# EXHIBIT "C" OF BENTWOOD CREEK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC. BYLAWS

## ARTICLE I.

Section 1. Name. The name of this corporation is BENTWOOD CREEK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC. Its principal place of business is 1364 Cordova Cove, Germantown, TN, Shelby County, TN 38138. The corporation may have such other offices within or without the State of Tennessee as the Board of Directors or the Members may from time-to-time designate.

## ARTICLE II.

Section 1. Applicability. These Bylaws and each provision thereof shall be applicable to all Lots and Members, as defined, within the residential planned development known as Bentwood Creek PD, Phase I, Lots 1-27, Plat Book 196, Page 51, Date: 12/21/01 in the Shelby County Register's Office; Phases II and III to follow subject to construction of said phase, at Declarant's sole discretion..

# ARTICLE III.

The following sections of this Article III shall apply to membership in the Association:

Section 1. Eligibility. The Owner or Owners of a Lot, who have become such in compliance with all of the requirements and conditions contained in the Declaration of Covenants, including these Bylaws, shall be entitled to attend and vote at all meetings of the Association. The Declarant shall be considered the Owner of each Lot, which is unsold by it. Ownership of a Lot shall be the sole qualification for membership in the Association.

Section 2. Voting Rights. The Owner or Owners of a Lot shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each Lot owned at all meetings of the Association, except for the Declarant, which shall be entitled to five (5) votes for Lot owned by it. After the expiration of three (3) years from the date of the conveyance of the first Lot from Declarant to the purchaser, member Declarant shall only be entitled to one (1) vote for each Lot still owned by it. Where two or more persons own a Lot, the vote allocated to that Lot shall be cast by the one authorized by such two or more Owners, and in the event of failure of such authorization, no vote shall be recorded for that Lot. Where only one of two or more owners of a Lot is present

in person at a meeting, such one shall be presumed to be authorized by all Owners of said Lot and shall be entitled to cast the vote with respect for that Lot. Where one person or a group of persons owns more than one Lot, such person or group shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote for each Lot owned.

## ARTICLE IV.

Section 1. Place of Meeting. Meetings of the membership shall be held at the principal office or the place of business of the Association or at such other suitable place convenient to the membership as may be designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Annual Meetings. The annual meetings of the Members of the Association shall be held at 7 PM on the 15th day of November of each year, beginning in 2002, or such date established by Declarant. At such meeting there shall be elected by secret written ballot of Members a Board of Directors in accordance with the requirements of Section 5 of Article V of these Bylaws. The Members may also transact such other business of the as may properly come before them.

Section 3. Special Meeting. It shall be the duty of the President to call a special meeting of the Members as directed by resolution of the Board of Directors or upon a petition signed by Members representing at least ten percent (10%) of the total number of votes entitled to be cast on any issue proposed to be considered at the proposed special meeting having been presented to the Secretary. The notice of any special meeting shall state the 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 4. Notice of Meetings. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to mail a notice of each annual or special meeting, stating the purpose thereof as well as the time and place where it is to be held, to each Member of record, at his address as it appears on the membership book of the Association, if any, or if no such address appears, at his last known place of address, at least ten (10) days but no more than two (2) months prior to such meeting. Service may also be accomplished by the delivery of any such notice to the Member at his last known address by deposit in the box or slot for the United States mail. Notice by either such method shall be considered as notice served. Attendance by a Member at any meeting of the Members shall be a waiver of notice by him of the time, place ad purpose thereof.

Section 5. Quorum. The presence, either in person or by proxy, of Members representing at least fifty-one percent (51%) of the total votes entitled to be cast with respect to any question, shall be requisite for, and shall constitute a quorum for, the transaction of business at all meetings of Members. If the

number of Members at a meeting drops below the quorum and the question of a lack of a quorum is raised, no business may thereafter be transacted.

Section 6. Adjourned Meetings. If any meeting of members cannot be organized because a quorum has not attended, the Members who are present, either in person or by proxy, may, except as otherwise provided by law, adjourn the meeting to a time not less than forty-eight (48) hours from the time the original meeting was called.

Section 7. Voting. At every meeting of the Members, each of the Members shall have the right to cast his vote on each question. The vote of members representing a fifty-one percent (51%) majority of the total votes cast, in person or by proxy, provided a quorum exists, shall decide any question brought before such meeting, unless the question is one upon which, by express provision of statute or of the Charter of Incorporation, or the Declaration, or of these Bylaws, a different vote is required, in which case such express provision shall govern and control. No Member shall be eligible to vote, either in person or by proxy, or to be elected to the Board of Directors, who is shown on the books or management accounts of the Association to be more than sixty (60) days delinquent in any payment due the Association.

Section 8. Proxies. Any Member may appoint any other Member or the Developer or any other person permitted by law or by these Bylaws as his proxy. In no case may any Member (except the Developer) cast more than one vote by proxy in addition to his own vote. Any proxy must be in writing and must comply with all requirements imposed by law or by these Bylaws.

Section 9. Whenever the vote of Members at a meeting thereof is required or permitted to take any action in accordance with any statute, the Declaration or these Bylaws, such meeting and vote may be dispensed with if all Members who would have been entitled to vote upon such action receive a written ballot from the corporation. The written ballot shall set forth each proposed action and provide an opportunity to vote for or against each proposed action. Approval shall be valid only when the number of votes cast by ballot equals or exceeds the quorum required to be present at a meeting authorizing the action, and the number of approval equals or exceeds the number of notes 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.

Section 10. Order of Business. The order of business at all regularly scheduled meetings of the Members shall be as follows:

- (a) Roll call and certificate of proxies.
- (b) Proof of notice of meeting or waiver of notice.

- (c) Reading of minutes of preceding meeting.
- (d) Report of Officers, if any.
- (e) Reports of committee, if any.
- (f) Unfinished business.
- (g) New business.
- (h) Election or appointment of inspectors of election.
- (I) Election of directors.

In the case of a special meeting, items (a) through (d) shall be applicable and thereafter the agenda shall consist of the items specified in the notice of the meeting.

### ARTICLE V.

Section'1. Number and Qualification. The affairs of the Association shall be governed by the Board of Directors composed of at least two (2) persons and not more than five (5) persons, a majority of who (after Phase II and III homes are build and sold) shall be Members of the Association.

Section 2. Initial Directors. The initial Directors shall be elected by the Declarant and need not be Members of the Association. The names of the Directors who shall act as such from the date upon which the Declaration is recorded in the Register's Office of Shelby County, Tennessee, until the first annual meeting of the Members or until such time as their successors are duly chosen and qualified are as follows:

Kevin Hyneman, Reggie Garner, Jack Johnson and Jeff Bronze

Section 3. Power and Duties. The Board of Directors shall have the powers and duties necessary for the administration of the affairs of the Association and the residential planned development and may do all such acts and things as are not by law or by these Bylaws directed to be exercised and done by the Members. The powers and duties of the Board of Directors shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

To provide for:

- (a) Care and upkeep of the common areas, and any other properties charged to the care of the Association, including establishing reserves for repairs or replacements.
- (b) Establishment and collection of assessments and/or carrying charge from the Members and for the assessment and/or enforcement of liens therefor in a manner consistent with law and the provisions of these Bylaws and the Declaration.
- (c) Designation, hiring and/or dismissal of the personnel necessary for the good working order of Bentwood Creek and to provide services for the community in a manner consistent with law and the provisions of these Bylaws, and the Declaration.
- (d) Promulgation and enforcement of such rule and regulations and such restrictions or requirements as may be deemed proper respecting the use occupancy and maintenance of Bentwood Creek, all of which shall be consistent with law and the provisions of these Bylaws and the Declaration.
  - (e) Elect an Architectural Control Committee.

Section 4. Nomination. Nomination for election to the Board of Directors shall be made by a Nominating Committee. Nominations may also be made from the floor of the annual meeting. The Nominating Committee shall consist of a Chairman, who shall be a Member of the Board of Directors, and one or more Members of the Association. The Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors prior to each annual meeting of the Members, to serve from the close of such annual meeting until the close of the next annual meeting and such appointment shall be announced at each annual meeting. The Nominating Committee shall make as many nominations for election to the Board of Directors as it shall in its discretion determine, but not less than the number of vacancies that are to be filled. Such nominations may be made from among Members or non-members.

Section 5. Election and Term of Office. The term of the Directors named herein and in the Charter of Incorporation shall expire when their successors have been elected at the first annual meeting of members and are duly qualified. AT the first annual meeting of the Members, the Members shall determine the number of Directors consistent with these Bylaws, who shall constitute the Board of Directors to serve until the next annual meeting and until their successors have been elected and duly qualified. The term of office of each Director thereafter shall be for a period of one (1) year and until their successors shall have been elected and hold their first meeting.

Section 6. Vacancies. Vacancies in the Board of Directors caused by any reason other than the removal of a Director by a vote of the membership shall be filled by vote of the majority of the remaining Directors, even though they may constitute less than a quorum; and each person so elected shall be a director until a successor is elected by the Members at the next annual meeting.

Section 7. Removal of Directors. At a regular meeting, or special meeting duly called for such purpose, any Director may be removed with or without cause by the affirmative vote of the majority of the entire membership of record and a successor may then and there be elected to fill the vacancy thus created. Any director whose removal has been proposed by the members shall be given an opportunity to be heard at the meeting. The term of any Director who becomes more than sixty (60) days delinquent in payment of any assessments and/or carrying charges due the Association shall be automatically terminated and the remaining Directors shall appoint his successor as provided in Section 6 of this Article.

Section 8. Compensation. No compensation shall be paid to Directors for their services as Directors. After the first annual meeting of the Members, no remuneration shall be paid to any Director who is also a Member of the Association for services performed for the Association in any other capacity unless a resolution authorizing such remuneration shall have been adopted by the Board of Directors before the services are undertaken. This item may not be amended by any means, including a vote by the owners.

Section 9. Organizational Meeting. The first meeting of a newly elected Board of Directors shall be held within ten (10) days of election at such place as shall be fixed by the Directors at the meeting at which such Directors were elected, and no notice shall be necessary to the newly elected Directors in order legally constitute such meeting, provided a majority of the whole Board of Directors shall be present.

Section 10. Regular Meetings. Regular meetings of a newly elected 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 two (2) such meetings shall be held during each calendar year. Notice of regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be given to each Director, personally or by mail, telephone or telegraph, at least two (2) days prior to the day named for such meeting.

Section 11. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President on two (2) days' notice to each Directors, given personally or by mail, telephone or telegraph, which notice shall state the date, time and place (as hereinabove provided), but not necessarily the purpose, of

the meeting. Special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be called by the President or Secretary in like manner and on like notice on the written request of at least one-third (1/3) of the Directors.

Section 12. Waiver of Notice. Before or at any meeting of the Board of Directors, any Director may, in writing, waive notice of such meeting and such waiver shall be deemed equivalent to the giving of such notice. Attendance by a Director at any meeting of the Board of Directors shall be a waiver of notice by him of the time, place and purpose thereof. If all the Directors are present and remain present at any meeting of the Board of Directors, no notice shall be required and any business may be transacted at such meeting.

Section 13. Quorum. At all meetings of the Board of Directors a majority of the Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction old business, and the acts of the majority of the Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the acts of the Board of Directors. If at any meeting of the Board of Directors there be less than a quorum present, the majority of those present may adjourn the meeting from time to time. At any such meeting, any business that might have been transacted at the meeting as originally called may be transacted without further notice.

Section 14. Action Without Meeting. Any action of the Board of Directors required or permitted to be taken at any meeting may be taken without a meeting if all the members of the Board of Directors shall individually or collectively consent in writing to taking such action without a meeting. Such written consent or consents describing the action taken and signed by each Director shall be filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Directors. If all Directors consent to taking such action without a meeting, the affirmative vote of the number of Directors that would be necessary to take such action at a meeting is the act of the Board.

Section 15. Fidelity Bonds. The Board of Directors may require that all officers and employees of the Association handling or responsible for the Association or trust funds shall furnish adequate fidelity bonds. The premiums on such bonds shall be paid by the Association.

# ARTICLE VI.

Section 1. Designation. The principal officers of the Corporation shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, all of whom shall be elected by the Board of Directors. Prior to the first annual meeting of Members, the Officers of the Association need not be Members of the Association. The Directors may appoint an assistant secretary and an assistant treasurer and

such other officers as in their judgment may be necessary. The same person may fill the offices of Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 2. Election of Officers. The officers of the Association shall be elected annually by the Board of Directors at the organizational meeting of each new Board and shall hold office at the pleasure of the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Removal of Officers. Upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Board of Directors, any officer may be removed either with or without cause, and his successor elected at any regular meeting of the Board of Directors, or at any special meeting of the Board of Directors called for such purpose.

Section 4. President. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Association. In the event he is also a member of the Board of Directors, he shall preside at all meetings of the Members and of the Board of Directors. He shall have all of the general powers and duties which are usually vested in the office of president of an association, including, but not limited to, the power to appoint committees from among the membership from time to time as he may, in his discretion, decide is appropriate to assist in the conduct of the affairs of the Association.

Section 5. Vice President. The Vice President shall take the place of the President and perform his duties whenever the President shall be absent or unable to act. If neither the President nor the Vice President is able to act, the Board shall appoint some other of the Board to do so on an interim basis. The Vice President shall also perform such other duties as shall from time to time be delegated to him by the Board of Directors.

Section 6. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors and the minutes of all meetings of the Members of the Association; he shall have custody of the seal of the Association, if any; he shall have charge of the membership transfer books and of such other books and papers as the Board of Directors may direct; and he shall, in general, perform all the duties incident to the office of Secretary.

Section 7. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall have responsibility for corporate funds and securities and shall be responsible for keeping full and accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the Association. He shall be responsible for the deposit of all monies and other valuable effects in the name, and to the credit, of the Association in such depositories as may from time to time be designated by the Board of Directors.

#### ARTICLE VII.

Section 1. Liability and Indemnification of Officers and Directors. The Association shall indemnify every officer and Director of the Association against any and all expense, including counsel fees, reasonably incurred by or imposed upon any officer or Director in connection with any action, suit or other proceeding (including the settlement of any such suit or proceeding if approved by the then Board of Directors of the Association) to which he may be made a party by reason of being or having been an officer or Director of the Association whether or not such person is an officer or Director at the time such expenses are incurred. The officers and Directors of the Association shall not be liable to the Members of the Association for any mistake of judgment, negligence, or otherwise, except for their own individual willful misconduct or bad faith. The officers and Directors of the Association shall have no personal liability with respect to any contract or other commitment made by them, in good faith, on behalf of the Association or Bentwood Creek (except to the extent that such officers or Directors may also be Owners of Lots within the subdivision), and the Association shall indemnify and forever hold each such officer and Director free and harmless against any and all liability to others on account of any such contract or commitment. Any right to indemnification provided for herein shall not be exclusive of any other rights to which any officer or Director of the Association or former officer or Director of the Association may be entitled.

Section 2. Common or Interested Directors. The Directors shall exercise their powers and duties in good faith and with a view to the interests of the Association and the planned development. No contract or other transaction between the Association and one or more of its Directors, or between the Association and any corporation, firm or association (including the Developer) in which one or more of the Directors of this Association are Directors or officers or are pecuniary or otherwise interested, is either void or voidable because such Director or Director are present at the meeting of the Board of Directors or any committee thereof which authorizes or approves the contract or transaction, or because his or their votes are counted for such purpose, if any of the conditions specified in any of the following subparagraphs exist:

- (a) The fact of the common directorate or interest is disclosed or known to the Board of Directors or a majority thereof or noted in the minutes, and the Board authorizes, approves, or ratifies such contract or transaction in good faith by a vote sufficient for the purpose; and
- (b) The contract or transaction is commercially reasonable to the Association at the time it is authorized, ratified, approved or executed.

Common or interested Directors may be counted in determining the presence of a quorum of any meeting of the Board of Directors or committee thereof which authorizes, approves or ratifies any contract or transaction with like force and effect as if he were not such Director or officer of such other corporation or not so interested.

## ARTICLE VIII.

Section 1. Management and Common Expenses. The Association, acting by and through its Board of Directors, shall manage, and operate the affairs of the Association and, for the benefit of the Lots and the Owners thereof, shall enforce the provisions hereof and shall pay out of the common expense fund herein and elsewhere provided for, the following:

- (a) The cost of such insurance as the Association may effect.
- (b) The cost of providing such legal and accounting services as may be considered necessary to the operation of Bentwood Creek.
- (c) The cost of any and all materials, supplies, labor, services, maintenance, repairs, taxes, assessments or the like, which the Association secures in the discretion of the Board of Directors or by the vote of the Members shall be deemed necessary or proper.
- (d) The cost of the maintenance or repair on any Lot in the event such maintenance or repair is reasonably necessary in the discretion of the Board of Directors to protect the Common Area or to preserve the appearance or value of Bentwood Creek or is otherwise in the interest of the general welfare of all Owners of the Lots; provided, however that o such maintenance or repair shall be undertaken without a resolution by the Board of Directors and not without reasonable written notice to the Owner of the Lot proposed to be maintained and provided, further, that the cost thereof shall be assessed against the Lot on which such maintenance or repair is performed and, when so assessed, a statement for the amount thereof shall be sent promptly to the then Owner of said Lot at which time the assessment shall become due and payable an a continuing lien and obligation of said Owner.
- (e) All other items, which are listed as responsibilities of the Association as, found in the Declaration.

Section 2. Duty to Maintain. Except for maintenance requirements herein imposed upon the Association, the Owner of any Lot shall, at his own expense, maintain the interior and exterior of any improvements on his Lot, including all driveways and any and all equipment, and fixtures therein situate, and its other appurtenances, in good order, condition and repair, and in clean and sanitary

condition, and shall do all redecorating, painting and the like which may at any time be necessary to maintain the good appearance of his Lot and appurtenances. All exterior colors and installations are subject to approval of the Architectural Control Committee.

Section 3. Right of Entry. For the purpose solely of performing any of the repairs or maintenance required or authorized by these Bylaws, or in the event of a bona fide emergency involving illness or potential danger to life or property, the Association, through its duly authorized agents or employees, shall have the right, after reasonable efforts to give notice to the Owner or occupant, to enter upon any Lot at any hour considered to be reasonable under the circumstances.

## ARTICLE IX.

Section 1. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the Association shall begin on the first day of January every year, except for the first fiscal year of the Association, which shall begin at the date of incorporation. The commencement day of the fiscal year herein established shall be subject to change by the Board of Directors should corporate practice subsequently dictate.

Section 2. Books and Accounts. Books and accounts of the Association shall be kept under the direction of the Treasurer in accordance with good accounting practice. The same shall include books with detailed accounts, in chronological order of receipts and of the expenditures affecting Bentwood Creek and its administration and shall specify the maintenance and repair expenses incurred. That amount of any assessment required for payment or any capital expenditures of the Association shall be credited upon the books of the Association to the "Paid-In-Surplus" account as a capital contribution by the Members.

Section 3. Reports. The Association shall furnish its Members, and the holders of first mortgages requesting same within ninety (90) days from the date of close of each fiscal year, with an annual financial statement, including the income and disbursements of the Association.

Section 4. Inspection of Books. The books and accounts of the Association, and vouchers accrediting the entries made thereupon, shall be available for examination by the Association members of the Association, and/or their duly authorized agents or attorneys, and to the institutional holder of any first mortgage on any Lot and/or its duly authorized agents or attorneys, during normal business hours and for purposes reasonably related to their interests as Members.

Section 5. Execution of Association Documents. With the prior authorization of the Board of Directors, all notes and contracts shall be executed

on behalf of the Association by either the President or Vice President, and all checks shall be executed on behalf of the Association by such officers, agents, or other persons as are from time to time so authorized by the Board of Directors.

Section 6. Employment of Management Company. The Association shall be authorized to employ a management company to aid the Association in carrying out its duties and responsibilities. Prior to passage of control of the Association from the Developer, no management or service contract shall be entered into unless there is a right of termination, without cause, upon ninety (90) days' written notice.

# ARTICLE X.

Section 1. Amendments. These Bylaws may be amended by the affirmative vote of 2/3's of Members of all votes entitled to be cast at any meeting of the Members duly called for such purpose, and only after thirty (30) days' prior written notice to the institutional holders of all first mortgages on the Lots in Bentwood Creek. Amendments may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by petition signed by members representing at least thirty percent (30%) of the total number of votes entitled to be cast. A description of any proposed amendment shall accompany the notice of any regular or special meeting at which such proposed amendment is to be voted upon.

# ARTICLE XI.

Section 1. Notice to Board of Directors. Any owner of any Lot in the subdivision who mortgages such Lot shall promptly notify the Board of Directors of the name and address of his mortgagee and, if requested so to do, shall file a conformed copy of such mortgage with the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall maintain suitable records pertaining to such mortgages.

Section 2. Definition. As used in this Article, the term "mortgagee" shall mean any mortgages and shall not be limited to institutional mortgagees and the term "mortgage" shall include a deed of trust. As used generally in these Bylaws, the term "institutional holder" or "institutional mortgagee" shall include banks, trust companies, insurance companies, savings and loan associations, pension funds and any corporation, including a corporation of, or affiliated with, the United States government, or any agency thereof.

# ARTICLE XII.

Section 1. Resident Agent. The resident agent shall be designated as the person authorized to accept service of process in any action relating to two or more Lots or to the Common Areas.

- Section 2. Notices. Unless another type of notice is herein or elsewhere specifically provided for, any and all notices called for in the Declaration or these Bylaws shall be given in writing.
- Section 3. Severability. In the event any provision or provisions of these Bylaws shall be determined to be invalid, void or unenforceable, such determination shall not render invalid, void or unenforceable any other provisions hereof which can be given effect.
- <u>Section 4</u>. <u>Waiver</u>. No restriction, condition, obligation or provision of these bylaws shall be deemed to have been abrogated or waived by reason of any failure or failures to enforce the same.
- Section 5. Captions. The captions contained in these Bylaws are for convenience only and are not a part of these Bylaws and are not intended in any way to limit or enlarge the terms and provisions of these Bylaws.
- Section 6. Gender, Etc. Whenever in these Bylaws the context so requires, the singular number shall include the plural and the converse; and the use of any gender shall be deemed to include all genders.

Section 7. CONFLICTS. THESE BYLAWS ARE SUBORDINATE TO ALL PROVISIONS OF THE DECLARATION. ALL OF THE TERMS HEREOF, EXCEPT WHERE CLEARLY REPUGNANT TO THE CONTEXT, SHALL HAVE THE SAME MEANING AS IN THE DECLARATION. IN THE EVENT OF ANY CONFLICT BETWEEN THESE BYLAWS AND THE DECLARATION, THE PROVISIONS OF THE DECLARATION SHALL CONTROL, AND IN THE EVENT OF ANY CONFLICT BETWEEN THE AFORESAID DECLARATION AND ANY OF THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE PROVISIONS OF THE STATUTE SHALL CONTROL.

HYNEMAN-BRONZE, LLC

Manager