

**BYLAWS  
OF  
MERRILL PINES CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, INC.**

Section 1. Identification of Association

These are the Bylaws of MERRILL PINES CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, INC. (“Association”), as duly adopted by its Board of Directors (“Board”). The Association is a corporation not for profit, organized pursuant to Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, for the purpose of managing, operating, and administering the condominium known as Merrill Pines, a Condominium and possibly one (1) or more other condominium(s) which may be developed in the development known as Merrill Pines as more particularly set forth in the Articles of Incorporation of the Association (“Articles”).

1.1. The office of the Association shall be for the present at 9456 Philips Highway, Suite 1, Jacksonville, Florida 32256, Attn: Jan J. Doan, and thereafter may be located at any place designated by the Board.

1.2. The fiscal year of the Association shall be the calendar year.

1.3. The seal of the corporation shall bear the name of the corporation, the word “Florida” and the words “Corporation Not For Profit.”

Section 2. Definitions

2.1. All terms shall have the meanings set forth in the Condominium Act, Chapter 718, Florida Statutes (“Act”), as amended through the date of recording the “Declaration” amongst the Public Records of Duval County, Florida (“County”) and, for clarification, certain terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Articles. All terms defined in the Articles shall appear with initial capital letters each time such term appears in these Bylaws.

2.2. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, references to any of the Condominium Documents shall be deemed to include any amendment to any such document as set forth therein.

Section 3. Membership; Members’ Meetings; Voting and Proxies

3.1. The qualification of Members, the manner of their admission to membership and the termination of such membership shall be as set forth in Article IV of the Articles.

3.2. The Members shall meet annually at the office of the Association or at such other place in the County, at such time as determined by the Board and as designated in the notice of such meeting (“Annual Members’ Meeting”), commencing with the year following the year in which the

Articles are filed with the Secretary of State. All such meetings shall be conducted in the English language. The purpose of the Annual Members' Meeting shall be to hear reports of the officers, elect members of the Board (subject to the provisions of Article IX of the Articles) and transact any other business authorized to be transacted by the Members.

3.3. Special meetings of the Members or any Class Members, as the case may be, shall be held at any place within the State of Florida whenever called by the President or Vice President of the Association or by a majority of the Board. A special meeting must be called by such President or Vice President upon receipt of a written request from one-third (1/3) of the Members or any Class Members, as the case may be, except as otherwise provided in Sections 4.5(a) and 7.3(b) hereof. Unless specifically stated otherwise herein, the provisions of these Bylaws pertaining to meetings of Members shall also be applicable to meetings of Class Members.

3.4. Except as otherwise provided herein, written notice of a meeting (whether the Annual Members' Meeting or a special meeting of the Members) shall be mailed or hand delivered to each Member at his or her last known address as it appears on the books of the Association or electronically transmitted to the location furnished by the Home Owner for that purpose. Proof of such notice shall be given by affidavit of the person who mailed, hand delivered or electronically transmitted such notice and also by such other method as may be required by the Act. The notice shall state the time and place of such meeting and shall include an agenda. Unless a Member waives in writing the right to receive notice of the meeting, written notice of Annual Members' Meetings and special meetings of the Members shall be mailed, hand delivered or electronically transmitted to each Member in the manner required by the Act, not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the meeting. Notice of the Annual Members' Meeting or special meeting of the Members shall be posted at a conspicuous place on the Condominium Property, as more particularly set forth in the rules and regulations, at least fourteen (14) continuous days prior to the meeting. In lieu of or in addition to the physical posting of notice of any meeting of the Members on the Condominium Property, the Association may, by reasonable rule, adopt a procedure for conspicuously posting and repeatedly broadcasting the notice and the agenda on a closed-circuit cable television system serving the Association. However, if broadcast notice is used in lieu of a notice posted physically on the Condominium Property, the notice and agenda must be broadcast at least four times every broadcast hour of each day that a posted notice is otherwise required under this section. When broadcast notice is provided, the notice and agenda must be broadcast in a manner and for a sufficient continuous length of time so as to allow an average reader to observe the notice and read and comprehend the entire content of the notice and agenda. If a meeting of the Members, either a special meeting or an Annual Members' Meeting, is one which, by express provision of the Act or Condominium Documents (provided the express provision of the Condominium Documents is in accordance with the requirements of the Act) there is permitted or required a greater or lesser amount of time for the mailing or posting of notice than is required or permitted by the provisions of this Paragraph 3.4, then such express provision shall govern.

3.5. The Members or any Class Members, as the case may be, may waive notice of special meetings; and, at the discretion of the Board, act by written agreement in lieu of a meeting. Written notice of the matter or matters to be considered by written agreement in lieu of a meeting shall be

given to the Members or any Class Members, as the case may be, at the addresses and within the time periods set forth in Section 3.4 hereof or duly waived in accordance with such Section. The notice shall set forth a time period during which time a response must be made by a Member or "Proxy" (as hereinafter defined). The decision of a majority of a quorum of the Voting Interests (as evidenced by written response to be solicited in the notice) shall be binding on the Members or any Class Members, as the case may be, provided a quorum of the Members or any Class Members, as the case may be, submits a response. However, if the question is one upon which, by express provisions of the Act or the Condominium Documents (provided the express provisions of the Condominium Documents are in accordance with the requirements of the Act), requires a vote of other than a majority vote of a quorum, then such express provision shall govern and control the required vote on the decision of such question.

3.6. A quorum of the Members shall consist of persons entitled to cast votes on behalf of a majority of the entire Membership. A quorum of any Class Members shall consist of persons entitled to cast votes on behalf of such Class Members. When a quorum is present at any meeting and a question which raises the jurisdiction of such meeting is presented, the holders of a majority of the Voting Interests present in person or represented by written Proxy shall be required to decide the question. However, if the question is one which, by express provision of the Act or the Condominium Documents (provided the express provision of the Condominium Documents is in accordance with the requirements of the Act), requires a vote other than the majority vote of a quorum, then such express provision shall govern and control the required vote on the decision of such question.

3.7. If any meeting of the Members or any Class Members, as the case may be, cannot be properly held because a quorum is not in attendance, the Members who are present, either in person or by Proxy, may adjourn the meeting from time to time until a quorum is present. A quorum is not required for an election to occur; however, at least twenty percent (20%) of the eligible voters must cast a ballot in order to have a valid election of Directors. In the case of the meeting being adjourned, the notice provisions for the adjournment shall, subject to the Act, be as determined by the Board.

3.8. At any Annual Members' Meeting at which elections of Directors are to occur, Directors shall be elected by written ballot or voting machine. In no event shall Proxies be used in electing the Board, either in general elections or elections to fill vacancies caused by resignation, recall, or otherwise, unless otherwise provided in the Act. The procedures for the nomination of candidates and voting in elections shall be as provided in Section 718.112(2)(d)(3) of the Act.

3.9. If a quorum is not in attendance at a Meeting, the Members entitled to vote thereat who are present, either in person or by Proxy, may adjourn the Meeting from time to time until a quorum is present with no further notice of such adjourned Meeting being required unless otherwise determined by the Board. In the event any meeting is adjourned or postponed to be continued at another time because a quorum is not present at such meeting, then and in that event, the quorum requirements provided herein shall be reduced to the presence in person or by Proxy of one-third (1/3) of the Voting Interests of Members or Class Members of the Association at the adjourned

meeting. Actions approved by a majority of the Voting Interests of Members or Class Members present in person or by Proxy at such adjourned meeting at which such reduced quorum exists shall be binding upon all Members or Class Members and for all purposes except where otherwise provided by law, in the Declaration, in the Articles, or in these Bylaws. This reduction of the quorum requirements shall apply only if the Board sends notice of the adjourned or postponed meeting to the Members or Class Members as elsewhere provided, which notice must specifically provide that quorum requirements will be reduced at the adjourned or postponed meeting.

3.10. Minutes of all meetings shall be kept in a businesslike manner and available for inspection by the Members and Directors at all reasonable times. The Association shall retain minutes for at least seven (7) years subsequent to the date of the meeting the minutes report.

3.11. If, as and when one (1) or more Merrill Pines Condominium(s), other than the initial Merrill Pines Condominium, are submitted to condominium ownership, Class Members shall be created for Home Owners in each additional Merrill Pines Condominium. All classes of Members shall vote in the manner stated in Article IV of the Articles. Voting rights of Members shall be as stated in each Declaration and the Articles. Such votes may be cast in person or by Proxy. "Proxy" is defined to mean an instrument in writing, signed by a Member, appointing a person to whom the Member delegates the Member's right to cast a vote or votes in the Member's place and stead. Proxies shall be valid only for the particular meeting designated therein and any lawful adjournments thereof; provided, however, that no Proxy shall be valid for a period longer than ninety (90) days after the date of the first meeting for which it was given, provided, this express provision is not inconsistent with the requirements of the Act, in which case the Act shall govern and control. Each Proxy shall contain the date, time and place of the meeting for which the Proxy is given. A limited Proxy shall set forth those items which the holder of the Proxy may vote and the manner in which the vote is cast. Members shall not vote by general Proxy, except as provided in Florida Statutes 718.112(2)(b)(2), but may vote by limited Proxy. A Proxy must be filed with the Secretary of the Association before the appointed time of the meeting in order to be effective. Any Proxy may be revoked prior to the time a vote is cast by virtue of such Proxy.

3.12. Upon demand of any Member at any time prior to a vote upon any matter at a meeting of the Members, or any Class Members, any Member may demand voting on such matter shall be by secret ballot. The chairman of the meeting shall call for nominations for inspectors of election to collect and tally written ballots upon the completion of balloting upon the subject matter.

3.13. Members shall have the right to participate in meetings with reference to all designated agenda items in accordance with the rules and regulations. In addition, any Member may tape record or videotape a meeting in accordance with the rules and regulations.

#### Section 4. Board of Directors; Directors' Meetings

4.1. The form of administration of the Association shall be by a Board of not less than three (3) Directors. At each Annual Members' Meeting held subsequent to the year in which the Developer's Resignation Event occurs, the number of Directors (which must be an odd number) shall

be determined by the Board from time to time. Except for Developer-appointed Directors, Directors must be Members of the Association or the spouses, parents or children of Members.

4.2. The provisions of the Articles setting forth the selection, designation, election and removal of Directors are hereby incorporated herein by reference. Voting for Directors, if applicable, shall be noncumulative. Directors elected by the Members in accordance with Article IX of the Articles shall be elected by a plurality of votes cast by the Members present in person or by Proxy and entitled to vote at a properly held Annual Members' Meeting or special meeting of the Members.

4.3. Subject to Section 4.5 below and the rights of Developer as set forth in the Articles and as set forth in Section 4.5(b) below, vacancies on the Board shall be filled by person(s) elected by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining Directors. Such person shall be a Director and have all the rights, privileges, duties and obligations as a Director elected at the Annual Members' Meeting. A Director elected by the Board to fill a vacancy shall hold office only until the next election of Directors by the Members.

4.4. The term of each Director's service, except as provided in Section 4.3 of these Bylaws, shall extend until the next Annual Members' Meeting and thereafter, until his or her successor is duly elected and qualified or until he or she is removed in the manner elsewhere provided herein.

4.5. (a) A Director elected by the Purchaser Members, as provided in the Articles, may be removed from office with or without cause upon the affirmative vote or the agreement in writing of the Purchaser Members acting on behalf of a majority of Voting Interests held by Purchaser Members at a special meeting of the Purchaser Members. Any such recall shall be effected and a recall election shall be held, if applicable, as provided in Section 718.112(2)(j), F.S., as it may be amended from time to time.

(b) A Director on the First Board or designated by Developer as provided in the Articles may be removed only by Developer in its sole discretion and without any need for a meeting or vote. Developer shall have the unqualified right to name successors to fill any vacancies occurring for any reason on the Board among Directors on the First Board or designated by it, and Developer shall notify the Board as to any such removal or vacancy and the name of the successor Director and of the commencement date for the term of such successor Director.

4.6. Notice to Members of the Annual Members' Meeting at which the Board of Directors is elected shall specify that the organizational meeting of the newly elected Board shall be held immediately following the Annual Members' Meeting. In the event the newly elected Board announces at the Annual Members' Meeting that it will not have its organizational meeting immediately after the Annual Members' Meeting, the Members shall be properly noticed as provided for in these Bylaws. No further notice of the organizational meeting shall be necessary, providing that a quorum shall be present at such organizational meeting.

4.7. Regular meetings of the Board may be held at such time and place as shall be determined from time to time by a majority of Directors. All meetings of the Board shall be conducted in the English language. Special meetings of the Board may be called at the discretion of the President or the Vice President of the Association. Special meetings must be called by the Secretary at the written request of one-third (1/3) of the Directors. Participation in meetings of the Board by telephone or another form of electronic communication is permitted subject to the requirements of Section 718.112 (2)(b)5, F.S.

4.8. Notice of the time, agenda and place of regular and special meetings of the Board, or adjournments thereof, shall be given to each Director personally or by mail, telephone or telegraph at least three (3) days prior to the day specified for such meeting. Except in an emergency, notice of a Board meeting shall be posted conspicuously on the Condominium Property, as more specifically set forth in the rules and regulations, at least forty-eight (48) continuous hours in advance for the attention of Members. Notice of any meeting where regular assessments against Members are to be considered for any reason shall specifically contain a statement that assessments will be considered and the nature of any such assessments. Notice of a meeting where nonemergency Special Assessments or amendments to rules regarding Home use will be considered shall be mailed, hand delivered or electronically transmitted to the Home Owners and posted conspicuously on the Condominium Property not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting. In lieu of or in addition to the physical posting of notice of any meeting of the Board on the Condominium Property, the Association may, by reasonable rule, adopt a procedure for conspicuously posting and repeatedly broadcasting the notice and the agenda on a closed-circuit cable television system serving the Association. However, if broadcast notice is used in lieu of a notice posted physically on the Condominium Property, the notice and agenda must be broadcast at least four times every broadcast hour of each day that a posted notice is otherwise required under this section. When broadcast notice is provided, the notice and agenda must be broadcast in a manner and for a sufficient continuous length of time so as to allow an average reader to observe the notice and read and comprehend the entire content of the notice and agenda. Proof of such notice shall be given by affidavit executed by the person providing the notice and filed among the official records of the Association. Any Director may waive notice of the meeting before, during or after a meeting and such waiver shall be deemed equivalent to the receipt of notice by such Director.

4.9. A quorum of the Board shall consist of the Directors entitled to cast a majority of the votes of the entire Board. Matters approved by a majority of the Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall constitute the official acts of the Board, except as specifically provided elsewhere herein or in any of the Condominium Documents. A Director who is present at a meeting of the Board at which action on any corporate matter is taken shall be presumed to have assented to the action taken, unless he or she votes against such action or abstains from voting in respect thereto because of an asserted conflict of interest. A vote or abstention for each Director present shall be recorded in the minutes. If at any meetings of the Board there shall be less than a quorum present, the majority of those present entitled to vote may adjourn the meeting from time to time until a quorum is present. At any properly held adjourned meeting any business which might have been transacted at the meeting as originally called may be transacted. In the case of the

adjournment of a meeting, the notice provisions for the adjournment shall, subject to the Act, be as determined by the Board.

4.10. The presiding officer at Board meetings shall be the President. In the absence of the President, the Directors present shall designate any one of their number to preside.

4.11. Directors shall not receive any compensation for their services.

4.12. The Board shall have the power to appoint executive committees of the Board consisting of not less than two (2) Directors. Executive committees shall have and exercise such powers of the Board as may be delegated to such executive committees by the Board.

4.13. Meetings of the Board shall be open to all Members. Members shall have the right to participate in meetings with reference to all designated agenda items in accordance with the rules and regulations. All Board meetings shall be conducted in the English language. In addition, any Member may tape record or videotape a meeting in accordance with the rules and regulations.

#### Section 5. Fining Procedure for Enforcement of the Condominium Documents; Fees

5.1. A nonexclusive optional procedure for Board enforcement of the Condominium Documents, including the rules and regulations, shall be as follows:

##### 5.1.1. First Offense (1st Notice)

When the Association becomes aware of noncompliance of a rule or regulation by a Home Owner, family member, guest, invitee or lessee, it shall send a certified letter to the Home Owner advising him or her of the rule which he or she has been accused of violating and warning that strict compliance with the rules and regulations will be required. Each day on which a violation occurs shall be deemed to be a separate offense.

##### 5.1.2. Second Offense (2nd Notice)

If the Association receives a second report that a violation has been repeated or has been continued beyond the time specified within the first notice, the Board, after verifying the violation, may authorize a fine to be levied upon the Home Owner. The fine for a second offense may not exceed the maximum amount permitted by the Act. Notice of a second violation shall be sent to the Home Owner by certified mail.

##### 5.1.3. Third Offense (3rd Notice)

If the Association receives a third report that a violation has been repeated or has continued beyond the time specified within the second notice, the Home Owner may be charged a fine in an amount not to exceed the maximum amount permitted by the Act, following verification of the violation by the Board.

#### 5.1.4. Fourth Offense

For repeated offenses or in any case where the Board deems it appropriate, the Board may seek injunctive relief through court action. In addition, a fine may be levied on the basis of each day of a continuing violation, with a single notice and opportunity for hearing, provided that no such fine shall in the aggregate exceed the amount set forth in Section 718.303(3) of the Act.

#### 5.2. Exemptions and Hearings

5.2.1 Any Home Owner may appear before the Association to seek an exemption from or variance in the applicability of any given rule or regulation as it relates to said person on grounds of undue hardship or other special circumstances.

5.2.2 Before levying a fine against a Home Owner for failure to abide by any provision of the Declaration, these Bylaws or the Rules and Regulations, the Board shall:

(a) Afford the Home Owner against whom the fine is sought to be levied an opportunity for hearing before a committee of other Home Owners ("Committee") appointed by the Board after reasonable notice of not less than fourteen (14) days. Said notice shall include:

(i) A statement of the date, time and place of the hearing;

(ii) A statement of the provisions of the Declaration, Bylaws or Rules and Regulations which have allegedly been violated; and

(iii) A short and plain statement of the matters asserted by the Association.

(b) Provide an opportunity to the Home Owner against whom the fine may be levied to respond, present evidence and provide written and oral argument to the Board and the Committee on all issues involved and shall have an opportunity to review, challenge and respond to any other material considered by the Association. If the Committee does not agree with the fine, the fine may not be levied.

5.3. A Home Owner who fails to timely pay any Assessment shall be charged a late charge by the Association for such late Assessment in an amount not to exceed the maximum amount permitted by the Act. Home Owners shall be responsible to pay all legal fees (including but not limited to, attorney and paralegal fees and court costs) incurred in connection with the collection of late Assessments whether or not an action at law to collect said Assessment and foreclose the Association's lien has been commenced. The Association may charge an administrative fee in addition to any interest charged in accordance with the Declaration in an amount not to exceed the greater of \$25.00 or five percent (5%) of each installment that the payment is late. Any payment received by the Association shall be applied first to any interest accrued by the Association, then to



any administrative late fee, then to any court costs and reasonable attorney's fees incurred in collection, and then to the delinquent assessment.

5.4. (a) The existence of the Association's right to fine as herein provided shall not preclude nor limit its right to seek any other enforcement method or remedy provided: (i) pursuant to the Condominium Documents; (ii) at law; or (iii) in equity.

(b) The amount of the fines as set forth herein may be increased by the Board in its sole discretion; provided, however, any such increase shall conform to the applicable requirements of the Act as to the maximum dollar amount of such fines as such maximum dollar amount may be increased by amendment of the Act from time to time.

#### 5.5. Written Inquiries by Home Owners

Written inquiries by Members to the Board shall be handled in accordance with Section 718.112(2)(a)(2), F.S., as it may be amended from time to time.

### Section 6. Officers of the Association

6.1. Executive officers of the Association shall be the President, who shall be a Director, one or more Vice Presidents, a Treasurer, a Secretary and, if the Board so determines, an Assistant Secretary and an Assistant Treasurer, all of whom shall be elected annually by the Board. Any officer may be removed from office without cause by vote of the Directors at any meeting of the Board. The Board shall, from time to time, elect and designate the powers and duties of such other officers and assistant officers as the Board shall find to be required to manage the affairs of the Association.

6.2. The President, who shall be a Director, shall be the chief executive officer of the Association. The President shall have all of the powers and duties which are usually vested in the office of the president of a condominium association including, but not limited to, the power to appoint committees from among the Members at such times as he or she may, in his or her discretion, determine appropriate to assist in conducting the affairs of the Association. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board.

6.3. The Vice President(s) shall generally assist the President and exercise such other powers and perform such other duties as shall be prescribed by the Board. In the event there shall be more than one Vice President elected by the Board, then they shall be designated "First," "Second," etc. and shall be called upon in such order to exercise the powers and perform the duties of the President if he or she is absent or incapacitated.

6.4. The Secretary shall cause the minutes of all meetings of the Board and of the members to be kept, which minutes shall be recorded in a businesslike manner and shall be available or inspection by Members and Directors at all reasonable times. The Secretary shall have custody of the seal of the Association and shall affix the same to instruments requiring a seal when duly signed.

He or she shall keep the records of the Association, except those of the Treasurer, and shall perform all of the duties incident to the office of Secretary of the Association as may be required by the Board or the President. The Assistant Secretary, if any, shall assist the Secretary and shall perform the duties of the Secretary when the Secretary is absent.

6.5. The Treasurer shall have custody of all the property of the Association, including funds, securities and evidences of indebtedness. He or she shall keep the assessment rolls and accounts of the Members; he or she shall keep the books of the Association in accordance with good accounting practices; and he or she shall perform all the duties incident to the office of Treasurer. The Assistant Treasurer, if any, shall assist the Treasurer and shall perform the duties of the Treasurer whenever the Treasurer is absent.

6.6. Officers shall not receive compensation for their services. The compensation, if any, of all other employees of the Association shall be fixed by the Board. This provision shall not preclude the Board from employing a Director or an officer as an employee of the Association nor preclude the contracting with a Director or an officer for the management of all or any portion of Merrill Pines.

## Section 7. Accounting Records; Fiscal Management

### 7.1. Accounting Records

(a) The Association shall maintain the official records of the Association in accordance with Section 718.111(12) of the Act, which records shall be open to inspection by Members and owners of first mortgages on Homes or their authorized representatives at reasonable times. The Association may charge Owners, owners of first mortgages on Homes or their authorized representative its actual costs for preparing and furnishing copies of the documents including, but not limited to, the Declaration, Articles, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, question and answer sheet and any amendment to the foregoing to those requesting same. Authorization of a representative of a Member must be in writing, signed by the Member giving the authorization and dated within five (5) working days before the date of the inspection. The official records shall include accounting records for the Association maintained according to good accounting practices, and such accounting records shall be maintained for a period of not less than seven (7) years. Accounting records so maintained by the Association shall include, but are not limited to: (i) accurate, itemized and detailed records of all receipts and expenditures; (ii) a current account, and a monthly statement of the account for each Home or as reported at such interval as may be required by the Act as amended from time to time by the Florida Legislature, designating the name of the owner thereof, the due date and amount of each assessment, the amount paid upon the account, and the balance due; (iii) all audits reviews, accounting statements and financial reports of the Association; and (iv) all contracts for work to be performed, and such bids shall be considered official records and maintained for a period of one (1) year.

(b) A report of the actual receipts and expenditures of the Association for the previous twelve (12) months ("Report") shall be prepared annually by an accountant or Certified Public Accountant in accordance with Section 718.111(13) of the Act, provided, however, the requirement for audited financial statements may be waived pursuant to said Section. The Report shall be prepared consistent with the requirements of Rule 61B-22.006, F.A.C. and a copy of such report shall be furnished in accordance with the Act to each Member not later than the first day of April of the year following the year for which the Report is made. The Report will include account classifications designated in the Act, if applicable, and accounts otherwise included at the Board's discretion. The Report shall be deemed to be furnished to the Member upon its delivery or mailing to the Member at the last known address shown on the books and records of the Association.

## 7.2. Budget

(a) The Board shall adopt a Budget for the Common Expenses of the Condominium ("Budget") for each forthcoming fiscal year ("Budget Year") at a special meeting of the Board ("Budget Meeting") called for that purpose in October or November prior to the applicable Budget Year. Prior to the Budget Meeting a proposed Budget for Merrill Pines Condominium shall be prepared by or on behalf of the Board, which Budget(s) shall include, but not be limited to, the following items of expense applicable to Merrill Pines Condominium:

- (i) Administration of the Association
- (ii) Utilities
- (iii) Management Fees
- (iv) Maintenance
- (v) Rent for recreational and other commonly used facilities
- (vi) Taxes upon Association Property
- (vii) Taxes upon leased areas
- (viii) Insurance
- (ix) Security provisions
- (x) Other expenses
- (xi) Operating capital
- (xii) Reserves for Capital Expenditures and Deferred Maintenance
- (xiii) Fees payable to the Division of Florida Land Sales, Condominiums and Mobile Homes

(b) The Budget for Merrill Pines Condominium constitutes an estimate of the expenses to be incurred by the Association for and on behalf of Merrill Pines Condominium. The procedure for the allocation of the expenses attributable to Merrill Pines Condominiums, which are the Common Expenses of Merrill Pines Condominium, shall be as follows:

(i) Expenses of the Association which are applicable to more than one (1) Merrill Pines Condominium (such as administrative expenses) shall be allocated by the Board amongst the several Merrill Pines Condominiums to which such expenses are applicable by multiplying the amount of such expenses by a fraction with respect to Merrill Pines Condominium, the numerator of which is the number of Homes within the particular Merrill Pines Condominium to which such expenses are being allocated and the denominator of which is the total number of Homes in the various Merrill Pines Condominiums to which such expenses are applicable; provided, however, that if such method of allocation is inequitable due to the fact that a grossly disproportionate amount of such expenses are attributable to a particular Merrill Pines Condominium, then the Board may allocate such expenses in a manner deemed by it to be fair and equitable

(ii) Expenses of the Association which are applicable to one (1) Merrill Pines Condominium (such as, but not limited to, utilities and maintenance for the Common Elements of a particular Merrill Pines Condominium) shall be allocated by the Board as a Common Expense solely of such Merrill Pines Condominium.

(iii) In the event there is only one (1) condominium comprising Merrill Pines Condominium, then all expenses of the Association shall be applicable to that condominium.

(c) Common Expenses with respect to Condominium Property and Association Property (i.e., property held in the name of the Association, not the Common Elements), if any, shall be assessed against all Homes in direct proportion to the percentage of ownership in the Common Elements and in the Common Surplus as set forth in the Declarations of Condominium of all the condominiums comprising Merrill Pines Condominium, as they may exist from time to time, after the allocation between or among condominiums is made by the Board pursuant to Section 7.2(b)(i) hereinabove.

(d) The Board shall establish and maintain an adequate reserve fund for the periodic maintenance, repair and replacement of Merrill Pines Condominium Property. The Budget for Merrill Pines Condominium shall include, on an annual basis, the establishment of reserve accounts for capital expenditures and deferred maintenance of Merrill Pines Condominium Property. The reserve accounts shall include, but not be limited to, roof replacement, roadway resurfacing and building exterior repainting regardless of the amount of deferred maintenance expense or replacement cost, and for any other items for which the deferred maintenance expense or replacement cost exceeds Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000). The amount to be reserved shall be computed by means of a formula which is based upon estimated remaining useful life and estimated replacement cost of each reserve item. Notwithstanding any other provisions to the contrary contained herein, in the event that, by a majority vote of either Members or Class Members, as applicable, at a duly called meeting of the Association, elect to have less than a full reserve or no reserve for deferred maintenance and replacement, then the applicable Budget shall be based on such lesser reserves or no reserves, as the case may be.

(e) Copies of the applicable proposed Budget and notice of the exact time and place of the Budget Meeting shall be mailed to each Member or Class Member at the Member's last known address, as reflected on the books and records of the Association, not less than fourteen (14) days prior to said Budget Meeting, and the Budget Meeting shall be open to the Members. Failure to timely adopt a Budget for Merrill Pines Condominium shall not alter or abrogate the obligation to pay Common Expenses.

(f) In administering the finances of the Association, the following procedures shall govern: (i) the fiscal year shall be the calendar year; (ii) any income received by the Association in any calendar year may be used by the Association to pay expenses incurred by the Association in the same calendar year; (iii) there shall be apportioned between calendar years on a pro rata basis any expenses which are prepaid in any one (1) calendar year for Common Expenses which cover more than such calendar year; (iv) Assessments shall be made not less frequently than monthly in amounts no less than are required to provide funds in advance for payment of all of the anticipated current expenses and for all unpaid expenses previously incurred; and (v) expenses incurred in a calendar year shall be charged against income for the same calendar year regardless of when the bill for such expenses is received. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Assessments shall be of sufficient magnitude to insure an adequacy and availability of cash to meet all budgeted expenses and anticipated cash needs in any calendar year as such expenses are incurred in accordance with the cash basis method of accounting. The cash basis method of accounting shall conform to generally accepted accounting standards and principles.

(g) No Board shall be required to anticipate revenue from Assessments or expend funds to pay for Common Expenses or Operating Expenses not included in a Budget or which shall exceed budgeted items, and no Board shall be required to engage in deficit spending. Should there exist any deficiency which results from expenses being greater than income from Assessments, then such deficits shall be carried into the applicable Budget for the next succeeding year as a deficiency or shall be the subject of a Special Assessment to be levied by the Board as otherwise provided in the applicable Declaration.

(h) The Board may also include in the proposed Budget a sum of money as an assessment for the making of betterments to the Condominium Property and Association Property for anticipated expenses by the Association which are not anticipated to be incurred on a regular or annual basis. This sum of money so fixed may then be levied upon the Members by the Board as a Special Assessment and shall be considered an "Excluded Expense" under Section 7.3(a) hereof.

### 7.3. Adoption of Budget

Until the provisions of Section 718.112(2)(e) of the Act relative to the Members' approval of a Budget requiring Assessments against the Members in excess of 115% of such Assessments for the Members in the preceding year are declared invalid by the courts, or until amended by the Florida Legislature, the following shall be applicable (however, if such amendment merely substitutes another amount for 115%, then such new amount shall be substituted for 115% each time it is used in this Section 7.3):

(a) Should the Budget adopted by the Board at the Budget Meeting require Assessments against Members of an amount which is not greater than one hundred fifteen percent (115%) of such Assessments for the prior year, the Budget shall be deemed approved by all Members. If, however, the Assessments required to meet the Budget exceed one hundred fifteen percent (115%) of such assessments for the Membership for the preceding year (“Excess Assessment”), then the provisions of Subsections 7.3(b) and (c) hereof shall be applicable. There shall be excluded in the computation of the Excess Assessment certain expenses (“Excluded Expenses”) as follows:

(1) Reserves for repair or replacement of any portion of the Condominium Property or Association Property;

(2) Expenses of the Association which are not anticipated to be incurred on a regular or annual basis; and

(3) Assessments for betterments to the Condominium Property and Association Property.

(b) Should the Excess Assessment be adopted by the Board, then upon delivery to the Board, within twenty (20) days after the Budget Meeting, of a written application requesting a special meeting signed by ten percent (10%) of the Voting Interests of the Homes, the Board shall call a special meeting to be held upon not less than ten (10) days’ written notice to each Member, but to be held within thirty (30) days of the delivery of such application to the Board. At said special meeting, the Members shall consider and enact a Budget of Common Expenses. The adoption of the revisions to the Budget of Common Expenses shall require approval of not less than a majority of Voting Interests appurtenant to all Homes in Merrill Pines Condominium. The Board may propose revisions to the Members at a meeting of Members or in writing, and, if a revised Budget of Common Expenses is enacted at said special meeting, then the revised Budget shall be, as to the Common Expenses, incorporated into the final Budget. If no written application is delivered as provided herein and a quorum is not obtained or a substitute budget is not adopted by the Members, then the Budget originally adopted by the Board shall be the final Budget and shall go into effect as scheduled.

(c) Until the Majority Election Meeting, the Board shall not impose a Assessment pursuant to a Budget for Common Expenses for Merrill Pines Condominium which is greater than one hundred fifteen percent (115%) of the prior fiscal year’s Assessment without approval of a majority of the Voting Interests of Members to be so assessed.

(d) If, as and when one (1) or more Merrill Pines Condominiums are created pursuant to the Act, then the Budget shall allocate Assessments for Common Expenses to each Merrill Pines Condominium. In each case in which the Assessments for Common Expenses for the affected Merrill Pines Condominium [less expenses for matters similar to those matters set forth in Paragraphs 7.3(a)(1), 7.3(a)(2) and 7.3(a)(3) above] exceed one hundred fifteen percent (115%) of

such Assessments for the prior year, the affected Members shall have the right to revise the Budget as same applies to them in the same manner as set forth in Paragraph 7.3(b) above.

#### 7.4. Allocation of Common Expenses

(a) The portion of the expenses to be allocated to the operation and management of Merrill Pines Condominium shall be set forth in the Budget and shall constitute the Common Expenses of Merrill Pines Condominium. The Common Expenses shall be apportioned to each Home Owner based upon his share of Common Expenses, as provided in the Declaration of Merrill Pines Condominium.

(b) Notwithstanding the allocation to each Home of its share of Common Expenses, a Home Owner shall also be liable for any Special Assessments levied by the Board against his/her Home as provided in the Condominium Documents. The funds collected pursuant to a Special Assessment shall be used only for the specific purpose or purposes set forth in such notice, or returned to the Home Owners; provided, however, that upon completion of such specific purpose or purposes any excess funds shall be considered Common Surplus. The Association shall collect Assessments and Special Assessments for Common Expenses from a Home Owner in the manner set forth in the Condominium Documents.

(c) To the extent that the Association at any time has either a Common Surplus or Common Expense in regard to the operation of Merrill Pines Condominium which cannot be attributed to one or more particular Merrill Pines Condominium(s), then such Common Surplus or Common Expense shall be prorated equally based on the number of Homes within each Merrill Pines Condominium and thereafter be deemed a Common Expense or Common Surplus of each Merrill Pines Condominium as set forth in its Declaration.

(d) If, as and when one (1) or more Merrill Pines Condominiums are created pursuant to the Act, the expenses attributable to each Merrill Pines Condominium shall be allocated and apportioned to each Merrill Pines Condominium in the manner set forth in Paragraphs 7.4(a) and 7.4(b) above.

#### 7.5 Depository

The depository of the Association shall be such bank or banks as shall be designated from time to time by the Board in which the monies of the Association shall be deposited. Withdrawal of monies from such account shall be only by checks signed by such persons as are authorized by the Board. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the President and/or the Treasurer of the Association shall be authorized to sign checks on behalf of the Association, unless otherwise specified by the Board.

## Section 8. Rules and Regulations

The Board may adopt rules and regulations or amend or rescind existing rules and regulations for the operation and use of Merrill Pines Condominium at any meeting of the Board; provided such rules and regulations are not inconsistent with the Condominium Documents nor detrimental to sales of Homes by Developer. Copies of any rules and regulations promulgated, amended or rescinded shall be mailed to all Home Owners at the last known address as shown on the books, and records of the Association and shall not take effect until forty-eight (48) hours after such mailing.

## Section 9. Parliamentary Rules

The then latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of meetings of this Association when not in conflict with the Condominium Documents or the Act. In the event of a conflict, the provisions of the Condominium Documents and the Act shall govern.

## Section 10. Amendments of the Bylaws

10.1. These Bylaws may be amended only by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the total votes of Members entitled to vote thereon, represented in person or by Proxy at a properly held Annual Members' Meeting or special meeting of the Membership and the approval of a majority of the Board at a regular or special meeting of the Board. A copy of the proposed amendment shall be sent to each Member along with notice of the Annual Members' Meeting or special meeting. An amendment may be approved at the same meeting of the Board and/or Members at which such amendment is proposed.

10.2. An amendment may be proposed by either the Board or by the Members, and after being proposed and approved by one of such bodies, must be approved by the other as set forth above in order to become enacted as an amendment.

10.3. No modification or amendment to these Bylaws shall be adopted which would affect or impair the priority of any holder, insurer or guarantor of a first mortgage on any Home in Merrill Pines Condominium, the validity of such mortgage or any of the rights of Developer.

## Section 11. Fidelity Bonding

The Association shall obtain and maintain adequate fidelity bonding of all persons who control or disburse funds of the Association in accordance with Section 718.111(11)(d) of the Act.

## Section 12. Condemnation of Common Elements

The Association has a limited power to convey a portion of the Common Elements to a condemning authority for the purpose of providing utility easements, right-of-way expansion or other public purposes, whether negotiated or as a result of eminent domain proceedings.



Section 13. Arbitration

Pursuant to Section 718.1255 of the Act, mandatory nonbonding arbitration shall be required prior to institution of court litigation for disputes involving certain actions or inactions, as described therein.

Section 14. Certificate of Compliance

A certificate of compliance from a licensed electrical contractor or electrician may be accepted by the Board as evidence of compliance of the Homes to the applicable fire and life safety code.

Section 15. Recall of Board Members

Pursuant to Section 718.112(2)(j) of the Act, any Board member may be recalled and removed from office as provided for and described therein.

MERRILL PINES CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION,  
INC., a Florida not-for-profit corporation

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kenneth L. Johns, Jr., President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jan J. Doan, Secretary

(CORPORATE SEAL)