

Information about Proposed Changes to Club Structure:

Newcomers of Nevada County was originally established in 1954 and registered as a social club in 2004. Monthly luncheon meetings were held with interesting programs, and members developed activity groups. None of this will change if we change our IRS designation to a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization.

In 2002 Newcomers began our Christmas Families Project to assure that underprivileged children and their families could celebrate Christmas with age-appropriate gifts and practical gifts for their parents. This project has grown to the largest annual expenditure that we have. On average, it helps about 50 families and about 150 children.

In our quest to raise funds for the Christmas Families Project, donors and businesses often ask if we are a non-profit organization. This change will allow us to say “yes,” and all donations made to our club will be tax-deductible. Donations will be more desirable, thus supporting our fundraising efforts. This benefits not only the children, but individual donors and businesses as well.

We already file taxes on the same forms required of all 501(c) organizations – this will not change. Once we change our 501(c) status, we will be able to provide proof of donations to all donors that they can use for tax deductions.

The board has been talking about this change and working diligently for about a year. In order to move forward with this recommended change, we have to submit a long IRS application that requires that our Bylaws include our charitable purpose. Therefore, the board recommends that the amendments on the next page be adopted.

Amendments to our Bylaws require two readings. Since we did not hold our meeting in March, we missed an opportunity for the first reading of the proposed amendments. Therefore, we used the April newsletter distribution of the proposed amendments as the “first reading.”

We are including the proposed amendment again in this May newsletter and consider it to be the “second reading.” If no objections are raised, we will be able to consider them adopted.

Please call me if you have any questions. I am pleased to discuss the proposed amendments and process to convert from a 501(c)(7) to a 501(c)(3) with all members who want to discuss it. We think that you will agree that it is timely, reflects what we are already doing, and will garner benefits to all donors. In the end, it will help us work together to bring a special Christmas experience to the underprivileged children and their families.

~Newcomers' President

Newcomers Proposed Bylaws Amendments (related to change in status to 501(c)(3)):

Article II Purpose –

The purpose of this organization shall be as stated in its Articles of Incorporation to welcome and bring together women who reside in Nevada County and to stimulate their interest in social activities.

Proposed amendment:

Add at end – engage members and the general public for the charitable purpose of providing gifts and support for underprivileged children and their families in collaboration with other public charities.

Article III – Policies

This organization is a tax-exempt social club and shall be nonprofit, nonsectarian and nonpolitical in all of its policies and activities. It is organized exclusively within the meaning of Section 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code. The organization shall sponsor special interest groups, each having its own chair and rules, which are in accordance with the laws and policies of the Newcomers Club.

Proposed amendment:

This organization is a nonprofit, nonsectarian and nonpolitical public benefit charitable organization. It is organized exclusively within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The organization shall encourage member participation in the activities in accordance with the laws and policies of the Newcomers Club and engage club members and the general public in support of underprivileged children and their families.

B. Appointive Standing Committees (*Move Christmas Families Project Chair from Standing Rules Special Events Chairs to the Appointive Standing Committees*)

Add Christmas Families Project Chair as the first one

Article VIII Elected Officers, Appointive Committees and Duties

B. Appointive Standing Committees

Section 1 – Christmas Families Project Chair

The Christmas Families Project Chair shall manage the club's major charitable project involving club members, the general public and community at large, to coordinate and advance services and support for the annual Christmas gifts for underprivileged children and their families.

Renumber all other Standing Committees

Proposed Amendment to the Standing Rules

Board of Directors

Special Events Chairs – *remove Christmas Families Project and insert under Article VIII,*

B. Section 1 Appointive Standing Committees

Board Job Descriptions – *Remove Christmas Families Project from the line Special Events Chair because it has been given higher stature by adding it to the Bylaws*