

## **Summary and Purpose of the Watercolor Society of Indiana Constitution and By-Laws Proposed 2020 Revision**

The Executive Board of Directors of the WSI spent significant time during the spring of 2020 putting together a proposed revision to the Constitution and By-Laws of the organization. As with any long passage of time, it is necessary to make revisions to bring the backbones of the organization in line with modern realities and operations. While creating the proposed revisions, the Board operated on the philosophy of longevity for this organization, the arts and its importance as a piece of modern society.

A summary of the proposed changes and/or updates are as follows:

1. Mission statement. WSI has always had mission objectives. The Board developed a concise mission statement that summarizes the objectives. The mission objectives did not change. There was one objective added to promote a culture of diversity and inclusiveness in our programming and products.
2. The Board of Governors was renamed the Executive Board as is this is the present- day term being used. The Executive Board positions were renamed to reflect the current structure of how the board has operated in the modern- day and volunteer reality. The number of executive board members did not change.
3. A section was added to the proposed WSI constitution that clearly outlines finance operations. The Article addressing the Endowment Funds was expanded for transparency and clear guidelines. These two sections should provide a compass and better understanding for the membership and future boards going forward.
4. The use of digital ballots was added to the amendment section in order to operate in our everchanging and “virtual” reality as a society.
5. All duties of the board and its members are now all listed in the by-laws. Two very important pieces were added to the Executive Board Duties:
  1. Article II, K addresses future sustainability.
  2. Article II, O addresses a two to three- year strategic plan to ensure coordination and continuity.

Overall, the spirit, purpose and ongoing goal of the organization is not changing. As an Executive Board of Directors, we feel that this proposed revised Constitution and By-laws better reflects the WSI as it exists in 2020 and provides an excellent guideline for future boards and the organization.