

BYLAWS OF THE BEACHES DEMOCRATIC CLUB DUVAL COUNTY, FLORIDA-PROPOSED

(May,2017)

Article I-Name

The name of this organization shall be the Beaches Democratic Club (hereafter "the Club")

Article II-Goals and Purposes

Section1. The goals of the Club shall be to stimulate interest in political and government affairs, to strengthen and further the ideals and principles of the Democratic Party, to promote participation among Democrats, to provide reasonable and ongoing financial support to the county Democratic Executive Committee, to support and elect nominees of the Democratic Party in national, state, and local campaigns, to campaign vigorously for our members who are running for office, and foster good fellowship among Democrats.

In Democratic Party primaries, the Beaches Democratic Club may not, as an organization, endorse any particular candidate, but individual members may make such an endorsement. At no time, will members of the Club support a candidate from another party.

2. Proposed Bylaws for Beaches Democratic Club (2017)

ARTICLE III-MEMBERSHIP

Democrats registered to vote in Duval County interested in the objectives of this Club are eligible for membership. No other residency restrictions may be placed upon membership or the privileges of membership in this club. In accordance with Article VI of the Florida Democratic Party bylaws, with the exception of the organizational meeting of this club, those members permitted to vote in any club election for officers or board members must have been in the Club for at least forty-five (45) days prior to the date of such election. Club officers and directors must sign a Loyalty Oath as provided in the bylaws of the Florida Democratic Party.

Being a registered Democrat is the sole condition for membership in the Club. The Beaches Democratic Club may not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, age, religion, economic status, ethnic identity, national origin, physical disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity and expression.

3. Proposed Bylaws of Beaches Democratic Club (2017)

ARTICLE IV-DUES

Section 1. Upon the annual evaluation of the Board of Directors given the Club's solvency, annual dues will be assessed. The Board of Directors shall make a recommendation annually to the Club's members as to the amount of the dues assessment. A change in Club dues shall be enacted only upon a majority vote of the membership providing a quorum is present.

Dues shall be payable to the Treasurer of the Club by January 15th of the coming Club year, or, at the time of date of January 15. If authorized by the Board of Directors, member dues paid during the final three (3) months of the preceding year may be credited as full payment for the coming Club year.

Section 2: At any time, annual Club dues may be augmented by Club sponsored fund-raisers provided that the funds so raised are only used to enhance membership, improve membership communication with Club members and the sponsoring Democratic Executive Committee (DEC), and inform the broader community about Democratic Party policies. The Club will decide

4. Proposed Bylaws for Beaches Democratic Club (2017)

how much to give to Democratic Party candidates once the nominating process is over.

Section 3: In January of each year, Democratic clubs chartered under the rules of the Florida Democratic Party shall pay an annual contribution, by April 1, based on the membership as of December 31 of the preceding year, to the Democratic Executive Committee based on the following calculations:

Clubs with:

0-50 members: \$25.00

51-100 members: \$50.00

101-300 members: \$75.00

301-500 members: \$100.00

501-750 members: \$150.00

751-1,000 members: \$250.00

1,000 plus members: \$500.00

Eighty percent (80%) of the contribution will remain with the Democratic Executive Committee and twenty percent (20%) of the of the contribution will be remitted to the Florida Democratic Party by the county

5. Proposed Bylaws of Beaches Democratic Club (2017)
Democratic Executive Committee no later than April 1 of each year of the Club's existence.

ARTICLE V-OFFICERS

Section 1: The officers of this Club shall be a president, vice-president(s), secretary, treasurer, and parliamentarian and such other officers as may be deemed necessary by the membership. Officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these bylaws. All officers will be elected by the members of the Club except the parliamentarian who is chosen by the president and serves at the pleasure of the president.

Section 2: All terms of office will be for one (1) year. Officers shall be eligible for unlimited terms of office.

ARTICLE VI-DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1: The president will preside at all meetings of the Club and Board of Directors, of which the president is automatically the Chair, will be ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee, will appoint all standing and special committees and their

6. Proposed Bylaws of Beaches Democratic Club (2017)

respective chairs, will represent the Club at county, district, and state functions, will give guidance to the respective committee chairs in their work, appoint the Club Parliamentarian, and perform all duties pertaining to the office of president.

Section 2. The vice-president will: render all possible assistance to the president in matters pertaining to the Club, obtain speaker(s) and coordinate meeting program(s), and assume the office in the absence or inability to serve.

Section 3. The secretary will: notify the members and directors of each meeting, keep an accurate record of all meetings of the Club and the Board of Directors, maintain a current list of members with addresses, phone numbers, e-mail contacts, and precinct numbers as provided to the secretary, keep and maintain a copy of the bylaws with any amendments duly recorded, and furnish a copy of the bylaws to any member requesting them.

7. Proposed Bylaws of Beaches Democratic Club (2017)

Section 4. The treasurer will receive all monies of the Club, keep an accurate record of receipts and expenditures, present a current statement of all income and expenditure at each Board of Directors, which has ultimate control over expenditures, and Membership Meetings, and at other times when requested by the Board, and pay out funds only as approved by the Board. If an amount of over \$100 is to be spent by the Club the general membership must approve.

Section 5. The parliamentarian will run the Club according to the most current edition of Robert's Rule of Order, Newly Revised, which governs the Club in all cases to which it is applicable and is not inconsistent with these bylaws and the bylaws of the Duval County Democratic Executive Committee, the Florida Democratic Party, and the Democratic National Committee.

Section 6. The creation of addition officers shall be addressed as an amendment to the bylaws.

8. Proposed Bylaws of Beaches Democratic Club (2017)

Section 7. Any officer or member may be removed from office upon two-thirds (2/3) vote of entire membership of the Club at any regular meeting after ten (10) days' notice to the membership that a motion for the purpose of removal of said officer or member will be considered at the regular meeting. The officer or member under threat of removal is entitled to due process and can only be removed for cause.

ARTICLE VII-MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular meetings of the Club will be held monthly.

Section 2. The president or a majority of the Board of Directors may call special meetings with one week's notice to the members. The purpose of the meeting will be stated in the call.

Section 3. Twenty percent (20%) of the total membership will constitute a quorum for the transaction

9. Proposed Bylaws of Beaches Democratic Club (2017)

of the business at any regular or special meeting. A majority vote is necessary to carry motions.

Section 4. The time and place of all public meetings of Democratic Party clubs should be publicized fully in such a manner as to assure timely notice to all interested persons, and should be open to all members of the Democratic Party regardless of race, color, creed, sex, age, religion, economic status, ethnic identity, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity and expression. There is to be no discrimination based on physical disabilities and all meetings will be in a facility accessible to the physically handicapped.

ARTICLE VIII-BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The Board of Directors will consist of the officers of the Club, a minimum of four (4) elected directors, and the former presidents of the Club; the immediate past president of the Club will have voting power on the Board, other past presidents will be ex officio ~~members.~~ *directors.*

10. Proposed Bylaws of Beaches Democratic Club (2017)

Section 2. The annual election of the directors will be held at the March meeting. Commencing in a year in which an amendment of the bylaws affecting the duration of the term of office is adopted, terms of office may be staggered for the year following adoption only permitting certain directors to serve for a one-year term and the remaining directors to serve for a full two-year term.

Section 3. The duties of the Board of Directors will be to plan and organize each monthly meeting of the Club and make recommendations to the Club's membership that will facilitate the Club's business during the regular and special meetings. No action of the Board of Directors will be in conflict with any action taken by the Club's membership at regular or special meetings.

Section 4. Meetings of the Board of Directors will be a least one week prior to the regular monthly meeting of the Club. Excessive absences may mean that a Board member may be removed from the Board by a majority vote of the Board.

11. Proposed Bylaws of Beaches Democratic Club (2017)

Section 5. Five (5) members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE IX-ELECTIONS

Section 1. Officers will be elected at the annual meeting held in March of each year with the exception of the charter year.

Section 2. The president, as chairman, will appoint a nominating committee at the regular Club meeting in December. This committee will be composed of five (5) members. The committee will present a candidate for each elective office at the annual meeting in January. Additional nominations from the general membership may be made at this time.

Section 3. With the exception of the organizational meeting, there will be a forty-five (45) day membership requirement prior to a member being permitted to vote or participate in any Club election of officers or board members.

12. Proposed Bylaws of Beaches Democratic Club (2017)

Section 4. If a vacancy occurs in the office of president, the vice president will become president. When any other vacancy of an officer or board member occurs the position will be filled by the members of the Club at a regular meeting.

Section 5. Voting for officers and directors must be by secret ballot. Proxy and absentee voting are prohibited. removal is entitled to due process and can only be removed for cause.

ARTICLE X- STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Board of Directors is responsible for establishing the Standing Committees of the Club; the members of which should be appointed promptly after each annual meeting by the president of the Club.

Section 2. The Board of Directors is empowered to establish those Standing Committees necessary to: a) propose and adopt an annual budget; b) maintain and amend the bylaws as required from time to time; c) support Democratic Party candidates for public office

13. Proposed Bylaws of Beaches Democratic Club (2017)

especially if they are members of the Club; d) establish and maintain eligibility criteria for Club membership; e) communicate the purposes and policies of the Club to the general public; f) discover and develop means of raising funds to sustain Club programs and coordinate it fund raising activities.

ARTICLE XI-AMENDMENTS

Section 1. The bylaws may be amended by a majority vote at a membership meeting pursuant to in writing one week prior to the meeting. Bylaws and any changes in amendments thereto will be filed with the Florida Democratic Party and the Duval County Democratic Executive Committee within thirty (30) days following adoption. Bylaws and any changes or amendments are subject to approval by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the Certification Committee (Democratic Executive Committee chairperson, state committeeman and state committeewoman) and the Florida Democratic Party Committee on Clubs, Organizations, and Caucuses together with copies of the minutes of the meeting at which these amendments were adopted.

14. Proposed Bylaws of Beaches Democratic Club (2017)

ARTICLE XII-THE BEACHES DEMOCRATIC CLUB AND THE INTERNET

The Club, through the Board of Directors, shall have total control of its Uniform Resource Locator (URL)- Web Address- and this control applies to the Club's Facebook Page as well. Anyone else or any organization that claims ownership of the Club's Web Address or Facebook Page is an illegitimate claim and is subject to a legal action.

~~E Mail voting in the Club's elections is acceptable.~~

Removed 6/6/17

ARTICLE XIII- ACCOUNTABILITY

Section 1. Charter Recertification: In July of each odd numbered year the Club will apply to the Certification Committee of the county Democratic Executive Committee for a Certificate of Compliance. Failure to do so will result in the forfeiture of all rights and privileges of the use of the word "Democrat," "Democratic," or a derivative thereof.

Section 2. At the time of the Club's Charter Recertification in July of each odd numbered year when

15. Proposed Bylaws of Beaches Democratic Club (2017)

the Club applies to the county Certification Committee for a Certificate of Compliance, the Club will submit its latest bank statement(s) to the Certification Committee. The Certification Committee will be empowered to augment the Club's Annual Party Contribution by an amount not to exceed twenty percent (20%) of the balance in the Club's bank accounts and other financial instruments-including checking, certificates of deposit, and saving accounts-to be paid to the county Democratic Executive Committee for the purpose of supporting the election of nominated Democratic Party candidates following the Primary Election only.

Section 3. Dissolution: In the event this club wishes to dissolve, a resolution stating the date of dissolution and the reasons for the dissolution will be adopted by a majority vote of the Club after being submitted in writing at the membership meeting just before dissolution. When the Club disbands for any reason, the Club's assets and funds, after all debts are satisfied, will become the property of the county Democratic Executive Committee.

Section 4. Grievances: Disputes and grievances may be resolved by the county chairman, state committeeman,

16. Proposed Bylaws of Beaches Democratic Club (2017)

and state committeewoman of the county Democratic Executive Committee in the county of the charter. Should one (1) person hold two (2) of these offices, the vice chairperson of the county Democratic Executive Committee will also be involved with said resolution. Such resolution may be appealed within thirty (30) days of the decision to the county Democratic Committee whose decision will be final unless further appealed to the Judicial Council of the Florida Democratic Party not later than forty-five (45) days from the date of said Democratic Executive Committee decision.

Section 5. Upon leaving an elected or appointed position in the Club, all official records, files, and properties to the Club will be turned over to the successor officer or to the Club.

Amended Bylaws presented to Club Board: May _____, 2017, and approved June 6, 2017