

## STATEMENT OF NAME AND PURPOSES OF THE ORGANIZATION

### Article I.

The name of this association shall be *The Czech and Slovak Heritage Association of Maryland, Incorporated*, a not for profit organization incorporated in the State of Maryland.

### Article II.

The purposes of this organization are:

1. to preserve the Czech and Slovak heritage;
2. to promote and to provide education in the languages, cultures, traditions and histories of the Czech and Slovak peoples;
3. to maintain in succeeding generations ties between the Czech and Slovak communities in Maryland and the peoples of the Czech Republic and Slovakia; and
4. to provide assistance to charitable Czech and Slovak endeavors.

### Bylaws of The Czech and Slovak Heritage Association of Maryland, Inc.

Use of the masculine pronoun in these bylaws is intended only to reflect correct usage. It in no way implies that membership or election to any office in the Czech and Slovak Heritage Association of Maryland is restricted by gender.

#### Article I Membership and Fees

Section 1. Membership is open to all persons interested in furthering the purposes of the Czech and Slovak Heritage Association of Maryland

Section 2. Membership categories and fees will be established by the board of directors and approved by the general membership.

Section 3. Membership fees are due and payable upon joining the association and subsequently in January of each year.

Section 4. Members who fail to pay membership fees within three months of

their becoming due will be removed from the membership list.

#### Article II Meetings

Section 1. Meetings of the general membership will be held quarterly at times and locations to be determined by the board of directors.

Section 2. The general membership will be notified in writing not less than two weeks in advance of the date, time and place of each quarterly meeting.

#### Article III. Officers and Board of Directors

Section 1. The officers of the Association shall be president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer.

Section 2. The board of directors shall consist of nine elected board members; the four officers; a representative from the language school; the immediate past-president, who shall have voice but not vote; and the incoming president, who shall have voice but not vote.

Section 3. The officers and nine board members shall be elected every two years by the general membership.

Section 4. Officers and board members shall be elected in July and take office the following January.

Section 5. The officers and board members shall serve without salary.

Section 6. The officers and board members may be elected to consecutive terms without limit.

Section 7. The board of directors shall create committees to further the work and goals of the Association. At least one board member or officer shall serve on each committee created by the board.

Section 8. The board of directors shall fill vacancies on the board at its first meeting following the creation of the vacancy. In the event of a vacancy in the office of president, the incoming president shall assume office. If there is no incoming president, the vice-president shall assume the duties of president and the board shall elect a vice-president. In

the event of a vacancy in the office of secretary or treasurer, the board of directors shall elect a successor to fill the vacancy.

Section 9. In the event that an officer or board member fails to meet the obligations of his office, the board of directors may declare that office vacant and elect a successor.

Section 10. The board of directors shall meet at least six times per year at times and places which they determine.

Section 11. The board of directors shall see to a yearly review of the financial records of the Association and the results of that review shall be reported to the board of directors and the general membership.

#### **Article IV**

#### **Conduct of *General and Board Meetings***

Section 1. General meetings and meetings of the board of directors will be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order in all cases where they are applicable and where they are not inconsistent with these bylaws or any special rules of order which the Association may adopt.

Section 2. A quorum of the general membership shall consist of three officers or board members and five of the general membership.

Section 3. At general membership and board of directors' meetings the president shall cast a vote only for the purpose of breaking a tie.

## **Article V**

### **Amendment of Bylaws**

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended at any *general* meeting of the membership of the Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present provided that proposed amendments have been submitted in writing at the previous quarterly meeting.

## **Article VI**

### **Dissolution of the Association**

Section 1. Upon the dissolution of the Association, its remaining assets, after payment of all indebtedness, shall be distributed in accordance with the purposes of the Association as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation.

Presented to general meeting on April 18, 2004.

Approved as amended at general meeting on July 11, 2004.

Lois Hybl  
Michael Krompholz  
Margaret Supik (committee chair)