



**Cape Verdean
Association of Bridgeport
Guideline.**

Bridgeport, CT
Established in 1982

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-----Introduction-----

After five centuries of Colonial domination, characterized by a life of sacrifices and struggle, the Cape Verdean people, on July 5th, 1975 had entered the community of the free and independent nations.

Until that date, oppressed by a Colonial dictatorship, as well as doomed by competitive nature, the Cape Verdean people were living in precarious conditions; therefore, subjugated to a weird and miserable way of life, and unparalleled in the history of humankind.

Despite this emigration movement, however, one ought not to believe that the Cape Verdean immigrant has lost his cultural identity, his historical background, or his attachment to his Motherland. Not at all; his daily concern is to maintain himself alive, and to be aware of what is happening inside the Islands. In addition, his concern is to do whatever is necessary to help those whose circumstances of life did not enable them to leave the country.

In Bridgeport, as well as in many areas of this country, it has been verified that there are a significant number of Cape Verdeans unable to adjust to this new home, due to the environment which is alien to them, not to mention, of course, the difficulties they meet in finding their first employment.

This is the reason why it is necessary and imperative to curb all the obstacles, so an organized structure, with God's Help, can be created, and will enlighten and help to

provide a lasting society in Bridgeport, with which we will be able to identify not only ourselves but also our future generation.

-----Part I-----

Purpose

This organization shall be identified as Cape Verdean Association of Bridgeport, (hereinafter sometimes referred to as ACEB).

It shall be an organization which:

- a) Will provide a cultural, social and recreative dynamism, so all Cape Verdeans can interact freely and friendly;
- b) Is not only to unify the Cape Verdeans, but also to create better conditions of life, whether in conviviality and civism;
- c) Is designed not for political confrontation, where each one will try to explore his ideologies;
- d) Is totally independent of any other organization or political party;
- e) Is cultural, social, recreative and civic, which fundamentally will try to answer openly to all the problems addressed to this community in Bridgeport CT;
- f) Will carry out no political identity, to avoid fragmentation, and to create a lasting and effective unification among all Cape Verdeans;
- g) A non-profit organization.

Program

The Cape Verdean Association goals are:

1) To do its utmost and to explore all the possibilities so that a Club will create a Cultural, Recreative and Social center.

2) To strengthen all its efforts for the unification of all Cape Verdeans In Bridgeport and at large.

3) To contribute to the promotion and identification of the Cape Verdean culture, and to develop its cultural and informative levels.

4) To clarify and to strengthen the Cape Verdeans social and cultural rights in Bridgeport.

5) To fortify the solidarity and friendship among all Cape Verdeans.

6) To assist all the members of the Cape Verdean Community in Bridgeport, to the resolution of their problems, such as seeking housing, employment, or any other matters concerning their interests.

7) To spring up the American public opinion about Cabo-Verde/United States of America long and historical relationship, as well as the Cape Verdeans immigrant's contribution to this Nation.

8) To maintain the Cape Verdean of Bridgeport informed about the evolution of the realities In Cabo Verde.

What shall be done, in for the Association to attain its goals:

1) To promote an active Information to the Community about any matter, or any concrete situation facing the Cape Verdean of Bridgeport.

2) To create a cultural Interaction, especially in conviviality, dialogue, lecture, as well as to debate any subject related with of Cape Verdeans of Bridgeport.

3) To plan an Informative service capable to escort the development of the situation In Cabo-Verde, and to unmask everything which is misinformation.

4) To promote activities, so the Cape Verdean reality will be enlivening, as well as to spring up the public opinion about its existence.

5) To create a working group, so to stimulate the community, and to strengthen its cultural and academic levels.

6) To create an informative bulletin board.

8) To create stimulus and cohesion within the community, so that the "Old Cape Verdean traditions" is revived in each institution.

-----Part II-----

Statutes By-Laws

Denomination & Goals:

Article. I)

An organization of Cultural, Social and Recreative character is formed, and its denomination is Cape Verdean Association of Bridgeport-(ACEB). It shall respect the laws of the State of Connecticut. It is a private and non-profit organization.

Article. II)

The Cape Verdean Association of Bridgeport intends to do the followings:

1) To do its utmost and to explore all the possibilities so that a Club will create a Cultural, Recreative and Social center.

2) To strengthen all Its efforts for the unification of all Cape Verdeans In Bridgeport and at large.

3) To contribute to the promotion and identification of the Cape Verdean culture, and to develop its cultural and informative levels.

4) To clarify and to strengthen the Cape Verdeans social and cultural rights in Bridgeport.

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8) To maintain the Cape Verdean of Bridgeport informed about the evolution of the realities In Cabo Verde.

-----Part III-----

Membership

Article. III)

a) The Cape Verdean Association of Bridgeport shall admit any Cape Verdean with his or her spouse and descendent as a member, with all rights and privileges hereby associated with participation in ACEB, provide he or she accepts ACEB's programs and by-laws.

b) Candidates for admission to membership shall be sponsored for membership by two active members, and thereafter may be accepted for

membership upon a two-thirds approval vote of the membership in which at least one-half of the ACEB's active members have participated.

c) Subject to the provisions of subparagraph d), Immediately following, a member should be an active member when his or her dues are current.

d) Any member who violates the ACEB's programs and Its by-laws, or his behavior is Incompatible with ACEB's designs, shall lose his membership. However, no person shall be expelled, suspended or reprimanded, pursuant to this subparagraph until and unless five active members petition the General Assembly In writing by which they shall propose such expulsion, suspension or reprimand, and request that the G.A. vote upon their proposal.

e) Only a two-thirds majority of the active members of the ACEB shall affect any expulsion, suspension or reprimand of any of Its members.

The rights of the members:

Article. IV)

- a) To vote upon admission of new members, and upon all other matters before G.A. provided, however, that such right to vote shall not vest in any new member until the tenth full day following the date of his or her admission to membership.
- b) To elect or be elected to any office, or to carry out any out any function.
- c) To introduce the candidates for membership, in the terms of No 2 of the Art.3.
- d) To seek a written or verbal clarification from any Committee, or any element of the ACEB.
- e) To participate in the discussions and deliberations of the G.A.

- f) To address his views related to any duty to which he shall be nominated or elected.
- g) To otherwise participate in all matters which are properly before the General Assembly.

Members Duties:

- a) To participate with reasonable regularity in the General Assembly meetings and other ACEB functions, including committee participation.
- b) To carry out his duties and functions to which he has been elected or designated.
- c) To participate in the elections and voting, subject, however, to the provisions of Art.4 (a).
- d) To pay regularly his dues established by the G.A.

-----Part IV-----

ACEB Structure

Article. V)

ACEB shall be composed of two principal organs:

- a) General Assembly.
- b) Executive Committee.

Chapter I, The General Assembly

Article. VI)

- 1) The General Assembly shall create a "Cultural and Recreative committee", "Social and Intervention Committee; "Finance Committee;" "Athletic Committee", and "Fiscal Board."
- 2) Each Committee shall have the power to create a sub-committee, whenever it is necessary.
- 3) The General Assembly is the ACEB highest organ. Its functions are to supervise the execution of the programs, the applications of the By-Laws, and the actions of the Committees of ACEB.

Article. VII)

- 1) The General Assembly shall be constituted by all active members of ACEB.

Article. VIII)

- 1) In order for General Assembly to occur, at least 1/3 of its voting members shall be present.
- 2) The decisions of the General Assembly shall be made by a majority of the active members, except as otherwise provided in by-laws.

General Assembly Duties:

Article. IX)

- a) To review the by-laws of ACEB, at least once annually.
- b) To review, approve and/or disapprove Committee programs.
- c) To accept new membership the organization, as well as to exercise sanctions against them.
- d) To accept the E.C. decisions.

- e) To appreciate the committee activities, as well to discuss and to approve the reports.
- f) To elect and to expel the members of E.C. and any other committees.
- g) To create committees.
- h) To decide and to resolve the conflicts within the organization.
- i) To establish the amount of dues.
- j) To decide in the ACEB's dissolution.

All decision emanated from General Assembly Duties (Article.IX) "a) to j)" shall be resolved by a two-thirds majority of the active members present.

Chapter II, Executive Committee

Article. X)

The E.C. is the vital organ of ACEB. It shall execute the decisions of G.A, coordinate the activities of the organization, and act as a permanent mission of the G.A.

Article. XI)

- a) The E.C. shall be formed by President, Vice-President, Secretary, and the chairman of each committee.
- b) The E. C shall be elected by the G.A for one-year period.

Article. XII)

- a) The E.C shall function, provided a majority of its members are present.
- b) The E.C shall meet no less than once a month.

The Executive Committee Duties:

Article. XIII)

- 1) To strengthen and to guide the activities of every committees.
- 2) To execute the G.A. deliberations.
- 3) To set the date of the elections for the organs of ACEB.
- 4) To call the A.G meetings, and to fix the order of business.
- 5) To make urgent, emergency decisions subject to rectification of the General Assembly on the next G.A meeting.

Article. XIV)

The E.C shall answer for all its actions before the G.A.

The Officers Duties:

Article. XV)

The President

- a) The president shall represent the ACEB in any affairs that the association is called for.
- b) The president shall be the main speaker of ACEB.
- c) The president shall provide the E.C with date for the special meetings.
- d) The president shall preside the G.A. And E.C. meetings.

The Vice-President

- a) The Vice-President shall resume the duty of president, In the event of president's death, illness or absence.

Secretary

- a) The Secretary shall coordinate and maintain the relations between E.C. and the responsible Committees.

b) The secretary shall be responsible for the minutes of the G.A. & E.C. meetings.

c) The secretary shall oversee all correspondence of the ACEB.

Treasurer

Treasurer is the chairman of the Finance Committee, and he is the solely responsible for the ACEB's funds.

Duties:

a) The treasurer shall receive and deposit all the funds in the ACEB's name.

b) The treasurer shall record in the appropriate books all the income and the expenses of ACEB.

c) The treasurer shall collect dues.

d) The treasurer shall Issue and sign checks, when authorized by G.A or E.C.

e) To present report of the ACEB finance situation in every regular meeting.

f) To present complete annually balance report to G. A.

Chapter III, Other Committees

Article. XVI).

a) Each commission shall elaborate a program, which in turn will be approved by the G.A.

b) The Committees shall respond before G.A. for all their actions.

c) The members of the Committees shall be elected by G.A when the introduction is made by the Chairman of each Commission.

Elections

- a) The elections (general election) shall be annually in the fall, under by-laws guidelines.
- b) The elections shall be held any time an office or post is to be occupied.

-----Part IV-----

Termination:

Article. XVII)

- a) The ACEB shall exercise its activities exclusively of any other organization, and accordingly to the laws established.
- b) In case ACEB is dissolved its belongings and funds shall be given to another organization (can be altered) of which ideals are identical, but only after all the debts have been liquidated.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE LIST

The Cape Verdean Association of Bridgeport 2018 -2019 election took place on October 28, 2018. The majority of the assembly were present to vote for the ACEB executives for the upcoming year. The following are the list of all executives that was elected by the General Assembly.

President- Antonio Dos Santos

Vice President- Claudia Fidalgo

Treasury- Antonio Cruz

Financial Secretary- John Depina

Secretary 1- Lenny Depina

Secretary 2- Pedro Silva

Permittee- Jacinto Gomes

Facility Coordinator 1- Antonio DaLuz

Facility Coordinator 2- Joao Barros