**2022 AMENDMENTS**

       The Covid 19 Pandemic was not contemplated at the time that the bylaws were written and approved by the MCDR membership.  The Covid 19 Pandemic has made it unwise, unhealthy, and unsafe for MCDR members to meet regularly in the same indoor space.  The term of the MCDR treasurer will expire in September 2022.  It is anticipated that the new treasurer will need a year of side-by-side training with the current treasurer.  In other words, the new treasurer should be in the same room as the current treasurer in order to learn all of the aspects of the treasurer’s duties.  Due to Covid 19, such training should not begin until such time as it is safe for the two parties to interact in the same room and to work side-by-side.

         WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, because of the danger created by the Covid 19 pandemic, training of the new treasurer will be postponed until it is safe for the current treasurer and the new treasurer to work side-by-side.  Accordingly, the current treasurer will continue to perform the duties of treasurer until such time as the training of the new treasurer is completed.  This resolution is intended as a one-time solution to a problem created by the Covid 19 pandemic.  Any other extensions of any MCDR officer’s terms of service will be addressed individually.

**RESOLUTION:**  To amend the Bylaws to provide for certain awards to be presented by the Board to certain members on a bi-annual basis.

**AWARDS**

Section 1 – The Board will present the following awards on a bi-annual basis:

1. **Sharon Pickett Lifetime Achievement Award** – Recognizes those individuals who have made outstanding contributions leading to the advancement of mediation practice in Maryland.  These contributions may be in the fields of:  Mediation Practice, Mediator Education, Performance-Based Assessments of Mediators, or Advocacy/Legislative work ensuring the highest standards of mediator competence.

1. **Stanley Rodbell Legacy Award** - presented bi-yearly to a mediation practitioner who does one or more of the following:

i. Shows dedication to the profession through long-term ethical practice

ii. Contributes expertise, leadership, time, or creativity to an organization that promotes mediation

iii. Mentors or assists other dispute resolution practitioners

iv. Innovates and creates new models or practices that further the practice of mediation

v. Conducts research that brings new insights valuable to ADR practitioner

1. **Sara Grebe Service Award** – Recognizes someone who demonstrates a consistent dedication to providing mediation services on a volunteer or pro bono basis.

1. **Book Award/Aspiring Mediator Award** –Recognizes exceptional scholarship of a new mediator

1. The Board may consider and create additional awards as it deems appropriate.

Section 2 – Awards Committee

There shall be a Committee of at least five individuals charged with implementing and overseeing the nomination, review and election process for the awards. The Awards Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and two members of the general membership.

Section 3 – Nominations, Review and Elections

1. The Awards Committee seek from the Board, each year by no later than the deadline date for nomination applications, input regarding characteristics or criteria that the Board believes should be considered or emphasized in award recipient selection.
2. The Awards Committee is responsible for recommending to the Board the recipient of the awards after completing the following:

i. By early February of each calendar year, the Awards Committee shall push through the Council’s listserv a Call for Nominations for the awards, which includes an application form for nominations.  
ii. At least two separate communications, though both may be by electronic means, should be provided to the MCDR membership with adequate time to respond by the declared deadline to the Call for Nominations.

iii. The Awards Committee shall review each application, perform appropriate follow-up investigation, and compare each nominee against the respective award’s characteristics and criteria.  
iv. The Awards Committee shall recommend the most worthy recipient for each award at a spring meeting of MCDR for confirmation by vote of the membership. Alternatively, the Awards Committee may proffer the most worthy recipients of each award for final decision by vote of the membership.

Section 4 – Plaques

Plaques will be given to the awardees and be paid for from the general treasury or from the proceeds of any awards banquet or ceremony.