

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
VETERAN ASSOCIATION
OF THE
BOSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT.

INSTITUTED NOVEMBER 20, 1833.

BOSTON:
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1833.

PREAMBLE.

The Seven Years Members of the Boston Fire Department having been long associated together in harmony and good fellowship, for the gratuitous service of their fellow citizens in the hour of danger, and having exercised their best ability on all occasions in maintaining the respectability of the Boston Fire Department, do now, for the purpose of lending further aid, adopt the following Constitution for their Government, and agree to yield to all its requisitions.

Badges.

ARTICLE 1. This Society shall be known by the name of the *Veteran Association of the Boston Fire Department*, and all its members when on duty shall wear a badge, on which shall be inscribed the word Veteran, or the initials V. A. if they are attached to any other Company of the Department.

Members, how admitted.

ARTICLE 2. Any member of the Boston Fire Department who has served 7 years, and obtained a certificate thereof from the Mayor, who may wish to join this Association, shall apply to the Board of Directors, and if approved by them, he may be ballotted for at any regular or special meeting, and if he receive the votes of two thirds of the members present, he shall be considered elected by signing the Constitution, and shall be furnished with a copy thereof, and shall report his residence to the Clerk, and be by him returned to the Mayor and Aldermen, in conformity to the requisitions of the Fire Ordinance.

Officers.

ARTICLE 3. The Officers of this Association shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Board of 12 Directors, (4 resident in each division,) provided for in the 6th Article, who shall be chosen annually by written ballot the last Monday in December, provided vacancies may be filled at any regular or special meeting.

Duty of Members.

ARTICLE 4. It shall be the duty of all the members of this Association to re-

pair when convenient and possible, forthwith to all fires with their badge, and there exert themselves with all their skill and power in aiding and assisting any part of the Department, or in performing any duty they may be called upon to do by any Engineer.

Special Duty.

ARTICLE 5. This Association hereby engage with the City Government, to furnish when called upon by the Chief Engineer, as many active men as their numbers will admit of, for any special duty required in the Department, for the space of one month, and the members one and all agree to attend to such special duty when called upon for that purpose by public notice in the newspapers, by order of the President.

Divisions.

ARTICLE 6. The members of this Association shall be divided into 3 divisions; those residing in Wards 1, 2, 3, and 4 shall constitute the 1st; those in Wards 5, 6, 7 and 8 the 2d; and those in 9, 10, 11, and 12 the 3d: and when called together collectively or by divisions, to act upon any public exigency by the President, they shall proceed

to organize immediately for the service required according to the requisition of the Fire Ordinance, and the regulations of the Department.

Meetings.

ARTICLE 7. The regular meetings of the Association shall be on the last Monday of the months of December, March, June and September; and all special meetings shall be held at such time and place as the President may direct.

Duty of President.

ARTICLE 8. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of this Association, to preserve order therein, to call meetings of all or any part of the Association when he thinks necessary, or when requested by the Mayor and Aldermen, Chief Engineer, or any 10 members of the Association.

Duty of Vice President.

ARTICLE 9. The Vice President in the absence of the President shall have the same authority and perform the same duties.

Duty of Secretary.

ARTICLE 10. The Secretary shall keep a fair record of all the proceedings

of this Association in a book provided for the purpose, to be open at all meetings for the inspection of the members, to notify all meetings when ordered by the President, to keep a correct list of all members, and their place of residence, and generally to perform all duties belonging to the clerkship of the society.

Duty of Treasurer.

ARTICLE 11. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all monies that may accrue to this Association from the City Government, or otherwise—keep a true record thereof in a book provided for the purpose, and if he have funds, pay any bills against the Association, approved by the President, and render at the annual meeting a statement of the financial affairs of the Association.

Directors.

ARTICLE 12. The Board of Directors, at the annual meeting in December, or as soon after as may be, shall choose a Chairman, and it shall be their duty to receive all applications for membership, and when two thirds of the Board present approve of a candidate, they shall report him to the Association to be ballotted for.

Discharge.

ARTICLE 13. Any member of this Association who shall at any time behave in any manner to injure and disgrace its character, or neglect the duties required by the Constitution, shall be discharged at any regular or special meeting by a vote of two thirds of the members present.

Discussions.

ARTICLE 14. No subject or question of any kind shall be introduced or discussed at the meetings of this Association, except such as are immediately connected with the management of its affairs, and the purposes mentioned in this Constitution.

Amendment.

ARTICLE 15. No alteration or amendment shall be made in this Constitution, except by a vote of three fourths, the members present at a special meeting called for the purpose.