

# Constitution of the Minnesota Futurists Chapter of the World Future Society

## Article 1. NAME

This organization shall be known as the **Minnesota Futurists** Chapter of the World Future Society.

## Article 11. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Chapter is to provide a forum for the discussion of alternative futures and to further in the state of Minnesota area the scientific, educational, and professional purposes set forth in the Society's charter.

## Article III. MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Chapter may be secured by complying with Chapter dues and other requirements set forth in the By-Laws. Members shall have the right to vote, elect officers, hold office, participate in Chapter programs and committees, and share in such other privileges as may be approved for members.

## Article IV. CHAPTER OFFICERS

1. The officers of the Chapter shall be a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary elected annually for two-year terms.
2. The Chapter Coordinator shall be designated an ex officio Board Officer and may exercise full voting privileges.
3. The governing body and executive committee of the Chapter shall be comprised of the elected officers above, the designated Publications Editor, plus volunteer committee chairs whose participation has been sanctioned by simple yearly vote of the elected officers. Committee chairs shall remain full members of the executive committee only as those committees are active and viable entities under their leadership. Chapter committees are such as, but not limited to: membership, publicity, programs, education, publications, web, speaker's bureau, and fund raising. Additionally, the President may appoint a "Committee Czar" to assist with the oversight and coordination of the committees.
4. The President shall be the chairman of the Board during their term of office.

## Article V. ELECTIONS

1. There shall be an election every other year of officers and of those Board members needed to fill vacancies, following procedures in the By-Laws.
2. There shall also be interim elections as needed to fill vacancies, as provided in the By Laws. However, the Vice President shall automatically succeed to the office of President, should it become vacant, and a new Vice President chosen.

## Article VI. ADOPTION AND AMENDMENTS

1. Amendments to the Constitution may be initiated either by the Board or by any group of ten members submitting a proposal to the Board; and shall be voted on, after Board approval, at a membership meeting, which has been designated and announced for this purpose.
2. A two-thirds favorable vote of those present and voting shall be necessary for the adoption of an amendment.
3. Amendments are subject to approval of the WFS Board of Directors.

## Article VII. OPERATING WITHIN THE SOCIETY'S AND CHAPTER'S POLICIES AND PURPOSE

1. The Society's headquarters will seek to provide guidance and other assistance to the Chapter.
2. The Chapter recognizes its responsibility, as a constituent unit of the World Future Society bearing its name and influencing its reputation and success, to operate within the Society's policies and purposes.
3. Specifically, the Chapter shall not engage in political activities nor in other ways endanger the Society's tax-free status. It shall not permit its members, when taking public positions on issues, to represent themselves as speaking in the name of the Minnesota Futurists Chapter nor of the Society.
4. No member may speak, write or solicit on behalf of the Minnesota Futurists without express permission from the Chapter Coordinator or Chapter President. Ongoing authorization for the former must be authorized by vote of the full board of officers.
5. The Chapter recognizes that it exists as a chartered unit of the Society and that the Society's Board of Directors has the right to revoke its charter and terminate its affiliation.

## Article VIII. EFFECTIVE DATA

This Constitution shall be in effect when voted on favorably, approved by the Society's Board of Directors, and made operative in the manner set forth in Article VI above.

## **BY-LAWS OF THE MINNESOTA FUTURISTS CHAPTER OF THE WORLD FUTURE SOCIETY**

### Article 1. MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Membership in good standing is contingent upon payment of dues, which shall be set by vote of the Board each year. Proceeds from dues shall be used for expenses such as those involved in maintaining membership records, arranging programs, and mailing out newsletters and other announcements.

Understanding the importance of establishing strong chapter relationships with the Society along with obtaining educational and professional benefits therein, all Minnesota Futurist members will be encouraged to obtain membership in the World Future Society at the Annual or Professional level

### Article 11. ELECTION PROCEDURES

1. Officers shall be elected to take office in June of every other year or as soon after that date as may be practicable.
2. This Board shall nominate candidates for office representative of the various kinds of persons making up the Chapter membership, with due regard to considerations of age, sex, and professional orientation.
3. It shall solicit suggestions for nominations by circulating the membership. Names supported in writing by ten or more members must be placed on the ballot in addition to whatever choices the committee makes on its own initiative.
4. After allowing fourteen days for a response the committee shall make up a ballot which will be mailed out to all members in good standing, identifying and briefly describing each candidate to be voted on, and setting a reasonable time within which the ballot must be returned.
1. The Secretary will count the returned ballots with the aid of tellers appointed by the President to represent the membership. The Secretary will report the results of the election at the next ensuing Chapter meeting or function.

### Article III. INTERIM ELECTIONS

In case of vacancies arising between annual elections, the Board shall propose for interim election candidates it believes to be suitable, and it shall vote on such candidates orally at the next chapter meeting or function, provided that advance notice to members has been given. An interim election shall be only for the unexpired portion of the electoral period,

and the time spent in office by the person so elected shall not be counted against any time limitations imposed in the Constitution and/or the By-Laws.

#### Article IV. LIMITATIONS UPON OFFICERS

1. Neither the President nor the Vice President shall serve more than two consecutive terms in  
the same office.
2. The Board member designated as Treasurer shall not make any expenditure of more than  
\$50.00 without the express approval of the President or the Chapter Coordinator.

#### Article V. BOARD OBLIGATIONS

1. The Board shall be responsive to the interests and wishes of members, entertaining their requests, consulting them on program preferences and other matters and keeping them informed both on current programs and on plans.
2. Board officers shall discharge their duties in good faith, in a manner which they reasonably believe to be in the best interests of the Chapter, and with the care an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances.
3. Board officers and committee chairs unable to discharge their duties because of personal constraints shall be expected to resign their post so that it can be filled with members able to undertake the position.

#### Article VI. BUSINESS MEETINGS

1. Meetings of the Chapter membership shall be called at such times and in such manner as may be determined by the Board. In order to minimize the calling of special business meetings, business matters may be taken up and disposed of at specially convened meetings after Chapter SIGs, provided that appropriate advance notice has been given to members.
2. An Annual Meeting shall be convened each year pursuant to Minnesota statute.

#### Article VII. AMENDMENTS OF BY-LAWS

By-Laws may be amended by majority vote at any chapter meeting or function at which appropriate advance notice has been given to members. Changes in the By-Laws must receive the approval of the Board in order to insure that they are in accordance with the Constitution as approved by the WFS Board of Directors.

Article VIII. RULES OF ORDER

The rules in Roberts' Rules of Order shall govern parliamentary procedures at Chapter meetings, but unless one or more members raise specific points of order, the prudent guidance of the presiding officer shall be the normal procedure for conducting meetings.