

LIBERTARIAN PARTY of YORK COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA BYLAWS

ARTICLE I. NAME

Pursuant to the Bylaws of the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania (LPPA), these Bylaws establish the Libertarian Party of York County, PA (which may be referred to as Libertarian Party of York or LPYorkPA) as an affiliate of the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE AND ACTIVITIES

The purpose of the LPYorkPA is to move public policy in a libertarian direction by conducting the following types of activities in a manner consistent with the Statement of Principles of the National Libertarian Party (LNC) and the Statement of Principles of The Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania: effectively and faithfully disseminate libertarian philosophy; participate in volunteer activities and community outreach to lead by example through the ideas of libertarianism and voluntaryism; nominate candidates for any local political district at least partially within York County; and support local, county, state and national Libertarian Party candidates.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Individuals generally supporting the principles and purposes of the LPYorkPA may become a member of the LPYorkPA in accordance with these Bylaws. Only members in good standing shall have a vote in any LPYorkPA proceeding.

Section 1 – Membership Requirements

A person shall be considered a member of the LPYorkPA in good standing when all the following requirements are satisfied:

- a. Making application to the LPYorkPA. Application may be made in person, via email or communication directly with a member of the LPYorkPA Executive Board.
- b. Being a resident of York County or an adjacent county; however, an LPYorkPA member may not also be a voting member of any other county LPPA affiliate.
- c. Establishing and maintaining good attendance and participation which requires attending at least two regular business meetings within the most recent six calendar months or four regular meetings within the most recent eleven months (counting the current month).

- d. Being current on LPYorkPA membership dues, if any.
- e. Understanding and verbally agreeing to the following statement: ***"I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate either engaging in fraud or initiating the use of force as a means of achieving political or social goals."***
- f. Not holding an elected or appointed public position under any political party other than the state or national Libertarian Party and not holding any elected or appointed internal party position with any political party other than the state or national Libertarian Party.

Section 2 –Membership Dues

Membership dues (if any) may be set by majority vote at a regular meeting of the membership. The Treasurer shall make every effort to immediately deposit dues into the LPYorkPA bank account.

Section 3 – Suspension of Membership

An individual's membership may be suspended or terminated by a two-thirds vote at a regularly scheduled meeting of the membership. A member may be suspended or terminated if membership requirements have not been maintained or for cause: misrepresenting the principles of the Party; endorsing or campaigning, in the name of the Party, for a candidate for public office in opposition to one nominated by the Party; endorsing or campaigning for a candidate for public office in opposition to one nominated by the Party while holding a position on the LPYorkPA Executive Board or LPPA or for running for office purporting to have been nominated or endorsed by the Party without having received such nomination or endorsement; or for other reasonable cause. A suspended member shall be notified of the suspension by the Secretary in writing, including the reason(s). Terms of suspension shall be: 3 months, 6 months, 1 year or indefinite, depending upon either the will of the membership or severity of cause(s).

ARTICLE IV. ORGANIZATION

Section 1 – Officers

The officers of the LPYorkPA shall be a Chair, a Vice-chair, a Secretary and a Treasurer. All officers must be members in good standing of the LPYorkPA and registered to vote in Pennsylvania as a Libertarian. They must be quite familiar with these LPYorkPA Bylaws. The Chair and Vice Chair should have a basic working knowledge of Robert's Rules sufficient to enable them to conduct a reasonably orderly meeting which properly accomplishes official business. The Treasurer should be comfortable using a computer spreadsheet. Officers shall be elected at an Annual Organization Meeting (AOM) of the LPYorkPA in accordance with Article V, Section 8, and shall take office immediately upon adjournment of the AOM.

Section 2 – Duties of the Chair

- a. The Chair shall preside at all LPYorkPA meetings and at all Executive Committee meetings. He/she shall be the chief executive officer of the LPYorkPA.
- b. The Chair shall prepare a proposed agenda for all scheduled meetings and it shall be the Chair's duty to see that the proposed agenda is presented to the membership as soon as is reasonably practicable in accordance with these Bylaws and RONR.
- c. The Chair shall ensure that all required meetings are scheduled or rescheduled as necessary (whenever this has not been done by majority vote of the members) and held.
- d. The Chair shall have authority to draw from the treasury a maximum of \$50 without prior approval to cover a bona fide LPYorkPA expense with a deadline that cannot wait for a vote at the next meeting. All such withdrawals must be specifically reported by the Chair or Treasurer at the next meeting.
- e. The Chair shall serve as the first alternate representative for the LPYorkPA to the LPPA Board of Directors if the Vice-chair is unable to fulfill this role. If neither the Vice-chair nor the Chair can attend, the Chair shall have the authority to appoint an alternate representative.

Section 3 – Duties of the Vice-chair

- a. The Vice-chair shall assist the Chair and shall preside at meetings when requested by the Chair and when the Chair is not present.
- b. The Vice-chair shall be the primary representative for the LPYorkPA to the LPPA Board of Directors. If a Vice-chair is not selected, the Chair shall assume this role.
- c. The position of Vice-chair may, from time to time, not be filled. In this event, the duly elected Chair shall assume the role(s) of Vice-chair, including serving as the primary representative to the LPPA Board of Directors, and appoint an alternate if necessary.

Section 4 – Duties of the Secretary

- a. The Secretary shall take and keep minutes of all official meetings. S/he will post the minutes on the LPYorkPA website (if available) for review by members within five days of each meeting and will compile any corrections which may be noted for presentation and action at the next meeting. If there are no corrections or objections prior to adjournment of the following meeting, the minutes shall be considered approved as posted.
- b. The LPYorkPA Secretary shall, in a timely manner, submit the minutes for each meeting to the LPPA Secretary in order to satisfy the quarterly activity report requirement.

- c. The Secretary shall record as an addendum to the prior meeting's minutes any actions taken by the Executive Board between meetings, or at a caucus with other county committee(s). Any such addendum must be read aloud at the following meeting and posted on the website.
- d. The Secretary will assist the Chair in establishing and disseminating a written proposed agenda prior to each scheduled meeting.
- e. The Secretary shall send all required email notifications to members.
- f. The Secretary shall preside at meetings when the Chair and Vice Chair are absent.

Section 5 – Duties of the Treasurer

- a. The Treasurer shall be responsible for keeping track of all LPYorkPA finances and for timely filing of required financial reports. S/he shall take care to accurately record all receipts and expenditures, including the source or purpose of each and maintain a running balance. The Treasurer shall keep organized, understandable records in a binder or ledger and/or computer spreadsheet.
- b. The Treasurer shall report the status of the LPYorkPA banking account at all scheduled meetings, including the balance as of the previous report, receipts and expenditures since then,

and the current balance. When the Treasurer is unable to attend a meeting, s/he shall provide said report to the Secretary for presentation at the meeting. Prior to or within three days following each meeting, the Treasurer shall post each report on the LPYorkPA website for review by all members in good standing.
- c. The Treasurer shall establish and maintain a bank account. It will be the responsibility of the Treasurer to maintain the LPYorkPA bank account to remain in compliance with any local, state or federal law pertaining to banking regulations.
- d. The Treasurer shall not allow LPYorkPA obligations to exceed available funds.

Section 6 – Executive Board

The Executive Board (EB) shall consist of elected officers. A quorum of the EB shall be three of the officers, or 2/3 in the event no Vice Chair has been elected. The EB shall be empowered to conduct any LPYorkPA business which is too urgent to be held for decision at the next scheduled meeting. EB decisions shall be made by telephone, email or face-to-face meeting. However, any business or motions approved by the EB alone must meet a two-thirds (2/3) voting threshold, not a simple majority, to be valid. In matters of extreme importance and urgency, the Chair is authorized to act alone if a bona fide effort to vote

cannot be completed in time. Any action taken by the EB or Chair must be recorded by the Secretary and reported aloud at the following scheduled meeting.

Section 7 – Judicial Committee

Whenever AOM attendance exceeds fourteen LPYorkPA members, a Judicial Committee (JC) shall be elected (after the officers) in accordance with Article V, Section 8, and shall take office immediately upon adjournment of the AOM. It shall consist of three members in good standing who are registered to vote in Pennsylvania as a Libertarian, none of whom may be an officer. The JC shall be responsible for adjudicating any disputes which may arise regarding the application or interpretation of these LPYorkPA Bylaws and shall be the final body of appeal for any such disputes. The JC shall elect its own chair. A quorum of the JC shall be all three of its members.

ARTICLE V. OPERATIONS

Section 1 – Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, shall govern the LPYorkPA in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Bylaws or any special rules of order of the LPYorkPA.

Section 2 – Annual Organization Meeting

The LPYorkPA shall hold an Annual Organization Meeting (AOM) to elect or re-elect officers and conduct such business as may properly come before it in compliance with its Bylaws and Rules. Only members who have attended at least four business meetings within the most recent eleven calendar months (counting the current month) and who are registered to vote in Pennsylvania as a Libertarian may vote at an AOM. A quorum at an AOM shall be either five voting members or a majority of the voting members who are attending the AOM, whichever is larger. Unless sufficient unusual circumstances make another date more suitable, the AOM shall be held between the fifteenth (15th) of February and the thirtieth (30th) of March of each year. At least thirty days in advance of the scheduled date, notice of the date, time and location for the AOM shall be prominently posted on the LPYorkPA website or LPPA BaseCamp. Also, all current members

shall be notified by email. If amendment(s) to the Bylaws are to be considered, the email will refer members to the LPYorkPA website or LPPA BaseCamp where all proposed amendments will be published.

Section 3 – Regular Meetings

The LPYorkPA shall hold regular meetings of the membership, nominally on a monthly basis, but not more than seventy-five days apart. A quorum for a regular meeting shall be: either an Executive Board quorum; or a majority of members in good standing, but not less than four members (even if three happens to be a majority) and shall include at least one of the officers.

Meetings are open to non-members by invitation of a member. Meetings are open to members in good standing of the LPPA or any neighboring state or county affiliate. Speaking time for members of the LPPA Executive Board or Regional Representative is always granted.

At least ten days in advance of the scheduled date, notice of the date, time and location for each meeting shall be prominently posted on the LPYorkPA website or the LPPA BaseCamp site; also, all current members shall be notified by email. Notifications may also be made on the LPYorkPA official Twitter/X or Facebook accounts.

Section 4 – Virtual Attendance of Meetings

The LPYorkPA may make efforts to provide a method of virtual attendance to all business meetings and AOM. However, this will not always be possible due to any number or combination of external or logistical issues outside of the LPYorkPA's control. All changes to meeting schedule or availability of a virtual option will be communicated to the membership by email, phone, the LPYorkPA website or LPPA BaseCamp site. Notifications may also be made on the LPYorkPA official Twitter/X or Facebook accounts.

Section 5 – Nomination of Candidates

The LPYorkPA shall be solely responsible for nominating candidates for county-wide or local offices entirely within York County by majority vote at an AOM or a regular meeting. For an electoral district partially contained within York County, nominations will be made in caucus with the recognized county committee(s) of any adjacent county (or counties) in which the district lies. The LPPA Board of Directors may represent any such counties which do not have recognized committees. In order to be nominated by the LPYorkPA, a candidate must be a member in good standing of the LPPA and also his or her voter registration must be Libertarian, unless prohibited by law. Candidates for Special Elections, substitute candidates as provided in the PA Election Code, and proxy candidates for petitioning purposes also may be nominated.

Section 5 – Endorsements

In the absence of a Libertarian Party candidate, the LPYorkPA may, by majority vote, decide to endorse another candidate. In order to receive an LPYorkPA endorsement, a candidate must be clearly and decisively more supportive of libertarian principles than any other candidate in the same race.

Section 6 – FEC Compliance

It is the LPYorkPA's intent to comply with all Federal Election Commission requirements. The LPYorkPA shall not contribute to or expend funds on federal election activities without the prior written approval of the LPPA Board of Directors. At such time as the LPYorkPA has nominated a candidate or candidates to be placed on a ballot and LPYorkPA Bylaws have been determined by authorities not to be in compliance with election law, the Executive Board is empowered to make the minimum changes to this document that are required to comply with election law.

Section 7 – Vacancies

Appointments to fill vacancies in any position may be made by majority vote at any regularly scheduled meeting. The term for positions that are normally elected at the AOM shall expire at adjournment of the next AOM (the length of the unexpired term). Committee chairs shall continue in office until a successor is appointed, or the term of the working committee expires due to task/project completion.

Section 8 – Elections

Elections shall be by secret ballot, unless motioned and voted in the affirmative by 2/3 of the voting body for an open or voice vote. Other voting methods, such as AADV (Approve, Approve, Disapprove Voting) may be implemented for elections at the will of the body.

The candidate having the highest vote count is the winner. In the case of a tie, a runoff ballot will be conducted between the tied candidates. If only the tied candidates were on the ballot, the winner shall be randomly selected from those tied. In the event that no candidate has a majority vote count, nominations must be re-opened, but no previously nominated candidate may be re-nominated to appear on subsequent ballots for that same position.

When electing three JC members, each voting member shall be allowed up to three votes. The winners will be the three candidates having the highest vote counts.

Section 9 – Removals

A member may be removed from any position or committee by a two-thirds vote at a scheduled meeting for reasons good and sufficient to those voting. However, the reason(s) must be stated, and the Secretary shall notify anyone removed in writing, including said reason(s). Members may voluntarily terminate their membership by submission of written or verbal notice to the Membership Committee or member of the Executive Board. Termination shall be immediate upon the acceptance of notice and notification of the Executive Board.

Section 10 – Resolution of Disputes

When a Judicial Committee (JC) exists, any LPYorkPA member in good standing who believes that an action of the LPYorkPA is inconsistent with these LPYorkPA Bylaws may appeal that matter to the chair of the JC if/when the dispute cannot otherwise be resolved. An appeal must be filed in writing within ten days of the action or the action shall stand. The appeal must explain the circumstances surrounding the action and cite the specific provisions which are alleged to have been violated.

The JC must schedule and hold a hearing within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the written appeal. The Secretary shall notify all LPYorkPA members of the hearing at least ten days prior to its scheduled date. The chair of the JC shall preside at the hearing and hear testimony from all involved parties. The JC shall render its written majority opinion within four days of the conclusion of the hearing. If the JC fails either to hold the hearing or to rule within the specified time limits, the appellant shall prevail. When no functional Judicial Committee exists, disputes shall be resolved by majority vote of the Executive Board employing these same rules and procedures.

Section 11 – Other Meeting Types

The LPYorkPA may, from time-to-time, schedule non-business meetings. These may include, but are not limited to, social events, holiday gatherings or others. Failure to attend these other meetings will not be counted against a member for the purposes outlined in Article III, Section 1, Subsection c.

ARTICLE VI. COMMITTEES

Ad hoc (working) committees may be established, staffed and disbanded as needed by majority vote at any scheduled meeting. Standing committees (if any) and their duties will be defined at time of creation. These shall be established whenever membership and interest permit. The chairs of standing committees must be LPYorkPA members in good standing, shall be elected by majority vote at any scheduled meeting and shall hold office

through good behavior. Each standing committee chair shall submit a brief written activities report to the Secretary in advance of scheduled meetings. Said reports will be included in the meeting minutes and the chairs will also report verbally during each meeting. Committee chairs will recruit their committee members. Any member in good standing may be a member of one or multiple committees.

Section 1 - Membership Committee

a. The Membership chair shall ensure that an accurate, current and complete list is maintained of LPYorkPA members in good standing. The list shall include each member's postal address, telephone number(s) and email address. The number of members, as well as members gained or lost, will be included in the Membership Committee activities report for each scheduled meeting.

b. The Membership chair, in cooperation with the Secretary, shall maintain communications with the appropriate LPPA contact(s) in order to verify the LPPA membership (and renewal dates) for LPLC members.

c. The Membership chair shall ensure that lapsed LPYorkPA members are contacted and encouraged to restore their memberships.

d. The Membership chair shall ensure that any non-member attendees at meetings are welcomed and introduced; their names and contact information should be captured as well.

e. The Membership chair shall ensure that non-members receive follow-up contact(s) (outside of meetings) to encourage them to become libertarians and Libertarians.

f. The Committee will from time to time conceive and propose to the entire membership activities which further the Article I objectives of the LPYorkPA. The Committee will take a leadership role in implementing such activities as are approved by a majority vote at a scheduled meeting.

Section 2 – Outreach Committee

a. The Outreach Committee is responsible for grassroots-level contact between the Libertarian Party and the public at large. These responsibilities include maintaining useful contacts and coordination with student organizations, recruiting key demographics into the party (building membership), identifying potential coalitions with like-minded groups and coordinating outreach events in partnership with the Membership Committee.

b. The Committee will be responsible for the organization and implementation of volunteer activities within the county of York, or with and in support of neighboring counties and with the LPPA.

c. The Committee shall elect it's own chair and will recruit it's own membership from the membership at large, or, with a majority vote of the existing members, a non-member of LPYorkPA, who will not have voting rights within either the committee or the LPYorkPA.

ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of all voting members in attendance at an AOM, whether actually voting or not. No amendment shall be made that either removes or modifies this sentence or imposes a hurdle either lower than a three-fifths vote or higher than a three-fourths vote to amend these Bylaws. Any proposed amendment must be submitted in writing to the Secretary at least thirty (30) days in advance of the AOM at which it will be considered. The Secretary must post proposed amendments on the LPYorkPA website or LPPA Basecamp in such a manner that they may be reviewed by all current members for a period of at least thirty (30) days prior to the AOM at which they will be considered. Duly adopted amendments shall become an integral part of these Bylaws immediately upon adjournment of the AOM during which they were adopted.

ARTICLE VIII. Enforcement

These bylaws shall be in full force immediately upon adjournment of the AOM or business meeting in which they are approved. These bylaws shall supersede all previous bylaws of the LPYorkPA immediately upon being in force.

Approved September 24, 2024