

Rules Packet 2017

Libertarian Party of Florida, Inc. Constitution

Motions to Amend 2017-02-05 Edition

Motion # 2017-ABM-C-01

Title: Motion to amend Constitution Art I, Sect. 2 and 3

Text: Motion by the Rules Committee renaming the Article, striking existing Sections 2 and 3, and replacing with a new Section 2.

ARTICLE I Name & Object Purpose

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Libertarian Party of Florida, Inc., hereinafter referred to as the LPF.

~~Section 2. The object and purpose of the LPF is to engage in political action in the State of Florida, to serve as an affiliate organization of the Libertarian Party in national politics, and to serve as a nucleus for designated county affiliate organizations and for LPF members in matters of statewide political action.~~

~~Section 3. The purpose of the LPF is to implement and to give voice to the principles embodied in the Statement of Principles currently adopted by the LPF by:~~

~~A. Supporting candidates for national office, recruiting and supporting candidates for state and Congressional offices, and aiding local affiliates upon request.~~

~~B. Promoting, chartering, and coordinating county affiliate parties within the State of Florida.~~

~~C. Entering into political information activities, including the promoting and securing of party members.~~

Section 2. The LPF adopts the Libertarian Party Statement of Principles and is organized to implement and give voice to it by: functioning as an affiliate of the Libertarian Party in national politics and engaging in political activity in the State of Florida as a libertarian political entity separate and distinct from all other political parties or movements; promoting Sustaining Membership in the Libertarian Party; moving public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office; chartering

affiliate parties throughout the State of Florida and promoting their growth and activities; supporting Libertarian Party candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States, and recruiting and supporting LPF candidates for state and Congressional political office; and entering into public information activities, including securing LPF voters.

Motion # 2017-ABM-C-02

Title: Motion to amend Constitution Art II, Sects. 1 and 5

Text: Motion by the Rules Committee to amend Constitution, Article II, Sections 1 and 5, striking some sections and adding language.

ARTICLE II Membership

Section 1. LPF membership is open to any LPF voter who ~~whoever~~ signs the pledge: "I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals," and asks to be a member of the LPF.

Section 2. No change in the Bylaws or Standing Rules may have the effect of imposing a head tax on the membership.

Section 3. No change in the Bylaws or Standing Rules may have the effect of disenfranchising a member.

Section 4. No change in the Bylaws or Standing Rules shall deny the autonomy of an individual member or an affiliate party, except as provided in the Constitution.

Section 5. Certain rights and privileges of membership, including delegate status, committee appointments and observation of committee meetings, holding party office, exercise of voting rights in the conduct of any Libertarian Party of Florida business, and the right to bring business before the Annual Business Meeting, shall be available only to LPF members who are registered LPF voters in the state of Florida and shall not be available ~~unavailable~~ to members and officers of any other political party. ~~registered in the state of Florida. Members and officers of other political parties registered in the state of Florida~~ Persons ineligible for such rights and privileges may participate in discussion on items of business brought before the membership, subject to the discretion of the Chair or by a two-thirds (2/3s) majority ~~majority~~ vote of the body.

ARTICLE III Officers, Executive Committee & Standing Committees

Section 1. The Officers of the LPF shall be a Chairperson, a Vice Chairperson, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The duties and election of the Officers shall be specified in the By-Laws.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Officers, three (3) Directors-at-Large, one (1) Regional Representative for each region elected at the Annual Business Meeting within the provision of the By-Laws. The powers and duties of the Executive Committee shall be prescribed in the Bylaws and Standing Rules, to provide the control and management of all the affairs, properties, and funds of the LPF consistent with this Constitution. Deficit spending shall be prohibited.

Section 3. Standing Committees

A. Standing Committees of the LPF shall include the following:

Candidate Committee
Communications Committee
Membership Committee
Platform Committee
Rules Committee
Selection Committee

B. Committees and Committee Chairs shall be appointed by the Chair of the LPF with the approval of the Executive Committee, unless otherwise provided in the Constitution. Removal of persons on a committee shall need the approval of the Executive Committee. Actions of all Committees shall be reported to the Executive Committee.

Section 4. Rules Committee

A. The Rules Committee will be composed of the LPF Chair, LPF Secretary, and three (3) other members of the party not on the Executive Committee, appointed annually by the Chair to serve a one-year term. The Rules Committee shall be responsible for interpreting the Constitution based on current Florida Statutes and shall prepare and submit amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws for a vote by the membership at the Annual Business Meeting.

B. The Rules Committee may propose to the Executive Committee at a regular business meeting, to edit the Constitution and By-laws for grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors. Any edits done at a regular business meeting shall not change the current intention of the rule being edited.

Section 5. Selection Committee

A. The Selection Committee shall consist of five (5) members, elected at the Annual Business Meeting from diverse regions of the state. Vacancies on this committee occurring after the Annual Business Meeting may be filled by the Chair with the approval of the Executive Committee.

B. The Selection Committee shall be responsible for establishing guidelines the committee will follow when contacted by, or presented

with, information in regards to any Florida candidate who seeks certification by the LPF.

1. The Selection Committee shall establish minimum criteria which a prospective candidate must meet before obtaining approval from the Selection Committee and shall specify this criteria in the Standing Rules.

2. The Selection Committee shall recommend candidates to the Executive Committee for certification who have been approved for recommendation by majority vote.

3. The Selection Committee shall make regular reports to the LPF Executive Committee.

(c) The Selection Committee shall perform its duties according to Article IV, Section 5C of the Bylaws.

Section 6. Platform Committee

The Platform Committee shall be nominated by the Chair of the LPF with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee and contain at least three members whose task will be to present a combined document of proposed changes and additions to the Party Platform at the Annual Business Meeting. It shall perform its duties to present a document as outlined in Article V.

Section 7. Membership Committee

The Membership Committee shall be appointed by the Chair and confirmed by the Executive Committee. It shall consist of at least five (5) members of the LPF with the majority NOT being members of the Executive Committee. The Committee must include the LPF Secretary, who maintains the membership records, with assistance and guidance from this committee. The principal duties of the Membership Committee shall be responsible for increasing the membership in the LPF and for increasing the LPF voter registration. The Membership Committee is also responsible for recruiting members both for the Affiliate and for the LPF.

Section 8. Communications Committee

The Communications Committee shall be appointed for a two-year term by a majority of the Executive Committee. The Communications Committee is tasked with developing and implementing a plan or plans to facilitate two-way communications between the LPF and county affiliates, and the LPF and other interested parties. Plan(s) should be particularly focused on effective implementation of social media technology, in addition to using conventional channels of communication. The Communications Committee shall also function as the distribution channel for LPF press releases, and perform other communications tasks as the Executive Committee may delegate from time to time.

9. The Candidate Committee

The Candidate Committee shall be appointed by the LPF Chair and approved by the Executive Committee and shall consist of at least five (5) members of the LPF. The principal duties of the Candidate Committee shall include but not be limited to identifying potential Libertarian Party candidates, directing and preparing potential candidates for review by the Selection Committee, to train vetted and approved Libertarian Party candidates for their respective races, and to identify and train campaign staff members to serve on the campaign staff for vetted and approved Libertarian Party Candidates. Should other duties of the committee arise which are not already specifically listed in this section, the Chair may make a motion as such to the Executive Committee or the LPF Chair for their approval before taking action as a committee. The Chair of the Candidate Committee shall present regular reports on the committee's work to the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE IV Affiliates

Section 1. Affiliate organizations which choose to become affiliated parties of the LPF shall apply for official designation on a standard petition form for County Affiliates, as adopted by the Executive Committee and subject to the Bylaws and Standing Rules.

ARTICLE V Conventions & Meetings

Section 1. The LPF shall hold an annual convention in accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws and Standing Rules.

Section 2. The conduct of the business and meetings of the Executive Committee shall be prescribed in the Bylaws and Standing Rules.

ARTICLE VI Statement of Principles, Platform & Nominations

The Statement of Principles of the Libertarian Party is hereby ratified. The LPF may develop a Statement of Principles consistent with the Libertarian Party's as a preamble to the Platform developed by the Convention, and as prescribed by this Constitution, By-Laws, and Standing Rules.

Motion 2017-ABM-C-03

Title: Motion to amend Constitution, inserting new Art VII and renumbering

Text: Motion by the Rules Committee to insert a new Article VII and renumbering.

ARTICLE VII Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the LPF in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with other rules adopted by the LPF.

Motion # 2017-ABM-C-04

Title: Motion to amend Constitution renumbered Art VIII (formerly VII), Section 2

Text: Motion by the Rules Committee to strike and insert portions of Sect.2 C, D, and E

ARTICLE VIII Adoption & Amendments

Section 1. This Constitution shall be adopted when approved by two-thirds of the delegates of the 1974 Convention.

Section 2. Amendments to the Constitution may be made in the following manner:

A. Amendments must be published among ~~the Executive Committee, the County Affiliates and~~ on the LPF's official, public, and functioning website for notification of all members in good standing, thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Business Meeting and passed by two-thirds of the members present at that meeting.

B. Upon establishment of affiliates in each county in Florida, a proposed Amendment can be accepted by a three-fourths vote of the Executive Committee and ratified by three-fourths of the county affiliates.

C. If any term of this Constitution or any subordinate document is to any extent illegal, invalid, or incapable of being enforced, such term shall be excluded to the extent of such illegality, invalidity, or unenforceability; all other terms hereof shall remain in full force and effect; and, to the extent permitted and possible the illegal, invalid, or unenforceable term shall be deemed replaced by a term stated or implied by the adopted parliamentary authority that is legal, valid, and enforceable and that comes closest to expressing the intention of such illegal, invalid, or unenforceable term.

D. The LPF ByLaws shall be subordinate to this Constitution. The LPF Standing Rules shall be subordinate to the LPF ByLaws. Any other rule or procedure shall be subordinate to the LPF Standing rules. In any conflict between these documents, the conflicting term from the subordinate document shall be deemed unenforceable.

E. Immaterial changes may be made under the provisions of Article III, Section 4, B. of this Constitution.

Libertarian Party of Florida, Inc.

By-Laws

Motions to Amend 2016-04-09

Motion # 2017-ABM-B-01

Title: Motion to amend By-Laws Art III, Section 2

Text: Motion by the Rules Committee to amend By-Laws Article III, Sect 2, adding language to 2A, striking all of B, C, D, and E, and adding new B, C, D, and E, striking portions of F and replacing with new language, and striking all of G.

By-Laws Article III, Sect 2 as follows:

A. No offices shall be combined and all offices shall be filled.

~~B. The Executive Committee shall fill vacancies of Regional Representatives, Committee Chairs, and Committee members by appointment of the LPF Chair with confirmation of the appointment as indicated by a majority of the votes cast by the Executive Committee.~~

~~C. All nominations to fill vacancies shall be submitted to the LPF chair.~~

~~D. The Executive Committee shall fill vacancies of elected positions of LPF Chair, LPF Vice Chair, LPF Secretary, LPF Treasurer, and Directors at Large as indicated by a majority of the votes cast by the Executive Committee via roll call vote.~~

~~(1) Each nominee for a vacated position listed in this section shall be offered the floor for introductions for no more than (2) two minutes.~~

~~(2) Any candidate may choose to yield half of the maximum allotted time to another candidate.~~

~~(3) By proxy introductions of candidates shall be limited to (1) one minute.~~

~~E. The LPF Executive Committee should be notified by a resigning member of the Executive Committee within seven (7) days of their resignation. If the member does not submit a resignation, their unexcused absence from three monthly Executive Committee meetings or six bi-weekly Executive Committee meetings shall be considered a resignation effective immediately.~~

B. The officers shall be ranked, in order, as follows: the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson, the Secretary, and the Treasurer. The highest ranked remaining officer shall preside over the LPF and its meetings. If all offices are vacant, each Director at large in order of their seat number shall preside. If all offices and Directors at large are vacant, the Regional Representatives shall elect a chairperson pro-tempore from their ranks to fill offices as described below.

C. Every LPF Executive Committee office and seat shall be deemed vacant

following the rules provided in Florida law for political party office vacancies. In addition to those rules, unexcused absence from three monthly Executive Committee meetings or six bi-weekly Executive Committee meetings shall be considered a vacancy.

D. The presiding officer shall appoint a qualified and willing LPF member to fill any vacant office or seat. The appointee shall be vested immediately with the duties and powers of the office. The LPF shall notify the Florida Department of Elections of any change in the filing certificate, including a change of officers, within five (5) days to satisfy the requirements of Florida Law.

E. If the Annual Business Meeting will occur within 60 days, the vested appointee will retain the office until that meeting. If the Annual Business Meeting will not occur within 60 days, the Executive Committee shall, at its next regularly scheduled meeting, elect a qualified LPF member to the office. The election shall be by voice vote in order of nomination. The vested appointee shall be the first nominee voted upon.

F. Any member elected or appointed to serve on the Executive Committee or other LPF committee shall be a member of the ~~Libertarian Party of Florida~~ LPF, and shall, upon request, show proof of registration with the State of Florida as a Libertarian voter in the State of Florida to vote in the LPF.

~~G. The Chair may appoint temporary officers and at-large directors to meet State determined time limits for notifying them of the changes of Executive Committee members. These temporarily filled positions shall be confirmed at the next Executive Committee Meeting. At the request of two members of the Executive Committee a properly noticed meeting shall be called to elect qualified members to replace the temporary appointments for the entire remaining term.~~

Motion # 2017-ABM-B-02

Title: Motion to amend By-Laws Art III, Section 3 C

Text: Motion by the Rules Committee to amend By-Laws Article III, Section 3 C, striking some portions and replacing with new language.

C. The Secretary shall serve as recorder for all meetings of the party, conventions, and Executive Committee. The Secretary shall be the custodian of the minutes of all meetings, correspondence, committee reports, and the Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules, and shall make provision for legal service to the LPF. The Secretary of ~~The Libertarian Party of Florida~~ the LPF shall also serve as ~~the Secretary~~ a member of the Membership Committee, and ~~shall be~~ responsible for maintaining party membership records.

Motion # 2017-ABM-B-03

Title: Motion to amend By-Laws Art III, Section 3 F (c)

Text: Motion by the Rules Committee to amend By-Laws, Article III, Section 3F (c), striking some language and adding new language.

F. (a) The Executive Committee shall be responsible for creating a committee to maintain a current contact list of experts in fields related to election issues or interest in Libertarian candidates for use as data and advisory sources.

(b) The Executive Committee shall establish a legislative review committee for the purpose of identifying Florida laws for change or repeal, and for making specific wording recommendations for use by Libertarian candidates and officers.

(c) LPF established committees may use ~~Facebook~~ an online platform as a forum for its meetings, providing notice of the ~~domain~~ meeting's website address on the LPF website and manner in which non-committee LPF members may enter credentials to view, but not participate, in committee discussions and business.

Motion # 2017-ABM-B-04

Title: Motion to amend By-Laws Art III, Section 4C

Text: Motion by the Rules Committee to

4 C A quorum of the Executive Committee, shall be ~~eight (8) members of the Committee.~~ a majority of its seated members.

Motion # 2017-ABM-B-05

Title: Motion to amend By-Laws Art IV, Section 3

Text: Motion by the Rules Committee to amend By-Laws, Article IV, Section 3 by striking portions of A. and inserting new language, and adding new language to B.

A. ~~Delegates shall be members as prescribed in ARTICLE II of the Constitution on the day of commencement of the annual business meeting and a delegate must be a verifiably registered Libertarian Party of Florida voter in the state of Florida prior to the start of the annual business meeting.~~ Any person who is both an LPF registered voter and an LPF member at least sixty (60) days before the start of the Annual Business Meeting and who maintains that membership and registration through the Annual Business Meeting shall be eligible to be a delegate to that meeting. Delegate status may be denied or revoked by a 2/3 majority vote of the Executive Committee if a potential delegate has been found to have violated the non-aggression ~~principle~~ pledge or for other serious cause.

B. Each delegate must sign the Libertarian Party of Florida Affirmation of Qualifications for Delegate form or other equivalent form approved by the LPF EC.

Motion # 2017-ABM-B-06

Title: Motion to amend By-Laws Art IV, Sect 5 A

Text: Motion by the Rules Committee to amend By-Laws Article IV, Section 5 A by Striking some language and adding new language

- A. ~~The Executive Committee Chairperson shall appoint members to the Convention Committee with the approval of the Executive Committee members to the Convention Committee at least one hundred eighty (180) days before the date of the annual convention. The Executive Committee shall also notify the state party members at least ninety (90) days before the Annual Business Meeting. The Executive Committee shall assume all responsibility for the Annual Business Meeting, including but not limited to: the annual business of the Libertarian Party of Florida, hosting events, the rental of accommodations to hold the annual business meeting and all other events surrounding said meeting. The LPF will split in a 50/40/10 manner all net profits from annual business meeting with the following breakdown: 50% to the state party, 10% to the host county affiliate if in good standing, at the time of selection, and 40% to be split equally amongst the remaining county affiliated in good standing at the time of the conclusion of the convention. Otherwise the split shall be 50/50 with half to the state party and half split equally amongst all county affiliates in good standing at time of conclusion of the convention.~~

