurer shall have the responsibility for the Association's funds and securities and shall be responsible for keeping full and accurate financial records and books of account showing all receipts and disbursements, and for the preparation of all required financial statements. He shall co-sign promissory notes of the Association; he shall prepare a proposed annual budget (to be approved by the Board) and the other reports to be furnished to the Members as required in the Declaration. He shall perform all duties incident to the office of Treasurer of a corporation organized under Chapter 55A of the General Statutes of North Carolina.
- Section 7.10 <u>Assistant Secretaries and Treasurers</u>: The Assistant Secretaries and Treasurers shall, in the absence or disability of the Secretary or the Treasurer, respectively, perform the duties and exercise the powers of those offices, and they shall, in general, perform such other duties as shall be assigned to them by the Secretary or the Treasurer, respectively, or by the President or the Board.
- Section 7.11 <u>Compensation</u>: Officers shall not be compensated on a regular basis for the usual and ordinary services rendered to the Association incident to the offices held by such officers. The Board may, however, compensate any officer or officers who render unusual and extraordinary services to the Association beyond that called for to be rendered by such person or

persons on a regular basis. Each officer, by assuming office, waives his right to institute suit against or make claim upon the Association for compensation based upon quantum meruit.

Section 7.12 <u>Indemnification</u>: To the extent permitted by the provisions of the North Carolina Nonprofit Corporation Act in effect at the applicable times, each officer is hereby indemnified by the Association with respect to any liability and expense of litigation arising out of his activities as an officer. Such indemnity shall be subject to approval by the Members only when such approval is required by said Act.

SECTION 8

OPERATION OF THE PROPERTY

Section 8.1 <u>Determination of Common Expenses and Fixing of the Common Charges:</u> The Board shall from time to time, and at least annually, prepare and adopt a proposed budget for the Properties, determine the amount of expenses payable by the Owners to meet the proposed budget of the Properties (the "Common Expenses"), and allocate and assess such proposed expenses among the Owners in equal shares (based upon the total number of Lots in the Properties), all in accordance with the procedure set forth in this Section 8, but subject to the limitations set forth in Article V of the Declaration. The Common Expenses shall include, among other things, the cost of all insurance premiums on all policies of insurance required to be or which have been obtained by the Board pursuant to the provisions of the Declaration. The Common Expenses shall also include such amounts as the Board deems necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Property, including without limitation, an amount for working capital of the Properties; an amount for a general operating reserve; an amount for a reserve fund for losses due to insurance deductibles; an amount for a reserve fund for repair and replacement of the Private Drives; and such amounts as may be necessary to make up any deficit in the Common Expenses for any prior year. Within thirty (30) days after adoption of any proposed budget for the Properties, the Board shall provide a summary of the budget to all the Owners, and shall set a date for a meeting of the Owners to consider ratification of the budget no less than fourteen (14) nor more than thirty (30) days after mailing of the summary. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Bylaws, there shall be no requirement that a quorum be present at such meeting. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Bylaws, the proposed budget shall be deemed ratified unless at that Meeting a majority of all the Owners present and entitled to cast a vote reject the budget. In the event the proposed budget is rejected, the periodic budget last ratified shall be continued until such time as the Owners ratify a subsequent budget proposed by the Board.

The Association, acting through the Board, may levy a special assessment against the Class A Members during any calendar year for the purpose of defraying, in whole or in part, the cost of any construction, reconstruction, repair or replacement of any capital improvement comprising or to comprise a portion of the Private Drives; provided, however, that any such special assessment must be approved by the vote of at least three-fourths (3/4) of the Class A Members, cast in person or by proxy at a meeting duly held in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws.

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Anything herein to the contrary notwithstanding, no assessment shall be levied or imposed against the Block 2 Lots or the Class B Members, and no portion of any assessment collected from any Class B Member shall be used, with respect to the ownership, operation, maintenance, repair, or replacement of the Private Drives. To that end, the Homeowners Association shall fix assessments separately with respect to Class A Members and Class B Members and shall separately account for assessments collected or applied with respect to the Private Drives. Class B Members shall not be entitled to vote on matters concerning the Private Drives and assessments therefor and shall not be considered for quorum purposes with respect to any such vote.

Section 8.2 <u>Payment of Common Expenses</u>: All Owners shall be obligated to pay the Common Expenses assessed by the Board pursuant to the provisions of Section 8.1 hereof at such time or times as the Board shall determine.

No Owner shall be liable for the payment of any part of the Common Expenses assessed against his Lot subsequent to a sale, transfer or other conveyance by him (made in accordance with the provisions of the Declaration and applicable restrictions of record) of such Lot.

Section 8.3 <u>Collection of Assessments</u>: The Board shall assess Common Expenses against the Lots from time to time and at least quarterly in accordance with the allocations set forth in the Declaration. The Board shall take prompt action to collect any Common Expenses which remain unpaid for more than thirty (30) days from the due date for payment thereof.

The Board shall notify the holder of the Mortgage on any Lot (of which it has notice) for which any Common Expenses assessed pursuant to these Bylaws remain unpaid for more than thirty (30) days from the due date for payment thereof and in any other case where the Owner of such Lot is in default with respect to the performance of any other obligation hereunder for a period in excess of thirty (30) days.

Section 8.4 <u>Default in Payment of Common Expenses; Remedies</u>: In the event of default by any Owner in paying to the Board the Common Expenses as determined by the Board, such Owner shall be obligated to pay interest on such Common Expenses from the due date thereof at the rate of eighteen percent (18%) per annum, together with all expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees (if permitted by law), incurred by the Board in any proceeding brought to collect such unpaid Common Expenses. In addition, the Board shall have the authority to levy a late charge on any assessment not paid within fifteen (15) days after its due date, in the amount of four percent (4%) of the overdue assessment.

The Board shall have the right and duty to attempt to recover such Common Expenses, together with interest thereon, and the expenses of the proceedings, including reasonable attorneys' fees (if permitted by law), in an action to recover a money judgment for the same brought against such Owner, or by foreclosure of the lien on such Lot in like manner as a deed of trust or mortgage of real property. The Board shall also have the right to impose uniform late payment charges for delinquent Common Expense payments, which charges shall be recoverable by the proceedings specified above.

In the event of the failure of an Owner to pay any assessment imposed hereunder, or any installment thereof, for more than sixty (60) days after such assessment or installment thereof

shall become due, in addition to the other remedies available under the Declaration, the Board shall have the right to declare all other Common Expense assessments, and installments thereof, with respect to such Owner's Lot that are to fall due during the then current fiscal year of the Association to be immediately due and payable.

Section 8.5 <u>Lien and Personal Obligations</u>: All Common Expenses provided for in this Article, together with the interest and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees (if permitted by law), as provided for herein, shall be a charge on and a continuing lien upon the Lot against which the assessment is made, which such lien shall be prior to all other liens <u>excepting only</u> (i) assessments, liens and charges for real estate taxes due and unpaid on the Lot and (ii) all sums unpaid on Mortgages and other liens and encumbrances duly recorded against the Lot prior to the docketing of such lien. Such lien shall become effective when a notice thereof has been filed in the office of the Clerk of Superior Court for Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, provided such notice of lien shall not be recorded until such sums assessed remain unpaid for a period of more than thirty (30) days after the same shall become due. Such notice of lien shall also secure all assessments against the Lot becoming due thereafter until the lien has been satisfied.

The lien for unpaid assessments shall not be affected by the sale or transfer of a Lot, except in the case of a foreclosure of a Mortgage, in which event the purchaser at foreclosure shall not be liable for any assessments against that Lot that became due prior to the date of acquisition of title by such purchaser. Such unpaid assessments shall be deemed Common Expenses collectible from all Owners of Lots, including the purchaser at foreclosure. In addition, each Owner shall be personally liable for any assessment against his Lot. No Class A Member may exempt himself from such liability by non-use or enjoyment of any portion of the Private Drives or by the abandonment or sale of his Lot.

Section 8.6 <u>Foreclosure of Liens for Unpaid Common Expenses</u>: In any action brought by the Board to foreclose on a Lot because of unpaid Common Expenses, the Owner shall be required to pay a reasonable rental for the use of his Lot and the plaintiff in such foreclosure action shall be entitled to the appointment of a receiver to collect the same.

Section 8.7 Abatement and Enjoyment of Violations by Owners: The violation of any rule or regulation adopted by the Board or the breach of any Bylaw contained herein, or the breach of any provision of the Declaration (collectively, the "Rules"), shall give the Board the right, in addition to any other rights set forth in the Declaration, these Bylaws or at law or in equity: (a) to enter the Lot in which or as to which such violation or breach exists and to summarily abate and remove, at the expense of the defaulting Owner, any structure, thing or condition that may exist therein contrary to the intent and meaning of the provisions hereof, and the Board shall not thereby be deemed guilty in any manner of trespass; provided, however, that the Board shall be obligated to institute judicial proceedings before any items of construction can be altered or demolished; (b) to enjoin, abate or remedy by appropriate legal proceedings, either at law or in equity, the continuance of any such breach at the expense of the defaulting Owner; and/or (c) after notice and opportunity to be heard, as provided below, to levy reasonable fines in the manner provided below.

If any alleged violation of the Rules is brought to the attention of the Association, a representative of the Association will investigate the complaint. If the representative determines, in its sole discretion, that the complaint is valid, it will notify the offending Owner, and allow the Owner three (3) days to respond, either in writing or in person. Decisions on the validity of the complaint will be made by the representative of the Association, subject to the Owner's right of appeal to the Board at its next scheduled meeting. The Board will have final authority to interpret and enforce the Rules.

Upon the first violation of a Rule, the Owner will be given a courtesy warning notice. If any Owner violates the same Rule again, the Association will levy a fine against that Owner in the amount of \$25.00 for the second violation, \$50.00 for the third violation, and \$100.00 for the fourth and each subsequent violation. If any fine is not paid within thirty (30) days after notice, the Association will have the right to place an assessment lien against the Lot and Lot of the defaulting Owner.

Section 8.8 <u>Maintenance and Repair</u>: (a) Except as is specifically provided in the Declaration, all maintenance and any repairs to any Lot shall be made by the Owner of such Lot. Each Owner shall be responsible for all damages to any and all other Lots and/or to the Private Drives that his failure to do so may engender; and (b) except as is specifically provided in the Declaration, all maintenance, repairs and replacements to the Private Drives (unless necessitated by the negligence, misuse or neglect of an Owner, in which case such expense shall be charged to and paid by such Owner), shall be made by the Board; provided, however, there is excluded from the provisions contained in this section any repairs necessitated by casualty insured against by the Board to the extent the Board receives insurance proceeds for such repairs.

Section 8.9 <u>Additions, Alterations or Improvements by Owners</u>: No Owner shall make any structural addition, alteration, or improvement in or to his Lot, or any change in the exterior appearance thereof, except in accordance with the terms of the Declaration.

Section 8.10 <u>Use of Private Drives</u>: An Owner shall not interfere with the use of the Private Drives by the remaining Owners and their employees and invitees.

Section 8.11 Right of Access: An Owner shall grant a right of access to his Lot to any person authorized by the Board for the purpose of making inspection of or for the purpose of correcting any condition originating in his Lot and threatening another Lot or the Private Drives, or for the purpose of performing installations, alterations or repairs to the mechanical or electrical equipment or other Private Drives, or for the purpose of performing installations, alterations or repairs to the mechanical or electrical equipment or other Private Drives in or adjoining his Lot; provided, however, such requests for entry (except in the case of emergencies where no request shall be required) are made in advance and any such entry is at a time reasonably convenient to the Owner. In the case of an emergency, such right of entry shall be immediate whether the Owner is present at the time or not.

Section 8.12 <u>Rules of Conduct</u>: Rules and regulations concerning the use of the Lots and the Private Drives shall be promulgated and amended by the Board with the approval of a majority of Owners. Copies of such rules and regulations shall be furnished by the Board to each Owner prior to the time when the same shall become effective.

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Section 8.13 <u>Common Expenses for Utilities</u>: Any utilities which may be provided to the Lots through a single or common meter or facility, and utilities furnished to any portion of the Private Drives, shall be paid by each Owner as and when billed according to the extent of such Owner's use or, at the option of the Board, such may be paid by the Board and assessed against the Lots as a Common Expense.

SECTION 9

AMENDMENTS

Section 9.1 Amendments by Members. These Bylaws may be amended at any time by an instrument in writing signed and acknowledged by Owners holding at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the votes in the Association, which instrument shall be effective only upon recordation in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. Provided, however, where a larger vote in the Association is required for the Association to take or refrain from taking a specific action, as set forth in the Declaration, no amendment of these Bylaws shall be made unless and until the Owners holding such larger percentage of the vote in the Association execute said amending instrument. All persons or entities who own or hereafter acquire any interest in the Property shall be bound to abide by any amendment to these Bylaws which is duly passed, signed, acknowledged and recorded as provided herein. No amendment to these Bylaws shall be adopted or passed which shall impair or prejudice the rights and priorities of any Mortgagee without the consent of such Mortgagee. "Mortgagee" shall mean and refer to an institutional lender holding a mortgage that has notified the Association in writing of its name and address, and that it holds a mortgage on a Lot. No amendment to these Bylaws shall be adopted or passed which shall impair or prejudice the rights of Declarant provided for in the Declaration, without the consent of Declarant.

SECTION 10

MISCELLANEOUS

Section 10.1 <u>Severability</u>: Invalidation of any covenant, condition, restriction or other provisions of the Declaration or these Bylaws shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof which shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 10.2 <u>Successors Bound</u>: The rights, privileges, duties and responsibilities set forth in the Declaration, as amended from time to time, shall run with the ownership of the Property and shall be binding upon all persons who own or hereafter acquire any interest in the Property.

Section 10.3 <u>Gender, Singular, Plural</u>: Whenever the context so permits, the use of the singular or plural shall be interchangeable in meaning and the use of any gender shall be deemed to include all genders.

Section 10.4 <u>Nonprofit Corporation</u>: No part of the Association's assets or net income shall inure to the benefit of any of the Members, the officers of the Association, or the members

of the Board, or any other private individual either during its existence or upon dissolution except as reasonable compensation paid or distributions made in carrying out its declared nonprofit purposes as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation of the Association and these Bylaws.

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