

Libertarian Party of New Hanover County Bylaws

Article I. Name and Purpose

The name of this organization will be the Libertarian Party of New Hanover County, hereinafter referred to as the LP-NHC. The purpose of the LP-NHC is to serve as an affiliate of the Libertarian Party of North Carolina (LPNC). This affiliate will engage and better New Hanover County and the surrounding areas by hosting community outreach projects, identifying and running Libertarian candidates, and participating in community events.

Article II. Membership

Any resident of New Hanover County who is a member of the LPNC may also be a member of the LP-NHC upon their request. In addition, New Hanover County residents too young to vote and LPNC members in unorganized neighboring counties may become members of the LP-NHC upon application to and approval by the executive committee.

Article III. Officers

The officers of the LPNHC will be a Chair, a Vice-Chair, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

1. Chair

The Chair shall be Chief Executive Officer of the affiliate and shall preside at all LP-NHC meetings and conventions. The Chair shall assist other officers and cover responsibilities of unfilled positions. They shall identify opportunities for the local Libertarian Party.

2. Vice Chair

The Vice Chair shall take on the duties of The Chair should a vacancy exist, either temporary or permanent.

3. Secretary

The Secretary shall be the recording officer of the LP-NHC. They shall keep records, including all voting records, of meetings and conventions.

4. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall receive, disburse, and account for the funds of the LP-NHC under the supervision and direction of the Chair and Vice Chair. They are primarily responsible for the timely and accurate filing of county finance reports required by the North Carolina Board of Elections. They will maintain records of the party's money in a bank account as needed.

Article IV. Executive Committee

The LP-NHC Executive Committee shall consist of the LP-NHC officers and At-large members elected (annually) by the annual LP-NHC Convention. The convention may elect as many At-large members as it deems necessary. In the event of a vacancy in an officer or At-large position, the Executive Committee may appoint a replacement to serve until the next annual convention.

Section 1. Executive Committee Meetings

The Executive Committee will hold a business meeting quarterly at a time and place designated by the Chair. Business meetings may be called more frequently by the Chair, or upon written request of one-third (1/3) or more of the Executive Committee members. The Secretary will send written notification, either electronically or by surface mail, of the time and place of all meetings to each member of the Executive Committee not less than seven (7) days prior to the quarterly business meeting.

Section 2. Quorum

A majority of the Executive Committee members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at all meetings, provided at least one officer is present.

Section 3. Transaction of Official Business

1. The Executive Committee may, without meeting together, transact business by electronic mail, by surface mail, or by phone. Impromptu virtual meetings may be held as long as there is a quorum present.
2. Members may abstain from voting, either affirmatively or by inaction. Motions shall be decided by majority vote. The Secretary must preserve all such votes until the next meeting of the Executive Committee, at which meeting the Chair shall order the disposition of the votes.

Section 4. 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. LP-NHC members appointed by the Executive Committee to additional offices serve at the pleasure of the Executive Committee.

Section 5. Removal of Officers and At-large Executive Committee Members

The Executive Committee may, by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote, remove any officer of the LPPC or at-large Executive Committee member for any reason they deem appropriate.

Article V. Annual Convention

Section 1. Scheduling

The LP-NHC shall hold an annual convention. The Executive Committee shall set the time, place, and schedule of events for the LP-NHC Convention. The time and place of the LP-NHC Convention shall be announced to the membership by all the means by which the affiliate regularly communicates with the membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the convention. This announcement timeframe will apply to all conventions but the first.

Section 2. Delegates

All members of the LP-NHC shall be entitled to serve as delegates to the convention. The Secretary shall establish procedures for credentialing delegates. Any delegate may seek recognition from the presiding officer and be recognized to speak at the discretion of said officer.

Section 3. Convention Business

The business of the annual convention shall be to elect officers and at-large members of the Executive Committee, elect or endorse candidates, select county delegates to the LPNC Annual Convention, amend these bylaws, approve resolutions, adopt a platform, and conduct whatever other business it deems necessary.

Article VI. Parliamentary Authority

Democratic Rules of Order shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specifically covered by this Plan of Organization.

Article VII. Amendments

These bylaws may only be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all delegates present and voting at the LP-NHC Convention.

Article VIII. Elections

Elections will be held by written ballot. A winner will be elected by simple majority. If a simple majority is not reached the candidate with the lowest percentage of the votes will be removed from the ballot and a vote will be held again. None of the Above (NOTA) cannot be removed from the ballot, and will be an option in each vote.

Article IX. Nomination of Local Candidates

Section 1. Qualifications

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

Section 2. Nominations/Endorsements of Local Candidates

A local office is any office in North Carolina where votes are allowed only in some region smaller than the whole state and such votes are accepted by the New Hanover County Board of Elections. A local candidate is a candidate for a local office. Unless otherwise required by state statutes or by the LPNC, the following applies for the LP-NHC:

1. Endorsements or nominations for a local candidate shall be by a majority vote of delegates at its annual convention.
2. Endorsements or nominations between the time of its convention and the filing date for the local office shall be by a majority vote of the Executive Committee, as specified in these Bylaws.