

## Financially Responsible Endeavor to Serve Humanity Water (F.R.E.S.H. Water)

### I. Club Purpose

The purpose of F.R.E.S.H Water is to organize and mobilize students to become engaged in the process of bringing water purification and filtration resources to communities that lack this fundamental infrastructure. Clean water is absolutely necessary for proper health. This organization will raise money to purchase the necessary equipment, i.e. pumps, filters, et cetera, and send Brandeis students to the communities that need these resources. The long term goal is to create a program that annually sends Brandeis students to various countries and communities to install water processing devices and train local inhabitants how to use them. Our goal is to keep overhead at a bare minimum, which will allow every dollar we raise to do more good.

### II. Name

The name of this organization will be “Financially Responsible Endeavor to Serve Humanity Water,” henceforth referred to as “F.R.E.S.H. Water.” This name reflects our goal of providing resources to people in need in an economically efficient manner.

### III. Officers

A. The Board of Directors is made up of the following six positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, Chair of the Treasury, and two Critics.

i. President: The Presidents’ role is to preside over meetings and organize members to achieve specific goals. To this end, the President will have the authority to call for votes and moderate discussions in order to make sure they are kept to the point, as well as ensuring that all points are clarified and understood. The primary purpose of the President is to be an organizational head and therefore has no more voting power than any other member of the group. On occasion, the President and Vice President will handle administrative dealings, i.e. paperwork and grant applications, without consulting the group. All of these instances will be made known to the organization during the previous meeting, but the direct involvement of every member is unnecessary.

ii. Vice President: The Vice President works closely with the President to organize meetings beforehand. Together, the President and Vice President are the chief administrative officials. The Vice President serves as a foil to the President, making sure the President does not overstep the bounds outlined in this Constitution. In turn, the President will do the same for the Vice President. As previously stated, the President and Vice President have no more voting power than anyone else, but they have the authority to handle administrative manners. Together, the President and Vice President will be the primary liaisons to the student government and the university as a whole.

iii. Secretary: The Secretary is responsible for taking minutes at meetings and managing the F.R.E.S.H Water listserv. The Secretary is also responsible for tallying votes and announcing the results. In the event of a tie vote, the Secretary will make the final decision. In addition, in the event of a tie vote during the Committee of the Treasury’s election of Chair of the Treasury, the Secretary of the Board of Directors will appoint the Chair of the Treasury.

iv. Chair of the Treasury: The Chair of the Treasury will oversee the Committee of the Treasury, a group of no less than three and no more than five people, including the Chair of the Treasury, responsible for handling the financial dealings of F.R.E.S.H. Water. This includes receiving donations and handling expenditures. The Chair of the Treasury is responsible for carefully monitoring and reporting all donations and expenditures. As such, the Chair of the Treasury will have primary access to the F.R.E.S.H. Water bank account. In regards to all matters financial, a unanimous vote of the Committee of the Treasury may veto a previous decision made by the general members of F.R.E.S.H. Water.

v. Critics (two positions): The Critics allow for members with disputes involving F.R.E.S.H. Water to have an anonymous voice so that opinions that may not be expressed at meetings are still heard. They also act as a social buffer, allowing personal grievances to be dealt with so they do not interfere with the running of the organization. Any member can contact a Critic to talk about their ideas and opinions if they feel it is inappropriate or uncomfortable to do so in front of the entire group.

B. The initial Board of Directors will be determined through a vote at the first general meeting following the majority approval of this Constitution.

#### IV. Membership Requirements

F.R.E.S.H. Water is a non-discriminatory organization which is open to all members of the Brandeis Community. A member attends at least 50% of the weekly meetings and actively contributes to the goals of the organization. Members who the Board of Directors feel are not active participants in achieving the goals of F.R.E.S.H. Water may be asked to leave. The basis for this decision will be lower than 50% attendance to meetings coupled with general apathy towards the goals of the club, i.e. failure to complete objectives required by their office or consensual agreement.

#### V. Elections

Elections will be held at the beginning of every semester. For the sake of continuity, if an incumbent on the Board of Directors wishes to re-run for the same position, the incumbent shall retain office given that less than 2/3 of the votes are against the re-election of the incumbent to the same position currently held by the incumbent. When an incumbent re-runs for a position, all voting will be done through silent and secret ballots. If an incumbent receives more than 2/3 of the votes opposing re-election, the position will go to a general vote. In the general vote, any member may run for the vacant position, excluding the incumbent. In the event that no one candidate receives a majority vote, the top two vote receivers will run in a runoff election, with the winner eventually determined by the candidate who receives the most votes. The voting for a vacant position will be done by a general and open election. In the spirit of continuity, the Critics will be year long positions.

#### VI. Voting

Voting can only be called for by the President or Vice President. All votes are open and general unless any member requests a silent vote, or a silent vote is required by this constitution, in which case voting will become silent. All votes are decided by a majority, unless otherwise stated in this constitution. As previously stated, all ties are decided by the Secretary of the Board of Directors, and all ties that occur within the Committee of the Treasury will be decided by the Chair of the Treasury. The Committee of the Treasury has the power to veto any general vote that is directly related to financial matters with a unanimous vote among its members. In addition, a detailed explanation of why a vote was vetoed is required to be presented to the

general members of F.R.E.S.H. Water by the Chair of the Treasury.

## VII. Appointments

F.R.E.S.H. Water requires several appointed positions. Immediately following general elections, the Board of Directors will appoint the three to five members of the Committee of the Treasury. This Committee will then self appoint the Chair of the Treasury through self elections. In the event of a tie within the self elections of the Committee of the Treasury, the Secretary of the Board of Directors will appoint the Chair of the Treasury from the pool of viable candidates in the Committee of the Treasury.

## VIII. Club Meetings

Club meetings will be held at least bi-weekly, with the general intention of hosting weekly meetings. The President and Vice President are responsible to ensure that a meeting time and place are convenient to a majority of members.

## IX. Impeachments

Any member of the Board of Directors may be impeached by a special election called for by any other member of F.R.E.S.H. Water. In this case, a secret ballot will be taken by all members of F.R.E.S.H. Water. If the member of the Board of Directors receives more than 2/3 votes in favor of impeachment, the issue will then move to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors must then vote unanimously (excluding the member of the Board of Directors who is in jeopardy of being impeached) to carry out the impeachment. If a unanimous vote for impeachment is achieved, the member will vacate the position on the Board of Directors and a special election will be called the next meeting to fill the vacated position. The election to fill the vacated position will be a general and open election.

## X. Constitution

- A. This Constitution shall be adopted by a majority vote of the members.
- B. This Constitution shall be amended by a 2/3 vote in favor of amendment by the members of F.R.E.S.H. Water.
- C. An updated Constitution must be sent to the Club Resource Coordinator whenever an amendment is passed.

## XI. Finances

All club finances shall be overseen by the Committee of the Treasury. The Committee of the Treasury will use its discretion to carry out the goals and interests decided by the general members of F.R.E.S.H. Water as determined at previous meetings.

## XII. Statement of Recognition

F.R.E.S.H. Water will be a recognized club abiding by the statutes determined by Brandeis University.