owner may waive or otherwise escape liability for the assessment provided for herein by non-use of the common area or abandonment of this lot.

Section 9. Subordination of the Lien to Mortgages. The lien of the assessments provided for herein on any lot shall be subordinate to the lien of any first mortgage on such lot. Sale or transfer of any lot shall not affect the assessment lien; however, the sale or transfer of any lot pursuant to mortgage foreclosure or any proceeding in lieu thereof, shall extinguish the lien of such assessments as to payments which became due prior to such sale or transfer. No sale or transfer shall relieve such lot from liability for any assessments thereafter becoming due or from the lien thereof.

Section 10. Exempt Property. Any portion of the Property dedicated to, and accepted by, a local public authority and all properties owned by a charitable or non-profit organization exempt from taxation by the laws of the State of South Carolina shall be exempt from the assessments created herein, except no land or improvements devoted to dwelling use shall be exempt from said assessments.

ARTICLE VII.

EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE

Section 1. In addition to maintenance of the common area, the Association shall provide exterior maintenance upon each lot which is subject to assessment hereunder, as follows: Stain and/or paint the exterior of residence, repair, replace and care for roofs, gutters, downspouts, exterior building surfaces, trees, shrubs, grass, walks, and other such exterior improvements. Such exterior maintenance shall not include glass, surfaces, or doors. In order to enable the Association to accomplish the foregoing, there is hereby reserved to the Association the right to unobstructed access over and upon each lot at reasonable times to perform maintenance as provided in this Article.

Section 2. Any owner who fences or encloses any portion of his lot (which fence or enclosure shall require the prior approval of the Association) may plant trees, shrubs, flowers,