

# **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 (LPMC), hereinafter referred to as the Party.

## **Article II: Purpose**

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

- Promoting and disseminating libertarian ideas and ideals.
- Nominating and supporting candidates for county political offices.
- Supporting state and national Libertarian candidates.
- Promoting fellowship and fraternity among Libertarian individuals.

## **Article III: Executive Committee**

### **Section 1:**

There shall be five members on the Executive Committee, including the Chairperson, the Treasurer, the Secretary and two “at large” members.

### **Section 2:**

The term of the Executive Committee, including "at large" members, shall expire one year after the end of the County Convention at which they were elected.

### **Section 3:**

The Executive Committee may appoint new members, if vacancies or suspensions occur, such members to complete the term of the position vacated, until the next County Convention.

### **Section 4:**

All members of the Executive Committee must not be registered with any other political party during the term of their membership on the Executive Committee.

### **Section 5:**

A majority of the filled positions on the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at all meetings.

### **Section 6:**

Any member of the Executive Committee who fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Committee, either in person or by sending a proxy, or who similarly fails to attend five meetings of the Committee in the period between Conventions, is automatically considered to have resigned from the Committee, and the position shall be declared vacant.

## **Article IV: Officers**

### **Section 1:**

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

### **Section 2:**

No County offices shall be combined.

### **Section 3:**

The Chairperson shall be Chief Executive Officer of the Party and shall preside at all Party Conventions and at all meetings of the Executive Committee at which the Chairperson is present.

**Section 4:**

The Recording Secretary shall be the recording officer of the Party.

**Section 5:**

The Treasurer shall receive, disburse, and account for the funds of the Party under the supervision and direction of the Chairperson and be responsible for filing and managing all financial and electoral documents as required by North Carolina state law. All expenditures must be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

**Article V: Parliamentary Authority**

*Robert's Rules of Order Revised* shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specifically covered by these Bylaws.

**Article VI: Committees**

There shall be committees appointed by the Chair, as the Executive Committee deems appropriate. Working Committees shall exist at the pleasure of the Executive Committee.

**Article VII: Meetings**

**Section 1. Notification.**

The Executive Committee shall meet at such times and places as may be determined by actions of the Committee, by call of the Chair, or by written request of at least one-third ( $\frac{1}{3}$ ) of the Executive Committee. A written notice of the time and place of all meetings shall be mailed to each member of the Executive Committee not less than seven days prior to the meeting. Mail shall consist of any mail system, including facsimile and electronic mail, for which such procedures have been established.

**Section 2. Transaction of Official Business.**

The Executive Committee may, without meeting together, transact business by mail. An Executive Committee member shall send out mail ballots on any question submitted by the Chair, or by at least one-fifth ( $\frac{1}{5}$ ) of the members of the Committee. Fifteen days shall be allowed for the return of votes thereon by mail to the Party Recording Secretary. The Recording Secretary shall establish procedures for identifying voters in a mail ballot, and may accept votes through any mail system, including facsimile and electronic mail, for which such procedures have been established. If, at the expiration of the applicable period the quorum of the Executive Committee has not returned its votes, the measure being voted on shall be deemed to have failed; in all other cases, majority of the votes required shall carry the measure except where a higher vote is required by the Bylaws. A measure that has failed to be approved, by mail, cannot then be resubmitted under this provision, but can only be reconsidered at a regular meeting of the Executive Committee. The Recording 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 1. Establishing Membership.**

A resident of Mecklenburg County may become a member of the Libertarian Party of Mecklenburg County by requesting membership and fulfilling at least one of the following criteria:

- Registering to vote as a Libertarian with the County Board of Elections in Mecklenburg County, or;
- Maintaining current membership dues with the Libertarian National Committee, or;
- Maintaining current membership dues with the Libertarian Party of North Carolina, or;
- Presenting a written or electronic affirmation to the Party that they do not advocate the initiation of force to achieve social or political goals.

**Section 2. Suspension of Membership.**

Membership terminates automatically for any of the following reasons:

- Failure to comply with Article VIII Section 1 of by-laws; or
- No longer being a resident of Mecklenburg County; or
- 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 by certified mail. Failure to appeal shall terminate the membership.

**Section 3. 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 1.**

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 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 2.**

Notice of the Convention shall be mailed to all Party members at least two weeks prior to the opening of the Convention.

**Section 3.**

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

**Section 4.**

The County Convention will select state convention delegates and alternates. If vacancies occur, they may be filled in accordance of the by-laws of the Libertarian Party of North Carolina.

**Article X: Amendment of By-Laws**

These bylaws may be amended by majority vote of members of the county Party at the County Convention.

**Article XI: Contributions**

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.