

# The Constitution and Bylaws of the Libertarian Party of Mecklenburg County, NC

## Article I: Name

The name of this organization shall be the Libertarian Party of Mecklenburg County (LPMeck if abbreviated), hereinafter referred to as the Party.

## Article II: Purpose

The purpose of the Party is to conduct the following activities:

- I. Promoting and disseminating libertarian ideas and ideals.
- II. Nominating and supporting candidates for municipal and county wide political offices.
- III. Supporting local, state, and national Libertarian candidates.
- IV. Promoting fellowship and community among libertarian individuals.
- V. Encouraging volunteering and participation in State and National Libertarian Party functions and outreach opportunities.

## Article III: Executive Committee

### Section I:

There shall be five members of the Executive Committee, including the Chairperson (hereinafter referred to as the Chair), the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary (hereinafter referred to as the Secretary), and two "At-Large" members.

### Section II:

The term of the Executive Committee, including At-Large members shall expire two years after the end of the County Convention at which they were elected, or at the conclusion of the second year's convention (whichever is later).

### Section III:

The Executive Committee may appoint new members if vacancies or suspensions occur. Resignations presented to any member of the Executive Committee should be taken to the rest of the EC as soon as technically feasible. A resignation shall be in effect immediately upon presentation to a quorum of the remaining EC members. Official Party communications methods should be used to communicate the opening of an Executive Committee seat to all available members. Newly appointed members shall complete the term of the positions vacated until the next County Convention. Any member of the EC may make such a motion to fill a vacant position.

### Section IV:

All members of the Executive Committee must be a resident of Mecklenburg County and a registered member of the Libertarian Party, as recognized by the North Carolina Board of Elections (hereinafter NCBOE), so long as the Party is recognized by the NCBOE.

### Section V:

A majority of the filled positions on the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at all business meetings. If a quorum cannot be achieved during a meeting, no business which may require a vote shall be considered that meeting. The Chair may call for another meeting either in person or remotely to attain quorum for matters requiring a majority vote by the Executive Committee.

### Section VI:

Any member of the Executive Committee who fails to attend three consecutive meetings, either in person or via proxy, of the Committee, or who similarly fails to attend five meetings of the Committee in the period between Conventions, may be considered to have resigned from the Committee, pending a motion and majority vote of the Executive Committee. If so moved and passed, the position shall be declared vacant. The vacant position may then be filled per Article III, Section III.

## Article IV: Officers

### Section I:

The officers of the Party shall consist of a Chairperson, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer. Election of officers will take place biennially at the County Convention. Officers shall take office immediately upon the close of the Convention. These positions are required and must be filled.

### Section II:

No Officer position may be combined with any other Officer position.

### Section III:

The Chair shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Party and shall preside at all Party Conventions and at all meetings of the Executive Committee at which the Chair is present., unless otherwise delegated by the chair.

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## Section IV:

The Secretary shall be the recording officer of the Party.

## Section V:

The Treasurer shall be responsible for the monetary duties of the party as enumerated in Article X, Section III.

## Article V: Parliamentary Authority

### Section I:

Democratic Rules of Order 10<sup>th</sup> edition (hereinafter DRO) shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specifically covered by these Bylaws. The Executive Committee may choose to use alternate parliamentary procedures if approved of by majority vote. Such vote would be binding only for the specific meeting or convention at which the vote was taken.

## Article VI: Committees

### Section I:

There shall be committees appointed by the Chair, as the Executive Committee deems appropriate via majority vote. Working Committees shall exist at the pleasure of the Executive Committee. Members of the Executive Committee may serve on Working Committees and may hold a leadership position on a working committee.

### Section II:

The Executive Committee will select one member of a Working Committee to act as the Chairperson of that specific committee by majority vote.

## Article VII: Meetings

### Section I, Notification:

The times and places of Executive Committee meetings shall be determined by majority vote of the Executive Committee, or by call of the Chair. A written notice or communication of the time and place of all meetings shall be communicated to each member of the Executive Committee not less than five calendar days prior to the meeting. Communications shall consist of any system for which such procedures have been established, as deemed appropriate by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

### Section II, Transaction of Official Business:

The Executive Committee may transact business in person or remotely. An Executive Committee member may call a vote on any question submitted to the members of the Executive Committee or Working Committee. No less than one day, and no greater than 5 days shall be allowed for the return of votes to the Party Secretary. The Secretary shall establish procedures for identifying voters in remote ballots and may accept votes through any system for which such procedures have been established and approved. If, at the expiration of the application period a quorum of the Executive Committee has not returned its votes, the measure being voted upon shall be deemed to have failed. In all other cases a majority of the votes required shall carry the measure except where a higher vote is required by the Bylaws. The Secretary must preserve all such votes until the next meeting of the Executive Committee, at which meeting the Executive Committee shall order the disposition of the votes.

## Article VIII: Membership

### Section I, Establishing Membership:

A resident of Mecklenburg County may become a member of the Libertarian Party of Mecklenburg County by meeting the following criteria. You must not be registered to vote in any other political party.

You must also meet at least one of the following criteria:

- I. Being registered to vote as a Libertarian in the state of North Carolina no less than 90 days prior to an LPMeck event or election where membership is considered.
- II. Maintaining current membership dues with the Libertarian National Committee, OR the Libertarian Party of North Carolina OR the Libertarian Party of Mecklenburg County.
- III. Presenting a written or electronic affirmation to the Party that they do not advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

### Section II, Suspension of Membership:

Membership terminates automatically for any of the following reasons:

- I. Failure to comply with Article VIII, Section I of by-laws: or
- II. No longer being a resident of Mecklenburg County; or

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III. The Executive Committee shall have the power to suspend a member for cause by at least two-thirds (2/3) vote of the committee. Suspension is subject to written appeal within thirty (30) days of notification. Failure to appeal shall terminate the membership for a period of two years or until the next Party Convention.

## **Section III, Membership Appeal:**

Upon appeal by any member, the Executive Committee shall hold a hearing concerning the suspension. Following the hearing, the Executive Committee shall rule either to terminate the membership of the member or continue the member in good standing. Should the Executive Committee fail to rule, the member shall continue as a member of the Party.

## **Article IX: Convention and Platform**

### **Section I:**

It shall be the responsibility of the Executive Committee to set the time, place, and schedule of events for an annual County Convention. The County Convention must be held at least thirty days prior to the Libertarian Party of North Carolina (LPNC) Convention at a time and place set according to the Bylaws and in conformance with the Constitution, bylaws and Convention rules of the LPNC.

### **Section II:**

Notice of the Convention shall be communicated to all Party members by appropriate means, at the discretion of a majority of the Executive Committee, at least thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the Convention.

### **Section III:**

The Party Platform, as adopted by vote at the Party Convention, shall consist of a number of planks, which may state the Party position on specific local, county, state, and national issues.

The Party Bylaws, as adopted by vote at the Party Convention, shall consist of a number of Articles and Sections, which govern how the Party governs itself.

The Party Platform shall be evaluated every other year during even numbered years.

The Party Bylaws shall be evaluated every other year during odd numbered years.

The Party Platform and Bylaws shall be evaluated, and amendments proposed by appropriate committees to be created by the Executive Committee at the direction of the Chair.

### **Section IV:**

The County Convention will select state convention delegates and alternates. If vacancies occur, they may be filled in accordance with the bylaws of the LPNC.

### **Section V:**

These Bylaws may be amended by majority vote of members of the Party at the County Convention on odd numbered years.

## **Article X: Contributions and Disbursements**

### **Section I:**

Contributions shall be used for their designated purpose or, if not designated, as decided by the Executive Committee or local body which receives the contribution.

### **Section II:**

All expenditures must be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

### **Section III:**

The Treasurer shall receive, disburse, and account for the funds of the Party under the supervision and direction of the Chair and is responsible for filing and managing all financial and electronic documents as required by North Carolina state law.