



DC Libertarian Party

Bylaws

Bylaws of the DC Libertarian Party

Preamble

People should be allowed to live as they choose so long as they do not initiate violence or engage in coercion, theft, or fraud. We adopt the Statement of Principles of the national Libertarian Party.

I. Name

The name of this organization shall be the DC Libertarian Party, hereinafter referred to as DCLP.

II. Object

The object of this organization shall be to elect Libertarians to public office within the District of Columbia.

III. Membership

Section 1. General Membership: Any person registered to vote as Libertarian in the District of Columbia shall be considered a member of the DCLP.

Section 2. Dues-paying Membership: Any resident of the District of Columbia shall be considered a dues-paying member of the DCLP provided they:

1. Already qualify as a general member under Section 1,
2. and have donated at least sixty dollars (\$60) in monetary or in-kind contributions to the DCLP in the past 365 days.

IV. Convention

Section 1. The DCLP shall hold a DCLP Convention (hereafter referred to as "Convention") in even-numbered years for the purpose of choosing Candidates for Public Office as well as whatever other business deemed necessary and proper. This includes, but is not limited to, amending bylaws, choosing delegates to the Libertarian Party National Convention, and filling vacancies in the Executive Committee. This convention shall take place before the beginning date for a political party to file its list of candidates with the DC Board of Election or any successor entity. If the beginning date for a minor political party to file its list of candidates with the Secretary of State is prior to February 1 of the

even-numbered year, then the Convention may be held up to 60 days before the first date to file even if that moves the Convention to the previous year.

Section 2. The DCLP shall hold a Convention in odd-numbered years anytime from January to May for the purpose of electing Executive Committee members, amending bylaws, and whatever other business deemed necessary and proper.

Section 3. A special Convention shall be held within one-hundred and twenty (120) days upon petition of one-fifth of the DCLP members or a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee. Such a petition shall state the business of the special Convention, and no other business shall be considered at such a Convention.

Section 4. All DCLP members are qualified to be delegates to a DCLP Convention. No Convention fee may be levied of any DCLP member to participate in the business sessions of any Convention; however, fees may be required for participation in other convention events. A quorum of a Convention shall be a majority of the dues-paying members serving as delegates to the Convention. The Convention Secretary shall provide the Executive Committee with draft convention minutes no later than ten (10) days after the conclusion of the State Convention, and the Executive Committee is empowered to approve Convention minutes. Only Dues-paying DCLP members shall be eligible to serve as delegates to amend bylaws, choose delegates to the National Convention, and fill vacancies in the Executive

Committee. All other business, including the selection of candidates for public office, is conducted by any DCLP members serving as delegates.

Section 5. The Executive Committee shall publish the time, date, and location for Conventions at least sixty (60) days before the State Convention. This publication will be sufficient if it is prominently placed on the DCLP's official website. The DCLP shall mail notice to all dues-paying members at least 30 days before the Convention.

Section 6. A nomination for "None of the above" (NOTA) shall be considered valid. Should NOTA receive a majority of the vote in the balloting for any office or candidacy, the names of all nominees shall be kept on the ballot but the nominations for that office shall be reopened for additional nominees and another ballot taken. In any election held at the State Convention, should NOTA receive a majority on two successive ballots, then no candidate shall be nominated for that office.

Section 7. The business session of each State Convention shall be recorded by video device and a copy of the recording shall be provided to the Executive Committee along with the approved minutes from the state convention no later than thirty (30) days after the Convention. In the event the proceedings of a State Convention are challenged by a DCLP member, the recording of the convention and its minutes shall be provided to the Executive Committee immediately - even if the minutes are in draft form.

Section 8. The DCLP may nominate Candidates for Public Office by ballot of the Convention during an even-numbered year.

1. Candidates for President and Vice President shall be nominated by the National Convention of the Libertarian Party. The DCLP shall certify this nomination for District of Columbia elections officials within thirty (30) days of the conclusion of the National Convention, or in accordance with District of Columbia Law.
2. Candidates for all offices shall be nominated at the DC primary election, unless the DCLP does not qualify under District law for a primary election, in which case they shall be nominated at the Convention. Only one candidate may be selected to be the nominee of the Libertarian Party for each partisan office, with the exception of DC Council where the Party may select as many nominees as there are seats up for election.
3. Should any vacancy arise for the candidacy for any office, the Executive Committee is empowered to select a replacement by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.
4. The Executive Committee is empowered, by a two-thirds vote, to place a candidate on the primary or general ballot, or remove a candidate from the ballot, to the extent provided by District law.
5. The DCLP shall file a list of the nominated candidates with District of Columbia elections officials, in accordance with District of Columbia law.
6. Except for President and Vice President, candidates must be DCLP members.

Section 9. National Convention Delegates. The DCLP may nominate delegates to the Libertarian Party National Convention by majority vote of the Convention during an even-numbered year.

1. Should any vacancy arise prior to the start of the National Convention, the

Executive Committee is empowered to select a replacement by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

2. Should a vacancy arise after the start of the National Convention, the credentialed delegates to the National Convention are empowered to select replacements by a majority vote. This vote shall be conducted by the delegate Chair.

V. Executive Committee

Section 1. The Executive Committee (EC) of the DCLP is responsible for handling the affairs and business of the DCLP.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall consist of seven members: Chair, Vice-Chair of Communications, Vice-Chair of Finance & Compliance, Vice-Chair of Fundraising, Vice-Chair of Neighborhoods & Coalitions, Vice-Chair of Publicity & Events, and Vice-Chair of Recruitment & Retention.

Section 3. The Executive Committee members shall be elected at the DC primary election, unless the DCLP does not qualify under District law for a primary election, in which case they shall be elected by a majority vote of the Convention. Executive Committee members shall serve for two years until the first day of the month following the primary election or end of the Convention at which their successors are elected. In the event of a vacancy in an Executive Committee position, the Executive Committee shall fill the vacancy by Pro-Tempore appointment (a majority vote of the

EC members), until the next Convention. In the event of vacancy in the position of Vice-Chair of Finance & Compliance, the Chair shall assume those duties automatically until the vacancy is filled.

Section 4. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Bylaws, no member who has been convicted of a felony against person or property shall be an endorsed candidate, officer, or hold any other position of leadership in either the DCLP or an affiliate without the consent of two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee members in favor.

Section 5. The Executive Committee members must be dues-paying members of the DCLP. No member shall hold more than one office at a time within the DCLP. Members of the DCLP Executive Committee shall not be restricted from serving in officer or representative positions within an Affiliate. The Executive Committee members shall perform the duties prescribed by these bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the DCLP. These duties shall include the following:

1. The Chair shall preside at all DCLP Executive Committee meetings and Conventions.
2. The Vice-Chair of Communications, who shall also concurrently have the title of Secretary, shall coordinate internal and external communications, record and maintain minutes of party meetings and conventions, and all non-financial records of the DCLP including but not limited to these bylaws and all committee reports. The Vice-Chair of Communications shall also follow all duties required by District of Columbia law, including filing a list

of candidates for partisan public office, filing a certificate of existence at least annually (or after any change to the EC or bylaws), and certifying the nomination for President and Vice-President of the United States as selected by the Libertarian Party National Convention.

3. The Vice-Chair of Finance & Compliance, who shall also concurrently have the title of Treasurer, shall maintain the DCLP's bank accounts, process FEC and OCF filings, deposit all revenues, and pay all bills. A formal Finance Report shall be presented annually, at the Convention. The DCLP's financial records shall be maintained in accordance with all applicable laws and Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).
4. The Vice-Chair of Fundraising shall coordinate fundraising activities, maintain fundraising records, and be a point of contact for donors.
5. The Vice-Chair of Neighborhoods & Coalitions shall coordinate the calendar of events in the District of Columbia where the DCLP or its candidates should be present, maintain contacts and awareness of key issues in DC's neighborhoods and ANCs, and lead DCLP exhibiting and other activities at neighborhood and District-wide events.
6. The Vice-Chair of Publicity shall design party outreach materials and coordinate DCLP get-out-the-vote efforts.
7. The Vice-Chair of Recruitment & Retention shall conduct outreach for new membership as well as ensuring current members stay involved, including sending out membership notices of meetings and conventions.

Section 6. Meetings of the DCLP Executive Committee shall be held at least quarterly, either in person or by publicly-available electronic means. Additionally, the Executive Committee shall maintain an e-mail list or message board for conducting business in between quarterly meetings. A majority of the members of the

Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum. Executive Committee Meetings shall be open to all DCLP members, except when in Executive Session. Minutes of all Executive Committee meetings shall be posted on the DCLP website no later than ten (10) days after they have been approved.

Section 7. Notice of the date, time, and location of Executive Committee Meetings shall be posted on the DCLP web site within twenty-four (24) hours of when Executive Committee members receive such notice.

VI. Parliamentary Procedure

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the DCLP in all cases to which they apply, and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws, any special rules of order the DCLP may adopt, and any statutes applicable to the DCLP.

VII. Adoption & Amendments

Section 1. These bylaws shall operate on an interim basis until approved by a majority vote of DCLP members at Convention in 2020, with the Chair elected in the 2018 primary election.

Section 2. These bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of two-

thirds of the dues-paying member delegates at any Convention.

Section 3. To be considered in convention, all bylaws' amendment proposals must be presented in writing to the DCLP Executive Committee at least seven days before the Convention. An email address which can be used for these submissions shall be posted prominently on the web site. After a bylaws proposal is submitted, the DCLP shall post it on the DCLP web site within three days.

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