

Yonkers Democratic City Committee By-Laws *



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Yonkers Democratic City Committee
Pauline M. Galvin-Chairwoman

*As amended on September 21, 2000

The next order of business of the meeting shall be to elect successors to fill the vacancy or vacancies of electing a successor officer, the chairman pro tem shall be one of the following in the order named, except that a recalled officer shall not act as a Chairman pro tem:

1. Chairperson
2. First Vice Chairman
3. Second Vice Chairperson
4. Secretary
5. Treasurer

Section 5. Obligation of Candidates Seeking Public Office or Holding Party or Public Office

All those persons seeking or holding party or public office under the Democratic label or Democratic Party name, thereby undertake, while serving or seeking to serve, not to oppose publicly the election of any Democratic nominee for Office in New York State.

ARTICLE VI
AMENDMENTS

These rules may be amended from time to time by majority vote of the members of the City Committee present at a meeting at which there is a quorum, provided a copy of the proposed amendment shall be sent with the notice of the meeting, at which such amendment is to be proposed, such notice to be not less than ten days before such meetings, and to be mailed to the post office address of each member of the committee.

These rules were officially and legally amended, adopted and certified and have been filed with the Westchester County Board of Elections on the ____ day of _____, 2000.

SEAL OF THE SECRETARY TO THE CONVENTION

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Proposed Amendments to the RULES OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY
OF THE CITY OF YONKERS STATE OF NEW YORK,
ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 5, 1950 AS AMENDED September 21, 2000

The Democratic City Committee of the City of Yonkers, County of Westchester, State of New York, duly elected by the Democratic voters of the City of Yonkers, do, pursuant to the provision of the laws and statutes in such cases made and provided the following Rules for the organization and government of the Democratic Party within the City of Yonkers.

ARTICLE I
ORGANIZATION

Section 1. Party Membership.

The Democratic Party of the City of Yonkers shall be composed of those voters who have enrolled in the Democratic Party in the City of Yonkers.

Section 2. Committees.

There shall be a Democratic City Committee of the City of Yonkers, its Executive Committee, and a Ward Committee for each ward. Existing committees shall continue in office until their successors are chosen.

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Article II
DEMOCRATIC CITY COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF YONKERS

Section 1. Membership

The Democratic City Committee of the City of Yonkers shall be composed of those residents of the City of Yonkers who are the two representatives from each Election District in the City of Yonkers, the duly elected officers of the City Committee, Democratic State Committee Members, and the Ward Leader and Co-Leader from each Ward in the City of Yonkers.

The two representatives from each Election District in the City of Yonkers shall be the County Committee Members elected and their duly elected successors who are residents of the City of Yonkers.

A duly elected officer of the City Committee shall be any enrolled Democrat who upon being elected to office by the said committee shall thereupon automatically become a member of the City Committee.

There shall be equal representation of the sexes from each Election District so far as possible.

Section 2. Organization Meeting.

The City Committee shall meet within ten days after the regularly held Primary Election at which County Committeemen are elected, to organize and elect officers.

The Chairperson of the outgoing Committee shall act as Chairman pro tem at the organization meeting until the Chairperson and other officers of the new Committee are elected except that upon the nomination of the Chairperson for any office for the new Committee, the Chairperson must relinquish the chair at once and may not resume the chair until the election for such position has been held.

At this organization meeting, if a question should arise relating to the seating of one or more members, there shall first be an examination of the credentials of such member or members. Each Ward Committee shall act as a Credential Committee for all members of the City Committee from such Ward.

Provided a quorum is present, the Chairperson shall call for nominations from the floor for the office of Chairperson. After the nominations have been closed, voting shall commence until a nominee shall receive a majority of the votes of those present and voting.

Whenever the number of nominees are more than two, and no nominee receives the required majority vote on the first or second ballot, then the nominee on subsequent ballots who receives the fewest number of votes of all nominees who receive less than twenty-five per cent of the vote cast, shall be eliminated from all subsequent ballots. When a nominee shall have received a majority of the votes of those present and voting, the Chairperson shall declare such individual elected. The Chairperson so elected shall then assume the chair.

Immediately thereafter, the newly elected Chairperson shall recommend the officers of First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Vice-Chairpersons, Secretary and Treasurer, respectively.

After the nominations for each office have been closed, there shall be a vote of all members present, and the Chairperson shall declare elected that candidate for each office who receives the highest number of votes.

For all votes to designate candidates for Party Positions, voting shall be weighted. To determine the weighted vote of each member of the City Committee the following system will be employed.

- 1) The weighted vote for each election district shall be equal to that election district's vote cast on the Democratic line in the preceding election for Governor of New York State.
- 2) The weighted vote shall be calculated after each gubernatorial election, and shall be effective for any vote taken after the date of which the gubernatorial term commences.
- 3) Each County Committee Member shall have half the vote of his/her election district.

Within three days after the election of these officers, the Secretary of the County Committee shall be notified of their names and post office addresses.

Candidates shall be entitled to the use of the mailing facilities of the City Committee for the purpose of communicating with members of the City Committee concerning their candidacy. Candidates shall pay for the costs of such service, including postage.

Section 3. Officers

The Officers of the City Committee shall be as follows:

1. Chairperson
2. First Chairperson
3. Second Vice- Chairperson
4. Third Vice- Chairperson
5. Fourth Vice-Chairperson
6. Fifth Vice- Chairperson
7. Secretary
8. Treasurer

Officers shall serve until a new Committee is elected, and their successors are chosen.

The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings. He/She shall be an ex officio member of all special and standing committees, unless otherwise provided by these Rules. He/She shall have those powers and duties ordinarily given to a Chairperson and such other powers and duties as prescribed by law or hereinafter described.

The Vice-Chairpersons, in numerical order, shall preside at meetings and perform all the duties of the Chairperson in his/her absence, unless otherwise provided herein, and such other duties, as may be assigned to them by the City Committee or its Executive Committee.

The Secretary shall keep complete and accurate minutes of all meetings, maintain a membership roll of all members together with their post office addresses, notify members by mail of the time and place of all meetings, prepare and mail all notices and statements required by law or these Rules, and perform such other duties as may be assigned to him/her by the City Committee or the Chairperson thereof.

The Treasurer shall keep detailed records of all receipts and expenditures of the City Committee and shall perform all the duties ordinarily performed by a Treasurer, and such other duties as may be assigned by the City Committee or the Chairperson thereof. The Treasurer shall file an annual written audited financial report with the City Chairperson, which shall be available for inspection at any time by any member of the Executive Committee.

The Chairperson may appoint one or more Assistant Vice Chairpersons, Assistant Secretaries and Assistant Treasurers, who shall not be entitled to vote either at the meetings of the City Committee or the Executive Committee, and who shall perform such duties as may be assigned to them.

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A vacancy in the office of Chairperson of the City Committee shall be filled by the City Committee. A vacancy in any other office of the City Committee shall be filled by the Executive Committee upon recommendation of the Chairperson of the City Committee.

Section 4. Order of Business.

At all meetings of the City Committee the order of business shall be as follows:

- 1. Roll Call
- 2. Reading of minutes
- 3. Committee Reports
- 4. Unfinished business
- 5. Communications
- 6. New Business

Section 5. Quorum.

A minimum of twenty-five members of the City Committee from at least seven Wards in the City of Yonkers shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of regular business. A minimum of one hundred members of the City Committee from at least seven Wards in the City of Yonkers shall constitute a quorum for a meeting which these rules are to be amended.

When there is less than a quorum, the meeting shall be adjourned to another date.

Section 6. Call of Meetings.

Whenever he/she deems it necessary, the Chairperson of the City Committee, or in his/her absence, the First Vice-Chairperson or the Second Vice-Chairperson may call a meeting of the City Committee.

A special meeting must be called by the Chairperson upon the written request of a minimum of forty members of the City Committee representing at least seven wards in the City of Yonkers.

The Chairperson of the City Committee must call a meeting of the City Executive Committee at least once during the months of March, April, May or June and at least once during any one of the months of September, October or November.

Section 7. Notice of Meetings.

Notice of the time and place of all regular and special meetings must be mailed to each member of the City Committee at least five days before such meeting is held unless a different notice is required by law.

Section 8. Standing Committee.

The City Committee shall have the following Standing Committees:

- 1. Law
- 2. Finance
- 3. Policy
- 4. Elections
- 5. Internal Affairs
- 6. Research

The City Committee or the Executive Committee may establish such other Standing Committees, as it may deem necessary.

The Chairperson of the City Committee shall with the advice and consent of the executive Committee, appoint the members of the standing Committees and their Chairperson; however, the Treasurer of the City Committee shall be a member of the Finance Committee and the Internal Affairs Committee members shall be appointed for six month terms and its membership shall be composed of four representatives one each from a different Ward who are members of the Executive Committee and who shall be so appointed in rotation so that four different Wards are represented during each six month term and so that no ward is again represented, until all wards have been granted representation on said committee.

Standing Committee members and their Chairperson shall serve until the next organization meeting of the City Committee.

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The Executive Committee or the City Committee may at their discretion remove a member or Chairperson of a Standing Committee, except members of the Internal Affairs Committee.

The Chairperson of all Standing Committees must be a member of the Executive Committee, provided however the members of the standing committees need not be members of the City Committee.

Section 9. Removal of a Member.

A member of the City Committee may be removed by the City Committee in the same manner as that provided in the Election Law for the removal of a member of the County Committee.

Section 10. Vacancies.

A vacancy in the City Committee occurring for any reason whatsoever shall be filled by the election of an enrolled voter, resident of Yonkers, of the Democratic Party qualified to serve as a County Committee Member. He/she shall be elected by those members of the City Committee who represent the Ward in which the vacancy has occurred. Weighted voting must be utilized in all such elections.

ARTICLE III
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CITY COMMITTEE

Section 1. Membership.

The Executive Committee of the City Committee shall be composed of the elected officers of the City Committee, those members of the Democratic State Committee and the County Executive Committee Members residing in the City of Yonkers, and the Ward Leader and Co-Leader from each Ward of the City of Yonkers.

Section 2. Rules.

A quorum of the Executive Committee shall be twelve members, from seven wards. The Executive Committee may adopt such rules for its organization as are not inconsistent with law, these rules, or those of the County Committee.

Section 3. Officers.

The officers of the Executive Committee shall be those of the City Committee.

Section 4. Powers.

The Executive Committee shall have those powers and duties delegated to it herein and such other powers and duties as are normally given to an executive Committee.

ARTICLE IV
WARD COMMITTEES

Section 1. Membership.

Each Ward in the City of Yonkers shall have a Ward Committee composed of the County Committee Members from the Ward and such additional members, as each Ward shall determine.

The County Committee Members from each Ward shall become members of their ward Committees upon their election.

Section 2. Organizational Meeting.

Each Ward Committee shall meet within ten days after its election and shall elect its officers.

Section 3. Officers.

The officers to be elected shall include:

1. Leader
2. Co-Leader

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N.Y.
APR 7 A 9:33

- 3. Secretary
- 4. Treasurer

Each Ward Committee may provide for such officers, as it shall deem necessary.

Within three days after the election of officers, each ward committee shall file with the Secretaries of both the City Committee and the County Committee a list of the officers so elected together with their post office address.

Section 4. Rules.

Each Ward Committee shall be the superior organization for its Ward and may adopt rules for its organization not inconsistent with law, or those of the County Committee.

Section 5. Provisions in the Event of Redistricting of Ward Boundaries.

In the event the Ward Boundaries are changed as a result of legal redistricting as provided for by the City Charter or other applicable statutes, each Ward whose boundaries shall have been changed by such redistricting shall meet for the purposes of reorganization within 30 days after the effective date of the redistricting law and conduct an election for the officers provided for in section 3 of this Article.

Within three days after the election of such officers, each ward committee shall file with the Secretaries of both the City Committee and the County Committee, a list of the officers so elected, together with their post office addresses.

ARTICLE V
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. Proxy.

A member of the City, Executive, or Ward Committee shall be entitled to vote by proxy at a meeting of his particular committee.

A member of the above Committee may act as proxy for only one other member, at any general or special meeting or convention.

A person may act as the proxy of one member only.

A person who acts as a proxy must be an enrolled voter of the Democratic Party and must be eligible to hold the office of the one for whom he is acting as proxy. Rules for proxy voting shall be governed by the County Committee Rules.

Section 2. Voting.

A member of the City, Executive, or Ward Committee shall be entitled to only one vote in his particular committee This provision shall apply where one is a member of a Committee in more than one capacity.

Section 3. Rules of Order.

"Roberts Rules of Order" shall govern in all matters or procedures not covered by these rules or those of the County Committee.

Section 4. To Declare a Vacancy in Any Office of the City Committee

Upon the filing of a petition calling for the recall of an officer or officers of the City Committee which petition has been signed within a thirty (30) day period by at least one hundred (100) members of the City Committee from at least 7 Wards with the Secretary of the City Committee, the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson of the City Committee must immediately call a meeting of the City Committee and at such meeting the first business on the agenda shall be to vote on the proposition embodied in the recall petition for the purpose of declaring the particular office or offices of the City Committee vacated. If there is an affirmative vote cast by Two Thirds (2/3) of all members of the City Committee the office or offices shall become vacant.

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