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Patty Baker Clerk of Superior Court Cherokee Cty, GA

DECLARATION

OF

COVENANTS, RESTRICTIONS AND EASEMENTS

FOR

OAKHURST COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

RECORDED AT DEED BOOK _____, PAGE ____

CHEROKEE COUNTY, GEORGIA

SELLERS & WARREN, P.C. 117 Towne Lake Parkway, Suite 100 Woodstock, GA 30188 770-924-9366

THIS INSTRUMENT ESTABLISHES A MANDATORY MEMBERSHIP HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION BUT DOES NOT SUBMIT THE COMMUNITY TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE GEORGIA PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION ACT, O.C.G.A. 44-3-220, ET SEQ.

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DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS FOR OAKHURST COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC. CHEROKEE COUNTY, GEORGIA

THIS DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, RESTRICTIONS AND EASEMENTS IS MADE BY BANK OF CANTON, a Division of Bank of Ellijay, a Georgia Banking Company, (hereinafter referred to as the "Declarant") and supersedes those certain Declaration of Protective Covenants for Oakhurst, recorded on September 29, 2009, at Deed Book 10795, Page 1, Cherokee County, Georgia Deed Records

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Declarant is the owner of all of that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lots 1061, 1062, 1063, 1099 and 1100 of the 15th District, 2nd Section, on, City of Woodstock, Cherokee County, Georgia, as described on attached Exhibit "A" and as shown on the Plat of Survey recorded in Plat Book 105 Pages 17-25, Cherokee County, Georgia records; and

WHEREAS, the Declarant intends to impose on the Property mutually beneficial restrictions under a general plan of improvement for the benefit of the owners of each portion of the property and to establish a procedure for the overall development, administration, maintenance and preservation of the property;

WHEREAS, in furtherance of the such plan, it is desirable to create an association to administer and enforce the covenants and restrictions imposed hereby and to collect, hold, and disburse the charges and assessments provided in the Declaration; and

WHEREAS, it is intended that every owner of any of the lots automatically, and by reason of such ownership in this Declaration, become a member of the Association and be subject to its rules, regulations, assessments and charges;

NOW, THEREFORE, Declarant does hereby submit the property to the provisions of this Declaration.

ARTICLE I

DEFINITIONS

The following words, when used in this Declaration of Covenants, Restrictions and Easements, shall have the following meanings:

- 1.01 <u>ASSESSMENT FEE</u>: An annual fee established by the Declarant or the Board of Directors of the Homeowners Association used for operational expenses of the Association.
- 1.02 <u>ASSOCIATION:</u> "Association" means Oakhurst Community Association, Inc., (a non-profit, non-stock, membership corporation organized under the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code), its successors and assigns.
 - 1.03 BOARD: "Board" means the Board of Directors of the Association
- 1.04 <u>BUILDER:</u> "Builder" means any person who purchases one or more Lots for the purpose of constructing a residence thereon for later sale to consumers in the ordinary course of such person's business.
 - 1.05 BY-LAWS: "By-Laws" means the By-Laws of the Association.
- 1.06 <u>CAPITALIZATION FEE</u>: A fee paid by the purchaser each time a lot is sold from the Declarant to a second party or from the Builder to a third party. Declarant sales to a Builder are not subject to this fee.
- 1.07 <u>COMMENCEMENT DATE:</u> "Commencement Date" as to any Lot means the day the residence is sold by the Declarant to a second party other than the Builder, by the Builder to a third party, or a resale from purchaser to a new purchaser.
- 1.08 <u>COMMON PROPERTY:</u> "Common Property" means all real property (together with any and all improvements now or hereafter located thereon) owned by the Association or in certain instances over which the Association has been granted permanent easements, for the common use and enjoyment of the Owners.
- 1.09 DECLARANT: "Declarant" means BANK OF CANTON, A DIVISION OF BANK OF ELLIJAY, a Georgia Banking Company, and its successors-in-title and assigns, provided any such successors-in-title or assigns shall acquire for the purpose of sale all or any portion of the unsold portions of the real property described in Exhibit "A", and provided further, in the instrument of conveyance to any such successor-in-title or assign, such successor-in-title or assign is designated as the "Declarant" hereunder by the grantor of such conveyance, which grantor shall be the "Declarant" hereunder at the time of such conveyance; provided, further, upon such designation of successor Declarant, all rights and obligations of the former Declarant in and to such status as "Declarant" hereunder shall cease, it being understood that as to all of the property described in Exhibit "A", attached hereto, and which is now or hereafter subjected to this Declaration, there shall be only one person or legal entity entitled to exercise the rights and powers of the "Declarant" hereunder at any one time.

- 1.10 <u>DEVELOPMENT-WIDE STANDARD</u>: "Development-Wide Standard" shall mean the standard of conduct, maintenance or other activity generally prevailing in the Development. Such standard may be more specifically determined by the Board and by committees required or permitted to be established pursuant to the Declaration and By-Laws. Such determination, however, must be consistent with the Development-Wide Standard originally established by the Declarant.
- 1.11 <u>LANDSCAPING</u>: "Landscaping" means the placement of new ground materials by the Declarant, Builder or the Owner of a Lot.
- 1.12 LOT: "Lot" means any parcel of land shown upon the subdivision plat recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Cherokee County, described on Exhibit "A" attached hereto, covering any portion of the Property, provided, however, that no portion of the Common Property shall ever be a Lot.
 - 1.13 MEMBER: "Member" means any member of the Association.
- 1.14 <u>MEMBERSHIP:</u> "Membership" means the collective total of all Members of the Association.
- 1.15 OCCUPANT: "Occupant" shall mean any person occupying all or any portion of a Lot located within the Development for any period of time, regardless of whether such Person is a tenant or the Owner of such property.
- 1.16 OWNER: "Owner" means the record owner (including Declarant), whether one or more persons or entities, of a fee simple title to any Lot; provided, however, that where fee simple title has been transferred and is being held merely as security for the repayment of a loan, the person or entity who would own the Lot in fee simple if such loan were paid in full shall be considered the Owner.
- 1.17 <u>PERSON:</u> "Person" means a human being, corporation, partnership, trustee or other legal entity.
- 1.18 <u>PROPERTY:</u> "Property" means that certain real property hereinabove described.
- 1.19 <u>RESIDENCE</u>: "Residence" shall mean a structure situated upon a Lot intended for independent use and occupancy as a residence for a single family. A structure and the land owned as a part thereof (the Lot) shall not become a Residence until a certificate of occupancy shall have been issued by the appropriate governmental authorities as a pre-requisite to the occupancy of such Residence and until the Lot and structure located thereon shall have

been conveyed to a third party other than the builder thereof. The Owner of a Residence shall notify the Association or its designee immediately upon issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy for the Residence.

1.20 <u>RESTRICTIONS</u>: "Restrictions" means all covenants, restrictions, easements, charges, liens and other obligations created or imposed by this Declaration.

1.21 STRUCTURE: "Structure" means:

- (a) any thing or object the placement of which upon any Lot may affect the appearance of such Lot, including by way of illustration and not limitation, any building or part thereof, garage, porch, shed, greenhouse or bathhouse, coop or cage, covered or uncovered patio, swimming pool, deck, fence, curbing, paving, wall, tree, shrub (and all other forms of landscaping), sign, signboard, temporary or permanent living quarters (including any house trailer) or any other temporary or permanent improvement to such Lot;
- (b) any excavation, grading, fill, ditch, diversion dam or other thing or device which affects or alters the natural flow of surface waters from, upon or across any Lot, or which affects or alters the flow of any waters in any natural or artificial creek, stream, wash or drainage channel from, upon or across any Lot; and
- (c) any change in the grade at any point on a Lot of more than six (6) inches, whether or not subsection (b) of this Section 1.19 applies to such change.

ARTICLE II

COMMON PROPERTY

2.01 Conveyance of Common Property:

- (a) The Declarant may from time to time convey to the Association or grant easements to the Association, at no expense to the Association and in accordance with this Section, real and personal property for the common use and enjoyment of the Owners of Residences (such real and personal property is hereinafter collectively referred to as "Common Property") and, to the extent set forth in this Declaration of Covenants, Restrictions and Easements, the general public. The Association hereby covenants and agrees to accept from the Declarant all such conveyances of Common Property.
- (b) It is contemplated by the Declarant that the Declarant will convey to the Association Common Property for scenic and natural area preservation and recreational use. The Declarant may, at Declarant's sole discretion, modify, alter, increase, reduce and otherwise

change the Common Property contemplated to be conveyed to the Association in accordance with this subsection (b) of this Section 2.01 at any time prior to conveyance of such Common Property to the Association.

- (c) Notwithstanding any legal presumption to the contrary, the fee title to, and all rights in, any portion of the Property owned by the Declarant and designated as Common Property or designated for public use shall be reserved to the Declarant until such time as the same shall be conveyed to the Association or to any municipality or other governmental body, agency or authority.
- (d) Lakes, dams and detention ponds shall, without limitation, be included in the property that may be conveyed by Declarant and which shall be accepted by the Association. Declarant shall not be required to make any improvements whatsoever to the property to be conveyed and accepted pursuant to this Section including, without limitation, dredging or otherwise removing silt from any lake or detention pond that may be conveyed. Nothing herein shall be construed to make Declarant or the Association liable for damages resulting from flooding due to heavy rainfall or other natural occurrences.
- 2.02 <u>Right of Enjoyment</u>: Every Owner of a Residence shall have a right and easement to use and enjoy the Common Property, which right shall be appurtenant to and shall pass with the title to every Lot upon transfer; provided, however, that no Owner shall do any act which interferes with the free use and enjoyment of the Common Property by all other Owners. The Association may permit persons who are not Owners of Residences to use and enjoy part or all of the Common Property subject to such limitations, and upon such terms and conditions, as it may from time to time establish. The right and easement of enjoyment granted or permitted by this Section 2.02 is subject to suspension by the Association as provided in Sections 2.03(f) and 3.05.
- 2.03 <u>Rights of the Association:</u> The rights and privileges conferred in Section 2.02 hereof shall be subject to the right, and where applicable, the obligation, of the Association acting through the Board to:
- (a) Promulgate rules and regulations relating to the use, operation and maintenance of the Common Property;
- (b) Borrow money for the purpose of carrying out the activities of the Association, including the acquisition, construction, improvement, equipping and maintenance of Common Property, and in aid thereof to encumber by deed to secure debt, mortgage or other security interest any or all of the Association's property including Common Property and revenues from assessments, user fees and other sources;
- (c) Grant easements or rights of way over Common Property to any municipality or other governmental body, agency or authority, to any quasi-public agency or to any utility company or cable television system;
 - (d) Dedicate or transfer all or any part of the Common Property or

interests therein to any municipality or other governmental body, agency or authority for such purposes and subject to such provisions and conditions as may be agreed upon by the Association and such grantee, including a provision that such property or interest shall, if such dedication or transfer is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Members who are present in person or by proxy and voting at a meeting of Members duly held in accordance with the By-Laws of the Association and by the Declarant so long as Declarant has the right to appoint and remove members of the Board and officers of the Association, cease to be subject to this Declaration or all or any part of the Restrictions while held by any such municipality or other governmental body, agency or authority;

- (e) Suspend, pursuant to Section 3.05, the voting rights of any Member and the right of enjoyment granted or permitted by Section 2.02;
- (f) To sell, lease or otherwise convey all or any part of its properties and interests therein;
- (g) Enforce all applicable provisions of valid agreements of the Association relating to the Common Property or any part thereof;
- (h) Maintain any and all landscaping treatments previously installed by the Declarant, to the extent that such landscaping is not otherwise maintained by the appropriate county and/or municipal entity having jurisdiction over the roads for Forsyth County, Georgia; and
- (i) To charge reasonable admission or other fees for the use of any recreational facility which may be hereafter situated or constructed upon the Common Property and to impose reasonable limits and charges on the number of guests who use such recreational facilities. The Association may limit the rental or any facility to only members in good standing.
- 2.04 Conveyance of Common Property by Declarant to Association: The Declarant may transfer or convey to the Association any personal property and any improved or unimproved property, leasehold, easement or other property interest which is or may be subjected to the terms of this Declaration. Such conveyance shall be accepted by the Association, and the property shall thereafter be Common Property to be maintained by the Association for the benefit of all of its Members. Notwithstanding the foregoing, such conveyance shall be made subject to the right of the Declarant to make adjustments in the boundary lines of the Common Property deemed reasonably necessary by Declarant, and the deed of conveyance of the Common Property shall so provide.
- 2.05 <u>Maintenance</u>: The Association shall maintain and keep in good repair the Common Property. This maintenance shall include, without limitation, maintenance, repair and replacement of all fencing, landscaping and improvements situated on the Common Property. In addition, the Association shall maintain grass and other landscaping located along or in dedicated rights of way, which were installed and maintained by Declarant, to the extent permitted by the applicable governmental authority. The foregoing maintenance shall be performed consistent with the Development-Wide Standard.

ARTICLE III

- 3.01 <u>Purposes, Powers and Duties of the Association:</u> The Association shall be formed as a non-profit organization for the sole purpose of performing certain functions for the common good and general welfare of the people of the Development. The Association shall have no power or duty to do or perform any act or thing other than those acts and things which will promote in some way the common good and general welfare of the people of the Development. To the extent, and only to the extent, necessary to carry out such purpose, the Association (a) shall have all of the powers of a corporation organized under the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code and (b) shall have the power and duty to exercise all of the rights, powers and privileges and to perform all of the duties and obligations of the Association as set forth in this Declaration.
- 3.02 <u>Membership in the Association</u>: Every Owner shall automatically be a member of the Association and such membership shall terminate only as provided in this Declaration of Covenants, Restrictions and Easements. Membership shall not be separated from ownership in fee title to a lot. For purposes of voting, there shall be two (2) classes of Members as set forth in Section 3.03.
- 3.03 <u>Voting Rights:</u> Each Owner, with the exception of Declarant, shall be a Class A Member and shall be entitled to one (1) Class A vote per Lot. Where such Owner is a group or entity other than one individual person, the vote on behalf of such Owner shall be exercised only by an individual person as designated in a proxy instrument duly executed by or on behalf of such group or entity, and delivered to the secretary of the Association.
- (a) The Declarant shall be the sole Class B Member and shall be entitled to two (2) votes for each Lot Owned; provided, however, in no event shall the Class B Member have less than the total number of Class A votes plus one (1). The Class B Membership shall cease and be converted to Class A Membership at such time as Declarant no longer retains the right to appoint and remove members of the Board and officers of the Association pursuant to Section 3.08 below.
- 3.04 <u>Board of Directors</u>: A Board of Directors shall manage the affairs of the Association. The number of Directors and the method of election of Directors shall be as set forth in the By-Laws of the Association.
- 3.05 <u>Suspension of Membership:</u> The Board may suspend the voting rights of any Member and the right of enjoyment of the Common Property of any person who:
- (a) Shall be delinquent more than sixty (60) days in the payment of any assessment levied by the Association pursuant to the provisions of Article IV hereof; or

- (b) Shall be in violation of the rules and regulations of the Association relating to the use, operation and maintenance of Common Property. Such suspension shall be for the balance of the period in which said Member or person shall remain in violation, breach or default, as aforesaid, except that in the case of a violation described in subsection (c) of this Section 3.05, the suspension may be for a period not to exceed 60 days after the cure or termination of such violation. No such suspension shall prevent an Owner's ingress to or egress from his Lot.
- 3.06 <u>Termination of Membership:</u> Membership shall cease only when a person ceases to be an Owner.
- 3.07 <u>Voting Procedures:</u> The procedures for the election of Directors of the Association and the resolution of such other issues as may be brought before the membership of the Association shall be governed by this Declaration, the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code, the Articles of Incorporation of the Association, and the By-Laws of the Association, as each shall from time to time be in force and effect.

3.08 Controls by Declarant:

- (a) Notwithstanding any other language or provision to the contrary in this Declaration, in the Articles of Incorporation, or in the Bylaws of the Association, Declarant hereby retains the right to appoint and remove any members of the Board of the Association and any officer or officers of the Association until 15 days after the first of the following events shall occur: (i) the expiration of seven (7) years after the date of the recording of this Declaration; (ii) the date upon which ninety percent (90%) of the Lots intended by Declarant to be a part of the Development have been conveyed to Owners other than a person or persons constituting Declarant; or (iii) The surrender by Declarant of the authority to appoint and remove directors and officers by an express amendment to this Declaration executed and recorded by Declarant. The Declarant retains the title as President of the Oakhurst Community Association, Inc., until such time as it is turned over to the association.
- (b) Upon the expiration of the period of Declarant's right to appoint and remove directors and officers of the Association pursuant to the provisions of this Section, such right shall automatically pass to the Owners, including Declarant if Declarant then owns one or more Lots; and a special meeting of the Association shall be called at such time. At such special meeting the Owners shall elect a new Board of Directors which shall undertake the responsibilities of the Board and Declarant shall deliver the books, accounts, and records, if any, which Declarant has kept on behalf of the Association and any agreements or contacts executed by or on behalf of the Association during such period which Declarant has in its possession. Each Owner by acceptance of a deed to or other conveyances of a Lot vests in Declarant such authority to appoint and remove directors and officers of the Association as provided in this Section. The Association may exercise any other right or privilege given to it expressly by this Declaration or by law and any other right or privilege reasonably to be implied from the existence of any right or privilege given to it herein or reasonably necessary to effectuate any such right or privilege.

- 3.09 Monitoring Services: The Association may, but shall not be obligated to, maintain or support or contract for the provision of monitoring services within the Development. Neither the Association nor Declarant shall in any way be considered insurers or guarantors of safety within the Development, nor shall either of them be held liable for any loss or damage by reason of failure to provide adequate monitoring services or of ineffectiveness of any such measures undertaken. No representation or warranty is made that any fire protection system, burglar alarm system or other monitoring system or measure can not be compromised or circumvented, nor that any such system or measure undertaken will in all cases prevent loss or provide the detection or protection for which the system is designed or intended. Each Owner acknowledges and understands, and covenants to inform its tenants, that the Association, its Board of Directors and committees and Declarant, are not insurers of safety and that each person using the Development assumes all risks of personal injury, death, and loss or damage to property, including Residences and the contents of Residences, resulting from acts of third parties.
- 3.10 <u>Indemnification:</u> The Association shall indemnify every officer, director, and committee member against all damages and expenses, including counsel fees, reasonably incurred in connection with any action, suit, or other proceeding (including settlement of any suit or proceeding, if approved by the then Board of Directors) to which he or she may be a party by reason of being or having been an officer, director, or committee member, to the fullest extent allowed by law.

ARTICLE IV

ASSESSMENTS

- 4.01 <u>Covenant for Assessments and Creation of Lien and Personal Obligations:</u> Except for transfers between Declarant and Builder, each Owner of a Lot, jointly and severally, for himself, his heirs, distributees, legal representatives, successors and assigns, by acceptance of a deed for a Lot, whether or not the covenants contained herein shall be expressed in any such deed, hereby covenants and agrees as follows:
- (a) To pay to the Association the annual assessments, which may or shall be levied by the Association pursuant to this Declaration against all Lots owned by him;
- (b) To pay to the Association any special assessments for capital improvements and other charges, which may or shall be levied by the Association pursuant to this Declaration against all Lots owned by him;
- (c) That there is hereby created a continuing charge and lien upon all Lots owned by him against which all such assessments are made to secure payment of such assessments and any interest thereon as provided in Section 4.09 hereof and costs of collection including reasonable attorneys' fees;
- (d) That such continuing charge and lien on such Lot binds such Lot in the hands of the then Owner, and the Owner's grantees, heirs, devisees, legal representatives,

successors and assigns. Such charge and lien is superior to any and all charges, liens or encumbrances which may hereafter in any manner arise or be imposed upon such Lots whether arising from or imposed by judgment or decree or by any agreement, contract, mortgage deed to secure debt, or other instrument, except (i) such liens for taxes or other public charges as are by applicable law made superior, and (ii) all deeds to secure debt given to secure a loan the proceeds of which are used by the Owner (1) to purchase a Lot or Lots (together with any and all Structures which may from time to time be placed or located thereon) and (2) to finance the construction repair or alteration of Structures;

- (e) That no sale or transfer at foreclosure or in lieu of foreclosure shall relieve any Lot from liability for any assessment thereafter assessed;
- (f) That all annual, special and specific assessments (together with interest thereon as provided in Section 4.09 of this Declaration and costs of collection including reasonable attorneys' fees) levied against any Lot owned by him during the period that he is an Owner shall be (in addition to being a continuing charge and lien against such Lot as provided in Section 4.01(d) of this Declaration) a personal obligation which will survive any sale or transfer of the Lot owned by him; provided, however, that such personal obligation for delinquent assessments shall not pass to an Owner's successor in title unless expressly assumed by such successor.
- 4.02 <u>Purpose of Assessments:</u> The assessments levied by the Association shall be used exclusively for the purpose of providing for the common good and general welfare of the people of the new community of the Development, including, but not limited to, the acquisition, construction, improvement, operation, maintenance and equipping of Common Property, the enforcement of the Restrictions contained in this Declaration, the enforcement of the Design Standards of the ACC, the payment of operating costs and expenses of the Association and the payment of all principal and interest when due on all debts owed by the Association.
- 4.03 <u>Accumulation of Funds Permitted:</u> The Association shall not be obligated to spend in any calendar year all the sums collected in such year by way of annual assessments or otherwise, and may carry forward, as surplus, any balances remaining; nor shall the Association be obligated to apply such surplus to the reduction of the amount of the Annual Assessments in any succeeding year, but may carry forward from year to year such surplus as the Board may deem to be desirable for the greater financial security of the Association and the effectuation of its purposes.

4.04 Annual Assessment:

(a) Beginning on the Commencement Date as defined in Section 1.07, each lot will be subject to an annual assessment fee which is set by the Declarant or the Association's Board of Directors. In case of resale of the lot during the year, the annual assessment fee will be prorated between the buyer and the seller. The words "Assessment Year" as used herein shall mean the calendar year with the first Assessment Year commencing on January 1 of the year immediately following the Commencement Date. Transfers from the Declarant to the Builder are not subject to the annual assessment.

- (b) After the first Assessment Year the amount of the annual assessment shall be determined pursuant to Section 4.06 below.
- (c) Effective on the Commencement Date, a Capitalization Fee will be charged each time the property is sold except for transfers from the Declarant to the Builder. Such fee will be equal to a full one-year assessment fee.

4.05 Special Assessments:

- (a) In addition to the annual assessments authorized by this Article IV, the Association may levy, in any Assessment Year and with such frequency as the Association shall deem necessary, special assessments for the purpose of paying, in whole or in part, any unanticipated operating expenses, as well as the cost of any construction, reconstruction, repair or replacement of a capital improvement on any Common Property. Such special assessments may be levied by the Board in any Assessment Year without the approval of the members, which special assessments in the aggregate do not exceed an amount equal to the annual assessment then in effect. Special assessments exceeding said amount shall require the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the Members of the Association who are present in person or by proxy at a meeting of Members duly held in accordance with the provisions of the By-Laws of the Association and this Declaration.
- (b) All Members of the Association shall be given neither written notice by the Board not less than thirty (30) nor more than sixty (60) days in advance of any meeting of the Members of the Association at which the Board shall propose taking action pursuant to and Section 4.05 (a). Such written notice shall specify under which Section or Sections the Board will propose action. At such meeting, the presence of Members or of proxies entitled to cast one-third (1/3) of the total votes outstanding shall constitute a quorum. If the required quorum is not present at such meeting, a second meeting may be called by the Board subject to the same notice requirement, and the required quorum at such second meeting shall be twenty-five percent (25%) of the total votes outstanding. No such second meeting shall be held more than sixty (60) days following the first meeting. If the required quorum is not present at the second meeting, the Board may take such action without approval of the Members.

4.06 <u>Assessment Procedures</u>:

(a) The Board shall establish the annual assessment for each Assessment Year at an amount as determined by the provisions of this Article IV, and shall also establish the date during the Assessment Year on which the annual assessment shall be due and payable (such date is hereinafter referred to as the 'Due Date'). The Board shall also establish an annual budget which shall list the estimated operating expenses and shall contain an amount to be set aside each year into a reserve allowance to be used for future repair and replacement of the Common Property; provided, however, in no event shall the Board be required to provide for a reserve sufficient to Cover all such future repair and replacement of the Common Property, it being intended that a portion of such costs may be covered by Special Assessment. The Board shall cause the Association to send to each Owner at least thirty (30) days in advance of the effective

date of the budget, a copy of the budget and a written notice setting forth the amount of the annual assessment and the Due Date. After Declarant no longer has the right to appoint or remove members of the Board and officers of the Association, such budget and assessment shall become effective unless disapproved at a meeting by Members representing at least 75% of the total votes in the Association If the budget proves inadequate for any reason, the Board may prepare a revised budget for the remainder of the fiscal year, which revised budget shall become effective unless disapproved at a meeting by Members in the same manner as prescribed for the initial budget There shall be no obligation to call a meeting for the purpose of considering the budget or any revised budget except on petition of the Members as required for special Meetings in the By-Laws, which petition must be presented to the Board within 10 days after delivery of the notice of assessments.

If a budget is not adopted for any year, then until such time as a budget is adopted, the budget in effect for the immediately preceding year shall continue for the current year.

The Board may establish reasonable payment procedures to allow or require payment of the annual assessment in installments during the Assessment Year. The Board shall also establish payment procedures for payment of any special assessments for capital improvements, which may be levied in accordance with the provisions of this Article IV.

- 4.07 <u>Uniform Rate of Assessment</u>: Both annual and special assessments must be fixed at a uniform rate for all Lots.
- 4.08 Effect of Nonpayment of Assessments: Any Assessment which is not paid on or before the Due Date shall be subject to a late fee of \$20.00 or such other amount determined by the Board of Directors and shall bear interest after the Due Date at the lower of the highest legal rate of interest which can be charged or the rate of eighteen percent (18%) per annum, or at such rate as the Board may from time to time establish, provided, however, that in no event shall the Board have the power to establish a rate of interest in violation of the laws of the State of Georgia. In the event of default in the payment of any one or more installments of an assessment, the Board may declare any remaining balance of the assessment at once due and payable. In the event that an owner shall fail to pay fully any portion of any assessment prior to the date on which payment is due, such unpaid portion (including any remaining balance declared immediately due and payable in accordance with the preceding sentence), together with interest and costs of collection including reasonable attorneys' fees, shall be a binding personal obligation of such Owner, as well as a lien on such Owner's Lot enforceable in accordance with the provisions of this Declaration.
- 4.09 Failure to Assess: The failure of the Board to fix the assessment amounts, or to deliver to each Owner the assessment notice, shall not be deemed a waiver, modification or release of any Owner of the obligation to pay assessments. In such event, each Owner shall continue to pay assessments on the same basis as for the last year for which an assessment was made until a new assessment is made, at which time any shortfalls in collections may be assessed retroactively by the Board.
- 4.10 <u>Budget Deficits during Control Period:</u> In any fiscal year the Declarant may advance funds to the Association sufficient to satisfy the deficit, if any, between the actual

operating expenses of the Association (exclusive of any allocation for capital reserves) and the annual and special assessments for such fiscal year. Such advances shall be evidenced by a promissory note from the Association in favor of the Declarant and shall be paid back to Declarant with interest, if and to the extent that sufficient funds are generated by assessments in future years until such time as Declarant no longer has the authority to appoint the directors and officers of the Association (90 percent sale of lots).

- 4.11 <u>Certificate of Payment:</u> Upon written demand by an Owner, the Association shall within a reasonable period of time issue and furnish to such Owner a written certificate stating that all assessments (including penalties, interest and costs, if any) have been paid with respect to any Lot owned by said Owner as of the date of such certificate, or that all assessments, interest and costs have not been paid, setting forth the amount then due and payable. The Association may state a reasonable charge for the issuance of such certificate. Any such certificate, when duly issued as herein provided, shall be conclusive and binding with regard to any matter therein stated as between the Association and any bona fide purchaser of, or lender on, the Lot in question.
- 4.12 <u>Approval of Declarant</u>: Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, no special assessment shall be made without the Approval of Declarant for so long as Declarant owns a Lot.
- 4.13 <u>Specific Assessments:</u> The Board shall have the power to specifically assess any one or more Lots pursuant to this Section as, in its discretion, it shall deem appropriate. Failure of the Board to exercise its authority under this Section shall not be grounds for any action against the Association or the Board and shall not constitute a waiver of the Board's right to exercise its authority Under this Section in the future with respect to any expenses, including an expense for which the Board has not previously exercised its authority under this Section. The Board may specifically assess Owners for the following expenses, except for expenses incurred for maintenance and repair of items which are the maintenance responsibility of the Association as provided herein:
- (a) Expenses of the Association which benefit less than all of the Lots, which may be specifically assessed equitably among all of the Lots which are benefited according to the benefit received,
- (b) Expenses incurred by the Association pursuant to Section 6.14 hereof for the Lots being assessed; and
- (c) Reasonable fines as may be imposed in accordance with the terms of the Declaration and By-Laws.

ARTICLE V

ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL

5.01 General: No Structure (including but not limited to, buildings, signs, walls, and mailboxes) shall be placed, erected, or installed upon any Lot, and no improvements (including staking, clearing, excavation, grading and other site work, exterior alteration of existing improvements, and planting or removal of landscaping materials) shall take place except in compliance with this Article. Notwithstanding this, the Board may exempt certain activities from the application and approval requirements of this Article, provided such activities are undertaken in strict compliance with the requirements of such resolution. Further, the Declarant, in its discretion, may exempt certain designees, including but not limited to, certain builders, from any or all of the requirements of this Article for original construction, provided such designees are contractually obligated to comply with design review restrictions imposed by Declarant

Any Owner may remodel, paint or redecorate the interior of structure(s) of a Unit without approval provided such improvements are not visible from outside such structure(s). Modification to the interior of screen porches, patios, and similar portions of a Residence visible from outside the Residence shall be subject to approval. No approval shall be required to repaint the exterior of a structure in accordance with the originally approved color scheme or to rebuild in accordance with originally approved plans and specifications.

All dwellings constructed on any portion of the Properties shall be designed by and built in accordance with the plans and specifications of which have been submitted and approved by either the Declarant or the Architectural Control Committee. All structures shall comply with required and acceptable building codes and ordinances as well as the subdivision plats for the Development and this Declaration. In addition to complying with the foregoing statement, all foundations which face a street must have a stone or brick facade.

- 5.02 <u>Architectural Control Committee Creation and Composition:</u> Architectural Control Committee (the "ACC") shall mean and refer to the Declarant or such other individuals as the Declarant may appoint, or such entity to which the ACC may assign its duties, until permanent improvements have been constructed on all of the Lots and sold to third parties. After such time the ACC shall be appointed by the Board of Directors pursuant to rules in this Declaration. All costs of operating the ACC, may, at the discretion of Declarant, be borne by the Association.
- 5.03 Purposes, Powers, and Duties of the ACC: The purpose of the ACC is to assure that any installation, construction or alteration of any Structure on any Lot shall be submitted to the ACC for approval (i) as to whether the proposed installation, construction or alteration is in conformity and harmony of external design and general quality with the existing standards of the neighborhood and with the standards of the Development, and (ii) as to the location of Structures with respect to topography, finished ground elevation and surrounding Structures. To the extent necessary to carry out such purpose, the ACC shall have all of the powers and duties to do each and every thing necessary, suitable, convenient or proper for, or in connection with, or incidental to, the accomplishment of such purpose, including, without being limited to, the power and duty to approve or disapprove plans and specifications for any installation, construction or alteration of any Structure on any Lot.

5.04 Design Standards:

- (a) The ACC shall from time to time adopt promulgate, amend, revoke and enforce guidelines (the "Design Standards") for the purposes of establishing guidelines with respect to the approval and disapproval of design features, architectural styles, exterior colors and materials, details of construction, location and size of Structures and all other matters that require approval by the ACC pursuant to this Declaration. As of the date of this Declaration, the Design Standards include the following requirements:
- (i) All Lots will be restricted to permanent single family housing of a minimum heated floor area as designated by the Zoning Ordinances of City of Woodstock, Georgia applicable to this development. The square footage is exclusive of areas contained in open porches, carports, garages, and unfinished basements.
- (ii) Whenever buildings or retaining walls are erected on any Lot, they must be constructed in whole or in part of concrete, concrete blocks, cinder blocks or other fabricated masonry units, which shall be approved by the ACC. Exterior finish materials must be approved by the ACC. The front and two sides of the residence itself must contain some brick or stone or have brick or stone accents.
- (iii) Nothing shall be erected, placed or altered on any Lot nearer to any street than building set back lines unless the same is retaining walls of masonry construction or rock which do not rise above finished grade elevation of the earth embankments so retained, reinforced or stabilized, unless otherwise approved by the ACC. The exposed part of any retaining wall shall be constructed in accordance with Section 5.04(a)(ii) above
- (b) The ACC shall make a published copy of any additional Design Standards readily available to Members and prospective Members of the Association and to all applicants seeking the ACC's approval.
- 5.05 <u>Submission of Plans and Specifications</u>: No structure shall be commenced, erected, placed, moved onto or permitted to remain on any Lot nor shall any existing Structure upon any Lot be altered in any way which materially changes the exterior appearance of the Structure or Lot, unless plans and specifications therefore shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the ACC. Such plans and specifications shall be in such form and shall contain such information as may be reasonably required by the ACC in the Design Standards, including, without being limited to:
- (a) A site plan showing the location of all proposed and existing Structures on the Lot including building setbacks, open space, driveways, walkways and parking spaces including the number thereof and all siltation and erosion control measures;
 - (b) A foundation plan;
 - (c) A floor plan;

- (d) Exterior elevations of all proposed Structures and alterations to existing Structures as such Structures will appear after all back-filling and landscaping are completed;
- (e) Specifications of materials, color scheme, lighting scheme and other details affecting the exterior appearance of all proposed Structures and alterations to existing structures; and
 - (f) Plans for landscaping and grading (as pertains to the above)

In the event that the ACC fails to disapprove any plans or specifications within sixty (60) days after all required documentation has been submitted to the ACC, such plans will be deemed to be approved. If approved plans have not been substantially commenced within six (6) months from ACC approval, or completed within twelve (12) months from approval, such plans shall be deemed invalid and the Owner must submit new plans and specifications to the ACC for approval.

5.06 <u>Violations</u>: If any structure shall be erected, placed, maintained or altered upon any Lot otherwise than in accordance with the plans and specifications approved by the ACC, pursuant to the provisions of this Article, such erection, placement, maintenance or alteration shall be deemed to have been undertaken in violation of this Article and without the approval required herein. If in the opinion of the ACC such violation shall have occurred, the ACC shall notify the Board of Directors who shall take appropriate measures to notify the owner of the lot. The Board shall provide written notice to the Owner by certified mail, setting forth in reasonable detail the nature of the violation and the specific action or actions required to remedy the violation.

This is not to be confused with the normal maintenance of existing structures; placement of new landscaping materials or maintenance of existing landscaping materials such as shrubs, trees, flowers, etc.

- 5,07 <u>Nondiscrimination by ACC:</u> The ACC shall not discriminate against any applicant requesting its approval of plans and specifications because of such applicant's race, color, sex, religion, age or national origin. Further, the ACC in the exercise of its powers granted pursuant to this Declaration shall not take any action the intent or effect of which is to discriminate against persons of a particular race, color, sex, religion, age or national origin.
- 5.08 <u>Disclaimer as to ACC Approval:</u> Plans and specifications are not reviewed for engineering or structural design or quality of materials, and by approving such plans and specifications neither the ACC, the members thereof, nor the Association assumes liability or responsibility therefore, nor for any defect in any structure constructed from such plans and specifications. Neither Declarant, the Association, the ACC, the Board, nor the officers, directors, members, employees, and agents of any of them shall be liable in damages to anyone submitting plans and specifications to any of them for approval, or to any Owner of property affected by these restrictions by reason of mistake in judgment, negligence, or nonfeasance arising out of or in connection with the approval or disapproval or failure to approve or disapprove any such plans or specifications. Every person who submits plans or specifications

and every Owner agrees that he will not bring any action or suit against Declarant, the Association, the ACC, the Board, or the officers, directors, members, employees, and agents of any of them to recover any such damages and hereby releases, premises, quit-claims, and covenants not to sue for all claims, demands, and causes of action arising out of or in connection with any judgment, negligence, or nonfeasance and hereby waives the provisions of any law which provides that a general release does not extend to claims, demands, and causes of action not known at the time the release is given.

- 5.09 <u>Variance</u>: The ACC may authorize variances from compliance with any of its guidelines and procedures when circumstances such as topography, natural obstructions, hardship, or aesthetic or environmental considerations require. Such variances may only be granted, however, when unique circumstances dictate and no variance shall (a) be effective unless in writing (b) be contrary to this Declaration or (c) estop the ACC from denying a variance in other circumstances. For purposes of this Section, the inability to obtain approval of any governmental agency, the issuance of any permit or the terms of any financing shall not be considered a hardship warranting a variance. Notwithstanding the above, the Architectural Control Committee may not authorize variances without the written consent of the Declarant, as long as Declarant owns any portion of the Property.
- The provisions contained in this Article, as well as all other 5.10 Declarant: architectural control provisions, including but not limited to building setbacks, contained in the Development documents shall not apply to Declarant or to any predecessor of Declarant. In addition, during such period of time that Declarant, or any predecessor of Declarant, owns at least one lot, said provisions shall not apply to Declarant or builder who acquires a lot from Declarant, or any predecessor of Declarant or through other builders who had acquired the lot from said parties for the purpose of constructing a dwelling thereon. Such builder must submit to and have his plans and specifications approved by Declarant, unless title to the lot passed through a predecessor of Declarant, and said predecessor still owns at least one (1) lot for sale in the development, in which case such plans and specifications must be approved by said predecessor to Declarant. This Section 5.10 may only be amended with the prior written consent of the Declarant, Bank of Canton, a Division of Bank of Ellijay. The prior written consent of Bank of Canton, a Division of Bank of Ellijay, shall only be required if they are no longer the Declarant and still own at least one lot for sale in the Development.

ARTICLE VI

GENERAL COVENANTS AND RESTRICTIONS

- 6.01 <u>Application:</u> The covenants and restrictions contained in this Article VI shall pertain and apply to all Lots and to all Structures erected or placed thereon.
- 6.02 Restriction of Use: All of the lots shall be restricted exclusively to single-family residential use. The term "single-family" shall include one or more related or unrelated adults, as well as the children of any such adults. No lot shall be any time used for any commercial, business, or professional purpose. Notwithstanding the foregoing, however, nothing set forth in this section shall prohibit: (a) the Declarant from conducting such sales,

leasing and promotional activities on any lot as said Declarant shall determine or; (b) the owner of any lot from using a portion of a building located on such lot as an office, provided that such use does not create regular customer, client or employee traffic to and from such lot and no sign, logo, symbol or nameplate identifying such business is displayed anywhere on such lot.

- 6.03 <u>Resubdivision of Property:</u> No Lot may be split divided, or subdivided for sale, resale, gift, transfer, or otherwise, without the prior written approval of the ACC of plans and specifications for such split, division or subdivision. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein shall prevent Declarant or the Owners of any Lots from combining two or more Lots into one Lot for construction of a single Lot thereon provided, however, that such combined Lot may not be subdivided thereafter, and, provided further that the Owner of The Lot on such Lot shall be responsible for annual and special assessments based upon the number of Lots combined into one Lot.
- 6.04 <u>Erosion Control:</u> No activity which may create erosion or siltation problems shall be undertaken on any Lot without the prior written approval of the ACC of plans and specifications for the prevention and control of such erosion or siltation. The ACC may as a condition of approval of such plans and specifications, require the use of certain means of preventing and controlling such erosion or siltation. Such means may include (by way of example and not of limitation) physical devices for controlling the run-off and drainage of water, special precautions in grading and otherwise changing the natural landscape and required landscaping as provided for in Section 6.05. Guidelines for the prevention and control of erosion and siltation may be included in the Design Standards of the ACC.
- 6.05 <u>Landscaping</u>: All Builders will be required to sod the front and an area not to exceed 30 feet in the rear yard from the back of house, and to landscape with shrubs or any types of plants as approved by the Declarant. All builders must either obtain a sample landscaping plan from the Declarant or to obtain approval by the Declarant for their own plans. All Lot owners will be required to submit their landscaping plans along with their request to erect or change a structure or facility (see Section 5.05f) This is not to be construed as interfering with the normal maintenance of existing landscaping; relocating of landscaping materials, pruning; removal of dead landscaping materials such as shrubs, flowers, etc. All lot owners shall be required to maintain and trim their lawns, trees, flowers and shrubs so that all landscaping is neat and orderly in appearance.
- 6.06 <u>Trees:</u> No tree having a diameter of four (4) inches or more (measured from a point two (2) feet above ground level) shall be removed from any Lot (except with respect to the removal and replacement of dead or diseased trees) unless such removal is in conformity with approved landscaping plans and specifications submitted pursuant to the provisions of Section 6.05 hereof. Guidelines relating to the preservation of trees and other natural resources and wildlife upon the Property may be included in the Design Standards of the ACC.
- 6.07 <u>Out-Buildings:</u> No temporary building, trailer, garage or building under construction shall be used, temporarily or permanently, as a residence on any Lot except as temporary sleeping or living quarters required or desirable for security purposes in accordance

with plans and specifications therefore approved by the ACC. No contractor or builder shall erect on any Lot any temporary building or shed for use in connection with construction on such Lot; provided, however that Declarant shall have the right, so long as Declarant owns any of the Property, to operate a temporary construction trailer on any Lot designated by Declarant. No out buildings shall be allowed unless approved in writing as to size, construction, and location by the ACC.

6.08 Signs:

- (a) No signs whatsoever (including but not limited to commercial and similar signs) shall, without the ACC's prior written approval of plans and specifications therefore, be installed, altered or maintained on any Lot, or on any portion of a Structure visible from the exterior thereof, except:
 - (i) such signs as may be required by legal proceedings;
- (ii) not more than one "For Sale' sign; such sign having a maximum face area of four square feet. Sign may only be displayed in the front yard of a Lot. If the Oakhurst Community Association, Inc. has "For Sale' signs available for the homeowner's use, these signs must be used.
- (iii) Directional signs for vehicular or pedestrian safety in accordance with plans and specifications approved by the ACC and
 - (iv) For rent or lease signs are strictly prohibited.
- (b) In no event during approved construction of any structure shall more than one job identification be approved by the ACC.
- 6.09 <u>Setbacks:</u> In approving plans and specifications for any proposed Structure, the ACC may establish setback requirements for the location of such Structure. Guidelines for setbacks may be included in the Design Standards of the ACC. No Structure shall be erected or placed on any Lot unless its location is consistent with such setbacks.
- 6.10 Fences: No fence or fencing type barrier of any kind shall be placed, erected, allowed or maintained upon any Lot without prior written approval in accordance with the provisions of Article 5 hereof. Guidelines detailing acceptable fence style or specifications may be issued pursuant to Article 5, but in no event may a chain link or barbed wire fence be approved; provided, however, the Declarant and the Association may erect any type fence on the Common Property or elsewhere within the Community as they may deem appropriate or as necessary to satisfy the requirements of any law, regulation or governmental entity or for the health and safety of Owners and Occupants.
- 6.11 Roads and Driveways: No road or driveway shall be constructed or altered on any Lot without the prior written approval of the ACC of plans and specifications for such roads and driveways. Guidelines relating to the design and location of roads and driveways may

be included in the Design Standards of the ACC.

- 6.12 <u>Antennas, Etc:</u> No exterior television or radio antenna or satellite dish more than one meter in diameter or receiver or solar equipment of any sort shall be placed, allowed or maintained upon any portion of a Structure or Lot without prior written approval by the ACC. No antenna shall be installed or used for the purpose of transmitting of electronic signals.
- 6.13 <u>Clotheslines, Garbage Cans, Etc:</u> No clotheslines shall be allowed on any Lot (except inside a Residence), and equipment, garbage cans and woodpiles shall be kept screened by adequate planting or fencing so as to conceal them from view by neighboring residences and streets and may be maintained in the rear yard on a Lot only.
- Each Owner shall keep and maintain each Lot and Maintenance: Structure owned by him, as well as all landscaping located thereon, in good condition and repair, including, but not limited to (i) the repairing and painting (or other appropriate external care) of all Structures; (ii) the seeding, watering and mowing of all lawns; and (iii) the pruning and trimming of all trees, hedges, and shrubbery so that the same are not obstructive of a view by motorists or pedestrians of street traffic. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the maintenance required hereunder shall also extend from the boundary of a Lot to the curbing of the right-ofway bordering said Lot, and shall also include casements located on the Lot, including, but not limited to swales and ditches. If in the opinion of the ACC, any Owner shall fail to perform the duties imposed by this Section, the ACC shall notify the Association. If the Board shall agree with the determination of the ACC with respect to the failure of said Owner to perform the duties imposed by this Section, then the Board shall give written notice to the Owner to remedy the condition in question, setting forth in reasonable detail the nature of the condition and the specific action or actions needed to be taken to remedy such condition. If the Owner shall fail to take reasonable steps to remedy the condition within thirty (30) days after the mailing of said written notice by certified mail, then the Association shall have the right of perform such maintenance on behalf of such Owner and the cost thereof shall be a Special Assessment against such Owner.
- 6.15 <u>Commercial and Recreational Vehicles and Trailers:</u> No commercial vehicle, house trailer, mobile home, motor home, recreational vehicle, camper, truck with camper top, boat or boat trailer or like equipment shall be permitted on any Lot on a permanent basis, but shall be allowed on a temporary basis not to exceed forty-eight (48) consecutive hours, unless approved by the developer or Board of Directors for a longer period of time.
- 6.16 <u>Vehicle Parking</u>: Vehicle parking on the street except for short periods (not to exceed 24 hours) is prohibited unless approved by the Declarant or a member of the Board of Directors.
- 6.17 <u>Recreational Equipment, Etc:</u> Mailboxes and all exterior recreational equipment (including, but not limited to basketball hoops, swing sets and similar sports and play equipment) and any yard ornaments, animal pens, dog runs, flags or other exterior fixtures shall comply with the Design Standards or otherwise be subject to approval by the ACC. Recreational

and playground equipment shall be placed or installed only upon the rear of a Lot as approved by the ACC. Portable basketball goals may be placed adjacent to the driveway with prior approval by the ACC. No above ground pool shall be allowed.

6.18 No animals, livestock, or poultry of any kind shall be raised, bred Animals: or kept on any Lot nor within any Lot except that dogs, cats, or other usual household pets may be kept by the respective Owners on their respective Lots and within their respective Lot; provided, however, that they are not kept, bred, or maintained for any commercial purposes and do not endanger the health of or unreasonably disturb the Owner of any Lots within the Property; provided however, that the Board, may, by adoption of Rules and Regulations as provided by Article 9 hereof, (i) prohibit from the properties, animals which are determined by the Board to be dangerous or detrimental to the health, safety, or welfare of the Owners of any Lots, and (ii) prohibit any respective pet from travel upon or use of the Common Area. In addition, Rules and Regulations may include but not be limited to the prohibition of animals as to size, weight or type. No pet enclosures shall be erected, placed or permitted to remain on any Lot subject to Article VI hereof. In the event a pet or pets become a nuisance in the opinion of the Declarant or the Board, they shall be removed from the Properties by the Owner of such pct upon written notification to such Owner. All animals, as are permitted herein, shall be kept and maintained in accordance with the Rules and Regulations established by the Board.

6.19 Solid Waste:

- (a) No person shall dump rubbish, garbage, or any other form of solid waste on any Lot or on Common Property.
- (b) Except during approved construction and as approved by the appropriate governmental authority, no person shall burn rubbish, garbage, or any other form of solid waste on any Lot or on Common Property.
- (c) Except for building materials employed during the course of construction of any Structure approved by the ACC, no lumber, metals, bulk materials or solid waste of any kind shall be kept, stored, or allowed to accumulate on any Lot unless screened or otherwise handled in a manner set forth in the Design Standards.
- (d) If rubbish, garbage, or any other form of solid waste is to be disposed of by being collected on a regular and recurring basis, containers may be placed in the open no earlier than 6 p.m. the day before pick-up is to be made, in order to provide access to persons making such pick-up. Cans should be taken away from the open area no later than 11 p.m. the day of pick up and shall be maintained in a screened or enclosed manner as set forth in the Design Standards. Guidelines relating to the type of containers permitted, the manner of storage and the place of pick-up may also be included in the Design Standards.
- 6.20 <u>Nuisances</u>: No obnoxious or offensive activity shall be carried on upon any Lot, nor shall anything be done thereof which may be or may become an annoyance or nuisance to the community.

- 6.21 Religious and Holiday Displays: Owners shall have the right to display religious and holiday signs, symbols, and decorations inside or outside of Residences of the kinds normally displayed in residences located in single-family residential neighborhoods, except that the Association may adopt reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions on displays visible from the outdoors for the purpose of minimizing damage and disturbance to other Owners and occupants.
- 6.22 <u>Activities within Residences:</u> The Board shall have the right to adopt reasonable rules which prohibit activities within the confines of Residences not normally associated with property restricted to residential use, and it may restrict or prohibit any activities that create monetary costs for the Association or other Owners, that create a danger to the health or safety of occupants of other residences that generate excessive noise or traffic that create unsightly conditions visible outside the residence or that create an unreasonable source of annoyance.
- 6.23 <u>Leasing:</u> No Owner may lease a residence other than for residential purposes. Each permitted lease must have an initial term of not less than twelve (12) months and a copy of all leases must be submitted to the Board of Directors within seven (7) days of execution of the lease. Each Owner who leases a residence shall be personally liable for his tenants' compliance with the Association governing documents and rules and regulations.

ARTICLE VII

EASEMENTS, ZONING, AND OTHER RESTRICTIONS; OTHER RESERVED RIGHTS TO DECLARANT

7.01 Easements:

- (a) Declarant hereby expressly reserves to the Declarant, its successors and assigns forever, the right to create perpetual easements in, on, over and under any part of the Property owned by Declarant for any purpose, which Declarant deems necessary, including, by way of example, and not limitation, the following:
- (i) The erection, installation, construction and maintenance of wires, lines, conduits and poles and the necessary or proper attachments in connection with the transmission of electricity, telephone, cable television cables and other utilities and similar facilities.
- (ii) The erection, installation, construction and maintenance of stormwater drains, land drains, public and private sewers, irrigation systems, pipelines for supplying gas, water and heat, and for any other public or quasi-public facility, service or function,
- (iii) Slope control purposes, including the right to grade and plant slopes and prevent the doing of any activity which might interfere with slopes or which might create erosion or sliding problems or which might change, obstruct or retard drainage flow and

- (iv) Such other purposes which are convenient or necessary for the use and operation of property by Declarant, as long as such action does not hamper the enjoyment of the Development, as built or expanded, by the Owners.
- (b) No Owner shall have any right to use any easement created by the Declarant in, on, or over any portion of the Property unless such easement has been assigned by the Declarant to the Association.
- 7.02 <u>Easement Area</u>: The words "Easement Area" as used herein shall mean those areas on any Lot or any other portion of the Property with respect to which easements are shown on a recorded deed, easement agreement or on any filed or recorded map or plat relating thereto. All conveyances of Lots hereafter made, whether by Declarant or otherwise, will be construed to grant and reserve the easements contained in this Article, even though no specific reference to such easements or to this Article appears in the instrument for such conveyance.
- 7.03 Entry: The Declarant and its employees, agents, successors and assigns, shall have the right at all reasonable times to enter upon all parts of each Easement Area for any of the purposes for which such Easement Area is reserved, without being deemed to have committed a trespass or wrongful act solely by reason of such entry and the carrying out of such purposes, provided the same are done in accordance with the provisions of this Section. The Declarant and its employees, agents, successors and assigns shall be responsible for leaving each Lot in good condition and repair following any work or activity undertaken in an Easement Area pursuant to the provisions of Section 7.01.
- 7.04 <u>Drainage Easement:</u> Notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 7.01 and 7.02 to the contrary, an easement is hereby reserved to Declarant for itself and its successors and assigns and granted to the Association, its officers, agents, employees, successors and assigns to enter upon, across, over, in, and under any portion of the Property for the purpose of changing, correcting, or otherwise modifying the grade or drainage channels of the Property so as to improve the drainage of water. Reasonable efforts will be made to use this easement so as not to disturb the uses of the Owners, the Association and Declarant, as applicable, to the extent possible; to prosecute such drainage work promptly and expeditiously; and to restore any areas affected by such work to a slightly and usable condition as soon as reasonably possible following such work Declarant, or its officers, agents, employees, successors and assigns must inform and Obtain the approval of the Board prior to undertaking such drainage work, which approval will not be unreasonably withheld.
- 7.05 <u>Easements of Encroachment:</u> There shall be reciprocal appurtenant easements of encroachment, and for maintenance and use of any permitted encroachment, between each Lot and any adjacent Common area and between adjacent Lots due to the unintentional placement or settling or shifting of the improvements constructed, reconstructed, or altered thereon (in accordance with The terms of these restrictions) to a distance of not more than three feet, as measured from any point on the common boundary along a line perpendicular to such boundary. However, in no event shall an easement for encroachment exist if such encroachment occurred due to willful and knowing conduct on the part of, or with the knowledge and consent of an Owner; occupant, or the Association.

7.06 Zoning and Private Restrictions: None of the covenants, restrictions or easements created or imposed by this Declaration shall be construed as permitting any action prohibited by applicable zoning laws, or by the laws, rules or regulations of any governmental body. In the event of any conflict between such laws, rules or regulations and the covenants, restrictions and easements created or imposed by Declaration, the most restrictive provision shall govern and control.

ARTICLE VIII

ENFORCEMENT

Any Owner of a Lot in the Property, the Association, or the Declarant may enforce the covenants and restrictions contained herein by proceeding at law or in equity against any person or persons or entity violating or attempting to violate any covenant or restriction either by seeking to restrain such violation or seeking damages. Neither any Owner nor Declarant is under any duty to seek enforcement of any of these covenants as set forth herein. The failure of Declarant the Association or any Owner to enforce any of the covenants and restrictions shall in no event be deemed a waiver of the right to do so thereafter.

ARTICLE IX

DURATION AND AMENDMENT: RIGHTS OF DECLARANT

- 9.01 <u>Duration:</u> This Declaration and the Restrictions contained herein shall run with and bind the Property for a period of twenty (20) years from and after the date when this Declaration is filed for record with the Clerk of the Superior Court of Cherokee County, Georgia, after which time this Declaration and the Restrictions shall be automatically renewed for successive periods often (10) years provided, however, that after the end of the said twenty (20) year period and during any ten (10) year renewal period (but only during such renewal period), this Declaration and the Restrictions contained herein may be terminated by an instrument executed by the proper Association officers and recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Cherokee County, Georgia, or in such other place of recording as may be appropriate at the time of the execution of such instrument, pursuant to a resolution approving such termination which is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those Class A Members of the Association who are present in person or by proxy and voting at a meeting of Members duly held in accordance with the provisions of the By-Laws of the Association.
- 9.02 Amendment by Declarant: During any period in which Declarant retains the right to appoint and remove any directors and officers of the Association, Declarant may amend this Declaration by an instrument in writing filed and recorded in the Land Records of the Superior Court of Cherokee County, Georgia, without the approval of any Member or mortgagee; provided, however, that (i) in the event that such amendment materially alters or changes any Owners right to the use and enjoyment of such Owner's Lot or of the Common Property as set forth in this Declaration or if such amendment adversely affects the title to any Lot, such amendment shall be valid only upon the written consent thereto by a majority in number of the then existing Members affected thereby, or (ii) in the event that such amendment

would materially and adversely affect the security, title or interest of any mortgagee, such amendment shall be valid only upon the written consent thereto of all such mortgagees so affected. Any amendment made pursuant to this Section 9.02 shall be certified by Declarant as having been duly approved by Declarant, and such Members and mortgagees if required, and shall be effective only upon recordation or at such later date as shall be specified in the amendment itself. Each Owner, by acceptance of a deed or other conveyance to a Lot, agrees to be bound by such amendments as are permitted by this Section 9.02 and further consents to the amendment of this Declaration or any other amendments relating to the Development (i) if such amendment is necessary to bring any provision hereof or thereof into compliance or conformity with the provisions of any applicable governmental statute, rule or regulation or any judicial determination which shall be in conflict therewith, (ii) if such amendment is necessary to enable any reputable title insurance company to issue title insurance coverage with respect to any Lots subject to this Declaration, (iii) if such amendment is required by an institutional or governmental lender, purchaser or guarantor of mortgage loans, including, for example, the Federal National Mortgage Association, or Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, to enable such lender or purchaser to make or purchase mortgage loans on any Lot subject to this Declaration, (iv) if any such amendment is necessary to enable any governmental agency or reputable private insurance company to insure mortgage loans on the Lots subject to this Declaration or (v) if such amendment is necessary to correct a scrivener's error in the drafting of this Declaration.

- 9.03 <u>Amendment by Association</u>: Amendments to this Declaration, other than those authorized by Section 9.02 hereof, shall be proposed and adopted in the following manner:
- (a) Notice of the subject matter of the proposed amendment shall be included in the notice of the meeting of the Association at which such proposed amendment is to be considered and shall be delivered to each member of the Association.
- (b) At such meeting, a resolution adopting a proposed amendment may be proposed by either the Board or by Members of the Association. Such amendment must be approved by Members holding at least two-thirds (2/3) of the total votes in the Association, provided, however (i) that any amendment which materially and adversely affects the security title and interest of any mortgagee must be approved by such mortgagee and (ii) during any period in which Declarant has the right to appoint and remove officers and directors of the Association, such amendment must be approved by Declarant.
- (c) The agreement of the required percentage of the Owners and, where required, the Declarant and any mortgagee, to any amendment of this Declaration shall be evidenced by their execution of such amendment, or, in the alternative, and provided that Declarant does not then have the right to approve such amendment, the sworn statement of the President and any Vice President or the Secretary of the Association attached to or incorporated in the amendment executed by the Association, which sworn statement shall state unequivocally that the Agreement of the required parties was lawfully obtained. Any such amendment of this Declaration shall become effective only when recorded or at such later date as may be specified in the Amendment itself.

9.04 <u>Declarant's Rights</u>: So long as Declarant continues to have rights under this Section, no person shall record any declaration of covenants, conditions and restrictions, or declaration of condominium or similar instrument affecting any portion of the Property without Declarant's written consent. Any attempted recordation without compliance herewith shall result in such instrument being void unless a Consent of Declarant is subsequently recorded in the public records. The provisions of this Article may not be amended without the express written consent of Declarant, until Declarant no longer owns any of the Property.

ARTICLE X

MISCELLANEOUS

- 10.01 No Reverter: No restriction herein is intended to be or shall be construed as a condition subsequent or as creating a possibility of reverter.
- 10.02 <u>Severability:</u> A determination by a court that any provision hereof is invalid for any reason shall not affect the validity of any other provision hereof.
- 10.03 <u>Headings</u>: The headings of the Articles and Section hereof are for convenience only and shall not affect the meaning or interpretation, of the contents of this Declaration.
- 10.04 <u>Gender:</u> Throughout this Declaration, the masculine gender shall be deemed to include the feminine and neuter, and the singular, the plural, and vice versa.
- 10.05 Notices: All amendments, notices, requests, objections, waivers, rejections, agreements, approvals, disclosures or consent of any kind made pursuant in this Declaration, whether made by the Declarant, the Association, the ACC, the Owner, or any other person shall be in writing. All such writings shall be sufficient only if deposited in the United States Mail with sufficient postage, and sent to the following addresses:
 - (a) Declarant

Bank of Canton A Division of Bank of Ellijay 200 Riverstone Drive, Suite B Canton, GA 30114

(b) Owners: accordance with the By-Laws.

Each Owner's address as registered with the Association in

Any written communication transmitted in accordance with this Section 10.05 shall be deemed received on the third (3rd) day following the day such written notice is deposited in the United States Mail.

- 10.06 Georgia Property Owners' Association Act: The Declarant or the Board shall be authorized (but not required), without the approval of the Owners, to amend these Covenants to bring the Covenants under the provisions of the Georgia Property Owners' Association Act (O.C.G.A. 44-3-220 ET Seq)
- 10.07 No Liability: Declarant has, using best efforts and all due diligence, prepared and recorded this Declaration so that each and every Owner shall have the right and the power to enforce the terms and provisions of this Declaration against every other Owner. However, in the event that this Declaration is, for any reason whatsoever, unenforceable by an Owner (or any other person) in a court of law or otherwise, Declarant shall have no liability of any kind as a result of such unenforceability, and each and every owner, by acceptance of a deed conveying a Lot, acknowledges that Declarant shall have no such liability.

ARTICLE XI

MORTGAGEE PROVISIONS

The following provisions are for the benefit of holders of first mortgages on Lots in the Development. The provisions of this Article apply to both this Declaration and to the By-Laws, notwithstanding any other provisions contained therein.

- 11.01 <u>Notice of Action:</u> An institutional holder, insurer, or guarantor of a first mortgage, who provides written request to the Association (such request to state the name and address of such holder, insurer guarantor and the Lot number, therefore becoming an "eligible holder"), will be entitled to timely written notice of:
- (a) Any condemnation loss or any casualty loss which affects a material portion of the Development or which affects any Lot on which there is a first mortgage held, insured, or guaranteed by such eligible holder
- (b) Any delinquency in the payment of assessments or charges owed by an Owner of a Lot subject to the mortgage of such eligible holder, where such delinquency has continued for a period of sixty (60) days; provided, however, notwithstanding this provision any holder of a first mortgage, upon request, is entitled to written notice from the Association of any default in the performance by an Owner of a Lot of any obligation under the Declaration or By-Laws of the Association which is not cured within sixty (60) days
- (c) Any lapse, cancellation, or material modification of any insurance policy maintained by the Association; or
- (d) Any proposed action, which would require the consent of a specified percentage of eligible mortgagees.

11.02 No Priority: No provision of this Declaration or the By-Laws gives or shall be construct as giving any Owner or other party priority over any rights of the first mortgagee of any Lot in the cases of distribution to such Owner of insurance proceeds or condemnation awards for losses to or a taking of the Common Property.

- 11.03 <u>Notice to Association:</u> Upon request, each Owner shall be obligated to furnish to the Association the name and address of the holder of any mortgage encumbering such Owner's Lot.
- 11.04 <u>Failure of Mortgagee to Respond:</u> Any mortgagee who receives a written request from the Board to respond to or consent to any action shall be deemed to have approved such action if the Association does not receive a written response from the Mortgagee within thirty (30) days of the date of the Association's request.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Declarant has caused this Declaration to be duly executed and scaled the day and year first above written.

Signed, sealed and delivered

DECLARANT:

In the Presence of:

Bank of Canton,

A Division of Bank of Ellijay

Witness

By:

Name: JOHN MAGGARD

Senior Vice President

Notary Public Seal

Associations are the Association's obligations under this Declaration of Covenants, Pasticions and Easements.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Association, acting through its duly authorized officers, has caused this Declaration to be executed and sealed this 14 of 2009.

Notary Public (Seal)

SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED IN THE PRESENCE OF:

OAKHURST COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

JOHN MAGGARD Senior Vice-President Bank of Ellijay, a Division of Bank of Ellijay

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EXHIBIT "A"

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND lying and being in Land Lots 1061, 1062, 1063, 1099, and 1100, of the 15th District, 2nd Section, Cherokec County, Georgia, and being 40.58 acres, more or less, as shown on that certain survey for Bank of Canton, Ticor Title Insurance Company, and Neese Road Development Company, LLC, dated May 10, 2006, last revised October 4, 2006, prepared by Frontline Surveying & Mapping, Inc., Thomas Edward Peay, Jr., Georgia Registered Land Surveyor No. 2402, and being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a #4 rebar found at the intersection of the westerly right of way of Neese Road (having a variable right of way) with the northerly right of way of Neese Drive; thence running in a westerly direction as measured along the northerly right of way of Neese Drive, the following courses and distances: north 85 degrees 52 minutes 59 seconds west for a distance of 110.11 feet to a point; north 83 degrees 35 minutes 54 seconds west for a distance of 100.00 feet to a point; north 83 degrees 08 minutes 52 seconds west for a distance of 199.65 feet to a #4 rebar found; north 79 degrees 16 minutes 56 seconds west for a distance of 81.01 feet to a #4 rebar found; north 76 degrees 57 minutes 30 seconds west for a distance of 124.93 feet to a nail found; north 79 degrees 15 minutes 17 seconds west for a distance of 149.86 feet to a nail found; north 86 degrees 05 minutes 53 seconds west for a distance of 102.98 feet to a point; north 85 degrees 50 minutes 55 seconds west for a distance of 82.08 feet to a nail found and corner; thence running south 69 degrees 36 minutes 15 seconds west for a distance of 51.74 feet to a nail found and corner; thence running north 02 degrees 43 minutes 08 seconds east for a distance of 186.00 feet to a #4 rebar found; thence running north 02 degrees 27 minutes 43 seconds east for a distance of 137.44 feet to a #4 rebar; thence running north 00 degrees 56 minutes 46 seconds east for a distance of 232.45 feet to a #4 rebar found and corner; thence running north 85 degrees 35 minutes 33 seconds west for a distance of 661.80 feet to a rod found and corner, thence running north 07 degrees 12 minutes 07 seconds east for a distance of 639.32 feet to a #4 rebar found and corner; thence running south 88 degrees 06 minutes 04 seconds east for a distance of 446.36 feet to a point; thence running south 85 degrees 38 minutes 54 seconds east for a distance of 217.59 feet to a point; thence running south 82 degrees 59 minutes 50 seconds east for a distance of 96.33 feet to a point; thence running south 84 degrees 33 minutes 05 seconds east for a distance of 132.86 feet to a point; thence running south 85 degrees 03 minutes 37 seconds east for a distance of 200.00 feet to a point; thence running south 81 degrees 36 minutes 32 seconds east for a distance of 198.29 feet to a point; thence running south 75 degrees 58 minutes 51 seconds east for a distance of 169.59 feet to a point; thence running south 75 degrees 58 minutes 51 seconds east for a distance of 43.04 feet to a #4 rebar found; thence running south 65 degrees 38 minutes 13 seconds east for a distance of 327.42 feet to a #4 rebar found and corner on the westerly right of way of Neese Road; thence running in a southerly direction as measured along the westerly right of way of Neese Road, the following courses and distances: south 13 degrees 28 minutes 17 seconds west for a distance of 37.88 feet to a point; along the arc of a curve, an arc distance of 220.12 feet (said arc being subtended by a chord bearing south 02 degrees 43 minutes 54 seconds west, a chord distance of 218.83 feet, and having a radius of 587.15 feet) to a point; along the arc of a curve, an arc distance of 162.25 feet (said arc being subtended by a chord bearing south 03 degrees 01 minutes 13 seconds west, a chord distance of 160.80 feet, and having a radius of 350.43 feet) to a point; along the arc of a curve, an

arc distance of 176.59 feet (said arc being subtended by a chord bearing south 10 degrees 46 minutes 44 seconds west, a chord distance of 176.33 feet and having a radius of 950.10 feet) to a point; along the arc of a curve, an arc distance of 164.14 feet (said arc being subtended by a chord bearing south 13 degrees 32 minutes 20 seconds west, a chord distance of 163.22 feet and having a radius of 448.60 feet) to a point; along the arc of a curve, an arc distance of 338.77 feet (said arc being subtended by a chord bearing south 21 degrees 08 minutes 39 seconds west, a chord distance of 338.33 feet, and having a radius of 1,922.70 feet to the point of BEGINNING).

EXHIBIT "B"

BYLAWS

<u>OF</u>

OAKHURST COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

Sellers and Warren, P.C. 117 Towne Lake Parkway Suite 100 Woodstock, Georgia 30188

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BYLAWS

OF

OAKHURST COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

Article I

Name, Membership and Definitions

- Section 1.1 Name: The name of the Association shall be OAKHURST COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC., ("Association").
- Section 1.2 Membership: The Association shall have two classes of membership, Class A and Class B, as more fully set forth in that Declaration of Covenants, Restrictions and Easements for Oakhurst Community Association, Inc., (such Declaration, as amended, renewed, restated or extended from time to time, is hereinafter sometimes referred to as the "Declaration"), the terms of which pertaining to membership are specifically incorporated by reference herein.
- Section 1.3 <u>Definitions:</u> The words used in these Bylaws shall have the same meaning as set forth in the Declaration, unless the context shall prohibit.

Article II

Association: Meetings, Quorum, and Voting. Proxies

- Section 2.1 <u>Place of Meetings:</u> Meetings of the Association shall be held at the principal office of the Association or at such other suitable place convenient to the members as may be designated by the Board of Directors, either in the Community or as convenient thereto as possible and practical.
- Section 2.2 <u>First Meeting and Annual Meetings:</u> An annual or special meeting shall be held within one year from the date the Declaration is recorded. Annual meetings shall be set by the Board so as to occur no later than six (6) months after the close of the Association's fiscal year.
- Section 2.3 <u>Special Meetings</u>: The President may call special meetings. In addition, it shall be the duty of the President to call a special meeting of the Association if so directed by resolution of the Board of Directors or upon a petition signed by at least twenty-five (25%) percent of the Total Association Vote (the consent of Declarant shall not be required). The

notice of any special meeting shall state the date, time, and place of such meeting and the purpose thereof. No business shall be transacted at a special meeting, except as stated in the notice.

- Section 2.4 <u>Notice of Meetings:</u> It shall be the duty of the Secretary or the Board's Appointee to mail or to cause to be delivered to the Owner of each Lot (as shown in the Association's records) a notice of each annual or special meeting of the Association stating the purpose of the special meeting, as well as the time and place where the meeting is to be held, and in the notice of a special meeting, the purpose thereof. If an Owner wishes notice to be given at an address other than his or her Lot, such Owner shall designate such address by notice in writing to the Secretary. The mailing or delivery of a notice of meeting in the manner provided in this Section shall be considered service of notice. Notices shall be served not less than ten (10) or more than sixty (60) days before an annual meeting and not less than seven (7) days or more than thirty (30) days before a special meeting.
- Section 2.5 <u>Waiver of Notice:</u> Waiver of notice of a meeting of the members shall be deemed the equivalent of proper notice. Any member may, in writing, waive notice of any meeting of the members, either before or after such meeting. Attendance at a meeting by a member, whether in person or by proxy, shall be deemed waiver by such member of notice requirement.
- Section 2.6 <u>Adjournment of Meetings</u>: If any meetings of the Association cannot be held because a quorum is not present, a majority of the members who are present at such meeting, either in person or by proxy, may adjourn the meeting to a time not less than five (5) nor more than thirty (30) days from the time the original meeting was called. At a meeting reconvened under this Section at which a quorum is present, any business which might have been transacted at the meeting originally called may be transacted without further notice.
- Section 2.7 <u>Voting</u>: The voting rights of the members shall be as set forth herein and in the Articles of Incorporation of the Association and the Declaration, and such voting rights are specifically incorporated herein.
- Section 2.8 <u>Proxies:</u> At all meetings of members, each member may vote in person or by proxy. All proxies shall be in writing, dated, and filed with the Secretary or an Appointee of the Board before the appointed time of each meeting. Every proxy shall be revocable and shall automatically cease upon conveyance by the member of such member's Lot, or upon receipt of notice by the Secretary of the death or judicially declared incompetence of a member, or of written revocation, or upon the expiration of eleven (11) months from the date of the proxy.
- Section 2.9 Quorum: The presence, in person or by proxy, of twenty-five (25%) percent of the total eligible Association vote shall constitute a quorum at all meetings of the Association. The members present at a duly called or held meeting at which a quorum is present may continue to do business until adjournment, notwithstanding the withdrawal of enough members to leave less than a quorum.

Section 2.10 Action without a Formal Meeting: Any action to be taken at a meeting of the members or any action that may be taken at a meeting of the members may be taken without a meeting if one or more consents, in writing, setting forth the action so taken. Action shall be signed by members holding the voting power required to pass such action at a meeting held on the date that the last consent is executed and such action is consented to by Declarant if required. Such action shall be effective upon receipt by the Association of a sufficient number of such consents executed by current members unless a later effective date is specified therein. Each signed Consent shall be delivered to the Association and shall be included in the minutes of meetings of members filed in the permanent records of the Association.

Section 2.11 Action by Written Ballot: Any action to be taken at any annual, regular or special meeting of members may be taken without a meeting if approved by written ballot as provided herein. The Association shall deliver a written ballot to each member entitled to vote on the matter. The written ballot shall set forth each proposed action and provide an opportunity to vote for or against each proposed action. Approval by written ballot of an action shall only be valid when the number of votes cast by ballot equals or exceeds the quorum required to be present at a meeting held to authorize such action and the number of approvals equals or exceeds the number of votes that would be required to approve the matter at a meeting at which the total number of votes cast was the same as the number of votes cast by ballot. All solicitations for votes by written ballot shall indicate the number of responses needed to meet the quorum requirements; state the percentage of approvals necessary to approve such matter other than the election of directors; and specify the time by which a ballot must be received by the Association in order to be counted. A timely written ballot received by the Association may not be revoked without the consent of the Board of Directors. The results of each action by written ballot shall be certified by the Sccretary and shall be included in the minutes of meetings of members filed in the permanent records of the Association.

Article III

Board of Directors: Number, Powers, Meetings

Section 3.1 Composition and Selection.

Section 3.1.1 Governing Body Composition: The affairs of the Association shall be governed by a Board of Directors. Except as provided in Section 2 of this Article, the directors must reside in the Community and shall be members or spouses of such members; provided, however, no person and his or her spouse may serve on the Board at the same time.

Section 3.1.2 <u>Directors Appointed by Declarant:</u> Declarant shall have the right to appoint or remove any member or members of the Board of Directors or any officer or officers of the Association for as long as the Declarant owns property for development and/or sale in the Community or until Declarant surrenders in writing the authority to appoint and remove directors and officers of the Association. Each Owner, by acceptance of a deed to or other conveyance of a Lot, vests in Declarant such authority to appoint and remove directors and officers of the Association. The directors selected by Declarant need not be Owners or residents in the Community.

- Section 3.1.3 Number of Directors: The Board shall consist of no less than three (3) members. The Board may at any time after the initial meeting at which the Owners elect directors pursuant to Article III, Section 5(a) increase or decrease the number of Board members and provide for a method of filling vacancies or terminating positions, as necessary; provided, however, there shall always be an odd number of Board members. The initial Board shall consist of three (3) members.
- Section 3.1.4 <u>Nomination of Directors:</u> Elected directors shall be nominated from the floor and may also be nominated by a nominating committee, if such a committee is established by the Board. All candidates shall have a reasonable opportunity to communicate their qualifications to the members at the annual or special meeting as well as in writing prior to the meeting.
- Section 3.1.5 <u>Election and Term of Office</u>: Owner-elected directors shall be elected and hold office as follows:
- (a) At the first annual meeting after Declarant's right to appoint directors and officers terminates (or at a special meeting if one is called for such purpose), Owners shall elect three (3) directors. The candidate with the highest number of votes shall receive a three year term, the candidate with the second highest number of votes shall receive a two year term and the candidate with the third highest number of votes shall receive a one year term.
- (b) At annual meetings of the membership thereafter, directors shall be elected. All eligible members of the Association shall vote on the directors to be elected, and the candidate(s) receiving the most votes shall be elected. At the expiration of the initial term of office of each respective Owner-elected member of the Board of Directors, a successor shall be elected to serve for a term of three (3) years.
- Section 3.1.6 Removal of Directors:

 At any regular or special meeting of the Association duly called, any one or more of the members of the Board of Directors may be removed, with or without cause, by a majority of the Board of Directors and a successor may then and there be elected to fill the vacancy thus created. A director whose removal has been proposed by the Board shall be given at least ten (10) days notice of the calling of the meeting and the purpose thereof and shall be given an opportunity to be heard at the meeting. Additionally, any director who has three (3) consecutive unexcused absences from Board meetings or who is delinquent in the payment of an assessment for more than thirty (30) days may be removed by a majority vote of the directors at a meeting, a quorum being present. This Section shall not apply to directors appointed by Declarant.
- Section 3.1.7 <u>Vacancies:</u> Vacancies in the Board of Directors caused by any reason, excluding the removal of a director by vote of the Association, shall be filled by a vote of the majority of the remaining directors, even though less than a quorum, at any meeting of the Board of Directors. Each person so selected shall serve the unexpired portion of the term.

- Section 3.2 Meetings.
- Section 3.2.1 <u>Organization Meetings:</u> The first meeting of the Board of Directors following each annual meeting of the membership shall be held within ten (10) days thereafter at such time and place as shall be fixed by the Board.
- Section 3.2.2 <u>Regular Meetings</u>: Regular meetings of the Board of Directors may be held at such time and place as shall be determined from time to time by a majority of the directors, but at least four (4) such meetings shall be held during each fiscal year with at least one per quarter. Notice of the regular schedule shall constitute sufficient notice of such meetings.
- Section 3.2.3 Special Meetings: Special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held when requested by the President, Vice President or by any two (2) directors. The notice shall specify the time and place of the meeting and the nature of any special business to be considered. The notice shall be given to each director by one of the following methods: (a) by personal delivery; (b) written notice by first class mail, postage prepaid; (c) by telephone communication, either directly to the director or to a person at the director's home or office who would reasonably be expected to communicate such notice promptly to the director; or; (d) by commercial delivery service to such director's home or office. All such notices shall be given or sent to the director's address or telephone number as shown on the records of the Association. Notices sent by first class mail shall be deposited into a United States mailbox at least four (4) days before the time set for the meeting. Notices shall be given at least forty-eight (48) hours before the time set for the meeting, either by personal delivery, first class mail, commercial delivery or telephone.
- Section 3.2.4 <u>Waiver of Notice:</u> The transactions of any meeting of the Board of Directors, however called and noticed or wherever held, shall be as valid when the Directors attend the meeting without protesting before or at its commencement about the lack of adequate notice.
- Section 3.2.5 Quorum of Board of Directors: At all meetings of the Board of Directors, a majority of the directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and the votes of a majority of the directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall constitute the decision of the Board of Directors.
- Section 3.2.6 <u>Compensation:</u> No director shall receive any compensation from the Association for acting as such. However, any director may be reimbursed for his or her actual expenses incurred in the performance of his or her duties.
- Section 3.2.7 <u>Open Meetings:</u> All meetings of the Board shall be open to all members, but members other than directors may not participate in any discussion or deliberation unless expressly so authorized by the Board.
- Section 3.2.8 <u>Executive Session:</u> The Board may adjourn a meeting and reconvene in executive session to discuss and vote upon personnel matters, litigation in which the Association is or may become involved, and orders of business of a similar nature. The nature of any and all business to be considered in executive session shall first be announced in open session.

- Section 3.2.9 <u>Action without A Formal Meeting</u>: Any action to be taken at a meeting of the directors or any action that may be taken at a meeting of the directors may be taken without a meeting if one or more consents, in writing, setting forth the action so taken, shall be signed by a majority of the directors and delivered to the Association for inclusion in the minutes for filing in the corporate records.
- Section 3.2.10 <u>Telephonic Participation</u>: One or more directors may participate in any vote during any regular or special meeting of the Board by telephone conference call or similar communication equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time, and those directors so participating shall be present at such meeting. Any such meeting at which a quorum participates shall constitute a regular meeting of the Board.

Section 3.3 Powers and Duties.

- Section 3.3.1 <u>Powers:</u> The Board of Directors shall be responsible for the affairs of the Association, and shall have all of the powers and duties necessary for the administration of the Association's affairs and, as provided by law, may do all acts and things unless prohibited by the Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation of the Association, or these Bylaws directed to be done and exercised exclusively by the members. In addition to the duties imposed by these Bylaws or by any resolution of the Association that may hereafter be adopted, the Board of Directors shall have the power to and be responsible for the following, in way of explanation, but not limitation:
- (a) preparation and adoption of an annual budget in which there shall be established the contribution of each Owner to the common expenses;
- (b) making assessments to defray the common expenses, establishing the means and methods of collecting such assessments, and establishing the period of the installment payments of the annual assessment;
- (c) providing for the operation, care, upkeep, and maintenance of all areas which are the maintenance responsibility of the Association;
- (d) designating, hiring, and dismissing the personnel necessary for the operation of the Association and, where appropriate, providing for the compensation of such personnel and for the purchase of equipment, supplies, and material to be used by such personnel in the performance of their duties;
- (e) collecting the assessments, depositing the proceeds thereof in a bank depository which it shall approve, and using the proceeds to administer the Association;
 - (f) making and amending use restrictions and rules and regulations;

- (g) opening of bank accounts on behalf of the Association and designating the signatories required;
- (h) enforcing by legal means the provisions of the Declaration, these Bylaws, and the rules and regulations adopted by it, and bring any proceedings which may be instituted on behalf of or against the Owners concerning the Association;
- (i) obtaining and carrying insurance against casualties and liabilities, as provided in the Declaration, and paying the premium cost thereof;
- (j) paying the cost of all services rendered to the Association or its members which are not directly chargeable to Owners;
- (k) keeping books with detailed accounts of the receipts and expenditures affecting the Association and its administration, and specifying the maintenance and repair expenses and any other expenses incurred;
- (l) contracting with any Person for the performance of various duties and functions.
- (m) exercising for the Association all powers, duties and authority vested in or delegated to the Association and not reserved to the membership.
- Section 3.4 <u>Management Agent:</u> The Board of Directors may employ for the Association a professional management agent or agents at a compensation established by the Board of Directors to perform such duties and services as the Board of Directors shall authorize. Declarant or an affiliate of Declarant may be employed as managing agent or manager. The term of any management agreement shall not exceed one year and shall be subject to termination by either party, without cause and without penalty, upon thirty (30) days written notice.
- Section 3.5 <u>Borrowing:</u> The Board of Directors shall have the power to borrow money for the purpose of repair or restoration of the Common Property and facilities or any capital improvement project without the approval of the members of the Association; provided, however, the Board shall obtain membership approval in the same manner as for special assessments, in the event that the proposed borrowing is for the purpose of modifying, improving, or adding amenities, and the total amount of such borrowing exceeds or would exceed Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00) Dollars outstanding debt at anyone time.
- Section 3.6 <u>Fining Procedure:</u> The Board shall not impose a fine unless and until the following procedure is followed:
- Section 3.6.1 <u>Notice:</u> Written notice shall be served upon the violator by first class or certified mail sent to the last address of the member shown on the Association's records, specifying:

- (a) the nature of the violation, the fine to be imposed and the date, not less than fifteen (15) days from the date of the notice, that the fine will take effect;
- (b) that the violator may, within ten (10) days from the date of the notice, request a hearing regarding the fine imposed;
- (c) the name, address and telephone numbers of a person to contact to challenge the fine;
- (d) that any statements, evidence, and witnesses may be produced by the violator at the hearing; and;
- (e) that all rights to have the fine reconsidered are waived if a hearing is not requested within ten (10) days of the date of the notice.
- 3.6.2 <u>Hearing:</u> If a hearing is requested, it shall be held within sixty (60) days of the Owner's request before the Board in executive session, and the violator shall be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard. The minutes of the meeting shall contain a written statement of the results of the hearing. No fine shall be imposed prior to the date that is five (5) days after the date of the hearing.

Article IV

Officers

- Section 4.1 Officers: The officers of the Association shall be a President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The same person, except the offices of President and Secretary, may hold any two (2) or more offices. The President and Treasurer shall be elected from among the members of the Board of Directors. The Board may also elect a Vice President to act in the President's absence and any such Vice President shall have all powers, duties, and responsibilities provided for the President when so acting.
- Section 4.2 <u>Election, Term of Office, and Vacancies</u>: Except during the period in which Declarant has the right to appoint the officers of the Association under Article III, Section 2 of these Bylaws, the officers of the Association shall be elected annually by the Board of Directors at the first meeting of the Board of Directors following each annual meeting of the members. The Board of Directors for the unexpired portion of the term may fill a vacancy in any office arising because of death, resignation, removal, or otherwise.
- Section 4.3 <u>Removal:</u> Any officer may be removed by the Board of Directors whenever, in its judgment, the best interests of the Association will be served thereby.
- Section 4.4 <u>President:</u> The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association and shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors. The President shall have all the general powers and duties, which are incident to the office of the president of a corporation organized under the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code.

- Section 4.5 <u>Secretary:</u> The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors and shall have charge of such books and papers as the Board of Directors may direct and shall, in general, perform all duties incident to the office of the secretary of a corporation organized in accordance with Georgia law.
- Section 4.6 <u>Treasurer:</u> The Treasurer shall have the responsibility for the Association's funds and securities and shall be responsible for keeping full and accurate financial records and books of account showing all receipts and disbursements, for preparing all required financial statements and tax returns, and for the deposit of all monies and other valuable effects in the name of the Association or the managing agent in such depositories as may from time to time be designated by the Board of Directors.
- Section 4.7 <u>Resignation</u>: Any officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Board of Directors. Such resignation shall take effect on the date of the receipt of such notice or at any later time specified therein, and unless otherwise specified therein, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

Article V

Committees

Committees to perform such tasks and to serve for such periods as may be designated by the Board are hereby authorized. Each committee shall be composed and shall operate in accordance with the terms of the resolution of the Board of Directors designating the committee or with rules adopted by the Board of Directors.

Article VI

Miscellaneous

- Section 6.1 <u>Fiscal Year:</u> The fiscal year of the Association shall be the same as the calendar year unless changed by a resolution from the Board of Directors...
- Section 6.2 <u>Parliamentary Rules. Roberts Rules of Order (Current Edition)</u>: Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of all Association proceedings, when not in conflict with Georgia law, the Articles of Incorporation of the Association, the Declaration, these Bylaws, or a ruling made by the person presiding over the proceeding.
- Section 6.3 <u>Conflicts</u>: If there are conflicts or inconsistencies between the provisions of Georgia law, the Articles of Incorporation of the Association, the Declaration, and these Bylaws, the provisions of Georgia law, the Declaration, the Articles of Incorporation of the Association, and the Bylaws (in that order) shall prevail.
- Section 6.4 <u>Amendment</u>: These Bylaws may be amended by the Board of Directors (a) if such amendment is necessary to bring any provision hereof into compliance with any applicable governmental statute, rule, or regulation or judicial determination which shall be in

conflict therewith; (b) if such amendment is necessary to enable any title insurance company to issue title insurance coverage with respect to the Lots subject to the Declaration; (c) if such amendment is required by an institutional or governmental lender or purchaser of mortgage loans, including, for example, the Federal National Mortgage Association or Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, to enable such lender or purchaser to make or purchase mortgage loans on the Lots subject to the Declaration; or (d) if such amendment is necessary to enable any governmental agency or insurance company to insure or guarantee mortgage loans on the Lots subject to the Declaration. In addition, these Bylaws may be amended by the Declarant without a vote of or consent from the members for a period of seven (7) years from the date of recordation of the Declaration of Covenants, Restrictions and Easements or upon the affirmative vote or written consent, or any combination thereof, of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the Total Association Vote; provided, however, that the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ("VA") (if it is then guaranteeing any mortgage in the Community or has issued a project approval for the guaranteeing of such mortgages) and/or the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") (if it is then insuring any mortgage in the Community or has issued a project approval for the insuring of such mortgages) shall have the right to veto material amendments to these Bylaws for as long as Declarant has the right to appoint and remove the directors and officers of the Association.