



The Bylaws of the Libertarian Party of Union County

Article I. Name

The name of this organization as filed with the North Carolina State Board of Elections is Libertarian Party of Union County, hereinafter referred to as **LPUnion**, and this name is and will remain until such time its members elect to change it as part of an update to this document.

Article II. Purpose

The purpose of LPUnion is to:

- Serve as a local affiliate of the Libertarian Party of North Carolina (LPNC)
- Maintaining a statement of key issues in Union County and a Union County Libertarian Party stance on those issues as a guide for Libertarian political candidates and office-holders within Union County
- Disseminate libertarian ideas by entering into political information activities
- Encourage members to seek political offices throughout Union County and supporting candidates during elections for those offices
- Recognize, coordinate with and promote local organizations throughout Union County that support libertarian policies and principles

Article III. Membership

A resident of Union County may become a member of LPUnion, provided that they are not a registered voter affiliated with another political party, and by fulfilling at least one of the following criteria:

- 1) Either:
 - a) Registered to vote as a Libertarian with the State of North Carolina or Union County Board of Elections, or;
 - b) Maintaining current membership dues with the Libertarian National Committee, or;
 - c) Maintaining current membership dues with the Libertarian Party of North Carolina, or;
 - d) Maintaining current membership dues with the Libertarian Party of Union County.
- 2) And:
 - a) Present a written or electronic affirmation to the Party that they do not advocate the initiation of force to achieve social or political goals.

Article IV. Officers

The officers for the LPUnion must be Members as defined in Article III, and must not be registered with the State of North Carolina with any recognized political party other than the Libertarian Party or the Libertarian Party of North Carolina. Officers are elected bi-annually on odd years at the Libertarian Party of Union County Convention as defined in Article VI, referred to as the County Convention throughout this document. The officers serve as executives both for the next County Convention and for regular business meetings as defined in Article VI, referred to as Business Meetings throughout this document. The Union LP Officers are titled and defined as follows:

- Chair – The LPUnion Chair serves as the chief executive officer of the LPUnion and will preside at the County Convention and at Business Meetings. The Chair leads or delegates the scheduling and announcement of all Business Meetings to ensure the LPUnion has at least one (1) Business Meeting per month. The Chair must provide the Secretary with a meeting agenda in sufficient time for the Secretary to distribute that agenda to Members prior to the each Business Meeting.
- Vice Chair – The LPUnion Vice Chair serves to assist the Chair and presides on occasion when the Chair is absent from a County Convention or a Business Meeting. When there is a vacancy in the position of Chair, the Vice Chair assumes the office of chair.
- Treasurer – The LPUnion Treasurer serves to receive, disperse, and account for the funds of the LPUnion. The Treasurer ensures funds and accounts are managed as described in Article VIII.
- Secretary – The LPUnion Secretary serves as the recording officer at the County Convention and at Business Meetings. Additionally, the Secretary serving at the beginning of the County Convention is responsible for publishing the minutes of that convention.

Article V. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the control and management of all of the affairs, properties, and funds of the LPUnion consistent with this Bylaws of LPUnion and any pertinent resolutions that may have been adopted by the County Convention.

Section 1. Composition

The Executive Committee of LPUnion shall be composed of at least a Chair and a Treasurer as the elected officers of the Party, elected at the County Convention. Other officers such as a Secretary, Vice Chair and up to two (2) At-Large members may also be elected at the County Convention, if enough members are available to fill the roles. Vacancies that may occur may be filled as per LPUnion Bylaws Article V, Section 7."

Section 2. Committees and Additional Affiliate Positions

The Executive Committee may establish or disestablish committees and create or terminate additional affiliate offices to serve supplemental purposes or perform delegated tasks and to advise the Executive Committee. LPUnion members appointed by the Executive Committee to additional offices serve at the pleasure of the Executive Committee. No Executive Committee member shall be appointed to these positions.

Section 3. Election

1. Executive Committee members shall be elected every two years in odd-numbered years at the annual LPUnion Convention. Elections to fill any vacancies will be conducted in even-numbered years.
2. If no qualified candidates are nominated for any position on the Executive Committee at the Convention, then that position shall be considered vacant.
3. Attending delegates to the Convention may vote for "None of the Above" for any position on the Executive Committee. If "None of the Above" is elected, that position shall remain unfilled until the next County Convention, at which time the attending delegates may hold a special election to fill that position for the remainder of the term. The Executive Committee may assign the duties of that position to any Party member, but the person filling that position will not have a vote on the Executive Committee.

Section 4. Qualifications

Each member of the Executive Committee must maintain membership with LPUnion as defined in Article III and have been a member of LPUnion for a minimum of six (6) months.

Section 5. Term

The term of the members of the Executive Committee shall run for two years, expiring at the end of the County Convention two years at which their successors are elected (or they are re-elected). If the member was elected in an even-numbered year or appointed in the interim, then her or his term expires at the end of the next County Convention.

Section 6. Resignation

Executive Committee members may resign by supplying notice in writing to the Chair or Vice Chair. Additionally, any member of the Executive Committee who fails to attend three consecutive business or five business meetings overall shall be considered to have tendered an automatic resignation. The Executive Committee may accept or refuse an automatic resignation by majority vote. Also: see Article VI for a potential limitation on the circumstances under which the resignation of a Treasurer can be accepted and made effective.

Section 7. Vacancies

The Executive Committee may appoint new members, if vacancies or suspensions occur, such members to serve until the next County Convention, where a regular election (in odd years) or a special election (in even years) shall be held to fill such position(s). If the appointed new member fails to be elected, the Executive Committee cannot reappoint that person to the same position during that term of office. Note: an unfilled position, per Article V Section 3, is not considered “vacant” and cannot be filled by Executive Committee appointment.

Section 8. Quorum

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

Article VI. County Convention

Section 1. Definitions

For the purposes of these bylaws the term “convention’ shall be understood and taken to mean, notwithstanding any other perceivable definition, a gathering of the body of such members of the LPUnion as shall choose to participate in the LPUnion County Convention, irrespective of physical location. This shall include either solely physical presence in a single location, or solely remote presence via virtual technology in its entirety, or any other combination thereof, as determined by the LPUnion Executive Committee, as appropriate.

Section 2. Convening

The LPUnion shall hold an annual County Convention to conduct such business as may properly come before it and in conformance with the Bylaws. It shall be the responsibility of the Executive Committee to set the time, place, and schedule of events for the State Convention. The time and place of the County Convention shall be announced to the LPUnion members by all the means by which the Party regularly communicates with the membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the State Convention.

Section 3. County Convention Delegates

Persons who meet the LPUnion membership requirements as defined in Article III. Membership of the LPUnion Bylaws at least sixty (60) days prior to the LPUnion County Convention convening will be considered delegates and are eligible to cast votes in LPUnion business during the County Convention.

Section 4. Delegates Designated by the Body

After the County Convention convenes and the Secretary (or designee) makes their initial report, the body may, by a two-thirds vote, designate any member or members as delegate(s) who did not meet the LPUnion membership requirements at least sixty (60) days prior to the LPUnion County Convention.

Section 5. Speaking

Any attendee may seek recognition to speak at the County Convention.

Section 6. State Convention Delegates

1. The County Convention shall elect credentialed LPUnion members as delegates and alternates to the LPNC State Convention.
2. Elections shall occur during usual County Convention business time and follow County Convention rules. Neither Delegates nor alternates may be named after the County Convention has adjourned. Delegate positions for which there is no delegate or alternate named must remain unfilled.
3. LPUnion members who are not in attendance at the County Convention, but wish to be considered for delegate or alternate, must be credentialed in advance by the County Convention Secretary and nominated at the County Convention by an LPUnion member in attendance.

Section 7. Results of the Convention

The Secretary, or designee, shall be responsible for recording actions taken by the County Convention and producing a new version of the Bylaws, Convention Rules, Platform and Statement of Principles when changes have been made. If the Secretary is unable to complete this task within 60 days of the Convention, the Chair may appoint someone to complete it, or to assist the Secretary. The Executive Committee shall review drafts of the documents prepared and submit them to the membership for review within 90 days of the Convention.

Article VII. Business Meetings

For the purpose of conducting its business, the LPUnion holds regular business meetings led by the LPUnion Officers. The primary purposes of a Business Meeting are as follows:

- To provide reports from the LPUnion Officers to the Membership of the regular business conducted since the last meeting
- To inform the Membership where it can be of service to Union County on behalf of the LPUnion
- To collect and allocate funds as described in Article VII Other orders of business at a Business Meeting are conducted under the leadership of the presiding officer in accordance with the provided agenda and following an ordered procedure.

Article VIII. Provisions for Handling Funds

The LPUnion Officers under the guidance of the Treasurer are responsible for ensuring that funds are collected, dispersed, and accounted for under the following provisions:

- Contributions will be used for their expressed or designated purpose when applicable.
- Unallocated funds may be allocated for a specific purpose by a majority attending, Membership vote at the County Convention, or a Business Meeting. The remaining unallocated funds not yet purposed by a membership vote, may be allocated by the LPUnion Officers for a purpose necessary to conduct business.
- The Treasurer must complete and submit an accurate bi-annual report to the North Carolina State Board of Elections as required by law for the Libertarian Party of Union County to remain a recognized party organization.
- Should the LPUnion ever dissolve, any monetary assets will be used to pay all LPUnion liabilities. If any assets remain thereafter, they will be donated to the LPNC or its successor.

Article IX. Parliamentary Authority

Democratic Rules of Order (10th Edition) shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specifically covered by these Bylaws.

Article X. Candidates

Section 1.

A local or county office is any office in North Carolina where votes are allowed only in some region smaller than the whole state. A local or county candidate is a candidate for a local or county office. In years where the state statutes indicate that political parties shall nominate candidates in Convention, the following applies:

1. Endorsements or nominations for a local or county candidate can be made by any regional affiliate whose region is contained in, or intersects with, the region where votes for the local or county office are accepted.
2. Each local affiliate, in accordance with its Bylaw, may establish procedures for making nominations between the time of its convention and the filing date for the local or county office.

3. When LPUnion makes nominations or endorsements according to (1) and(2) above agree on a candidate for local or county office, that person shall be the nominee of LPUnion and the Libertarian Party of North Carolina.

Section 2. Qualifications

All candidates nominated for partisan office in any year must be members of LPUnion, as defined in Article III of these Bylaws.

Article XI. Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all delegates present and voting at a County Convention, provided a quorum is present.

Article XII. Statement of Principles

The LPUnion affirms and adopts the Statement of Principles of the national Libertarian Party.

As revised by the Libertarian Party of Union County Annual Convention on January 29, 2023