

**Bylaws**  
of  
**Reading Monthly Meeting**  
**of the Religious Society of Friends**

Article I

**Name, Background Information and Intention**

**§ 1: Name** – The name of this corporation is Reading Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (hereinafter Reading Monthly Meeting). This corporation is also known as “Reading Monthly Meeting of Friends” and “RMM of Friends”. The principal office of RMM of Friends is at 108 North Sixth Street, Reading, Berks County, Pennsylvania 19601.

**§ 2: Background Information and Intention** – Reading Monthly Meeting was first established in the mid eighteenth century and has been in continuous existence as a religious body since that time. RMM of Friends is a body formed for the purpose of religious worship and all community, outreach and educational activities for the purpose of which a nonprofit corporation may be organized. It is not the intention of these bylaws to change, alter or amend the principles, practices and organization of Reading Monthly Meeting, and for this reason these bylaws are intentionally brief.

Reading Monthly Meeting has been incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a nonprofit corporation. Incorporation is not intended to secularize the purposes, affairs or conduct of the Meeting, which has been, and shall remain, a Meeting conducting its affairs in the manner and methods of the Religious Society of Friends. All questions of purpose, intent and application of these By-Laws shall be resolved in such context in the manner prescribed by Friends. As used in these By-Laws, the term "in the manner prescribed by Friends," shall mean those practices and customs historically applied by the Religious Society of Friends in the conduct of their affairs, including, without limitation, those tenets, beliefs and practices set forth in Faith and Practice Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (2017 rev.), as the same may be hereafter revised or republished from time to time. In accordance with § 5107 of the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Corporation Law (NPCL), Faith and Practice shall control to the extent inconsistent with the NPCL and not inconsistent with these bylaws.

Article II

**Purpose**

The purpose of Reading Monthly Meeting is:

- a. The practice of religion in the manner of the Religious Society of Friends; and
- b. The continuation of the principles and practices of Reading Monthly Meeting as they existed at the time of the incorporation and as they have evolved and may evolve in the future.

Article III

**Membership**

**§ 1: Membership** – The membership of Reading Monthly Meeting shall consist of all those individuals who are recorded as adult members of Reading Monthly Meeting in accordance with practices and customs generally applied by the Religious Society of Friends.

Article IV

**Governance, Officers, Committees and Employees**

**§ 1: Governance** – Reading Monthly Meeting shall continue to be governed according to the practices and customs of the Religious Society of Friends as they now exist, and as they may evolve in the future.

**§ 2: Officers** – The officers of Reading Monthly Meeting shall be a presiding Clerk, a Recording Clerk, a Treasurer, an Assistant Treasurer, and such additional members as Reading Monthly Meeting may appoint as officers.

**§ 3: Committees and Employees** – Reading Monthly Meeting may appoint committees, and hire employees, to carry on its work. The committees and employees of Reading Monthly Meeting shall serve with the powers and the limitations prescribed by Reading Monthly Meeting.

Article V

**Meetings for Worship with Attention to Business**

- a. Business meetings will normally be held at the Meetinghouse at 108 North Sixth Street, Reading, Berks County, Pennsylvania 19601.
- b. Business meetings will normally be held monthly on the second Sunday of the month. Only one meeting will be held in July or August at a date and location determined in a prior business meeting.
- c. The presence in person at any business meeting of the lesser of three or all members of Reading Monthly Meeting shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of the business of the Meeting.
- d. The business affairs of Reading Monthly Meeting shall be managed by the members who shall be considered an “other body” as referenced in NCPL §§ 5734 and 5103. Reading Monthly Meeting shall not have a Board of Directors.
- e. The regular December business meeting of each year shall be the annual meeting of members.
- f. No matter decided by members shall be resolved by a vote, but rather in the practice used and manner prescribed by Friends.
- g. Except as expressly stated in these bylaws notice of the time, date or purpose of regular meetings or the annual meeting need not be given.
- h. Contracts may be signed by any officer after authorization at a meeting, and checks and orders for payment of money shall be signed by the treasurer, assistant treasurer, or other officer or agent authorized at a meeting.

Article VI

**Liability Protection and Indemnification**

**§ 1: Participating Members** – For purposes of this Article VI, all Reading Monthly Meeting members and also members of any appointed committee are considered a “Participating Member.”

**§ 2: Liability Protection** – Participating Members shall not be personally liable, as such, for monetary damages for any action taken unless: (1) the Participating Member has breached or failed to perform the fiduciary duties of his or her office under Subchapter B, Chapter 57, of the NPCL, as amended; and (2) the breach or failure to perform constitutes self-dealing, willful misconduct or recklessness; provided, however, that the foregoing limitation of liability shall not apply to (a) the responsibility or liability pursuant to any criminal statute; or (b) liability for the payment of taxes pursuant to Federal, State or local law.

**§ 3: Indemnification** – All Participating Members, Officers, and other persons shall be entitled to the full benefit of the indemnification provisions under Subchapter D Chapter 57 of the NPCL, as amended.

**§ 4: Repeal** – No amendment or repeal of the provisions of this Article shall be given adverse effect with respect to any person who would have been entitled to benefits hereunder prior to the amendment or repeal without reasonable prior written notice to such person, and no such amendment or repeal shall be given adverse effect with respect to the conduct of any such person occurring prior to the approval of the amendment or repeal.

Article VII

**Amendments**

These bylaws may be amended by a proposal made at any regular meeting for business, or at any special meeting called for this purpose, to be acted upon at the subsequent regular meeting for business by the same procedure used for transacting other business of the Meeting. Prior to such amendment, written notice shall be given at least 10 days in advance of the regular meeting at which the amendment is adopted. The notice shall include a copy of the proposed amendment or a summary of the changes to be effected thereby. Amendment of the Articles of Incorporation shall require a similar procedure.

Note: These bylaws were approved at the regular Sixth Month Meeting for Business on June 9, 2019.