

CONSTITUTION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF DOOR COUNTY, WISCONSIN

ARTICLE 1 – Name

The name of this organization shall be the Democratic Party of Door County.

ARTICLE II – Purpose

It shall be the primary purpose of the county party to develop to the fullest possible party membership in the county, to hold regularly scheduled meetings, to encourage Democratic candidates for county and legislative offices, to form and maintain an effective campaign organization, to make recommendations for party platform and to generally promote the interests of the Democratic Party in that county.

ARTICLE III – Membership

Any resident of Door County, at least 14 years of age, who subscribes to the progressive principles of the Democratic Party is eligible for voting membership and shall become a member upon payment of dues and receipt of such dues by the Democratic Party of Wisconsin.

ARTICLE IV – Organization

Section 1 (a) – The elected officers of the county party shall be a chairperson, a vice-chairperson, a secretary and a treasurer. The county party may provide for additional officers. Such officers to be elected for a one-year term at an annual election held between November 1 and December 31

Section 2 – Nomination may be made by an appointed nomination committee or from the floor by a member. Nomination must include the prior consent of the nominee. Failure to obtain such consent shall render the nomination/election invalid.

Section 3 – Election to a county party office shall require a majority of those present and voting. If two or more candidates are nominated the voting shall be by secret written ballot. To be eligible to vote a person must meet the membership criteria set forth in Article III.

Section 4 – The chairperson shall be the presiding officer at all meetings and shall act as administrative head of the organization. He / She shall have the power to appoint standing and ad hoc committees and their chairs. Ad hoc committees serve until their project is completed or until the chairperson's term expires.

Section 5 – The vice-chairperson shall assume the duties of the chairperson when the chairperson is absent, incapacitated or otherwise unable to perform his/her designated duties.

Section 6 – The secretary shall maintain records of the organization and issue meeting notices as directed by the chairperson.

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Section 7 – The treasurer shall be the custodian of the funds of the organization, shall render a financial report at each meeting, and shall expend funds only in accordance with a directive from the Executive Board or a motion passed at a meeting. The treasurer shall also prepare and forward all reports required by law or by state, district or county officials. The treasurer is responsible for keeping a record of all paid memberships. The treasurer’s books shall be submitted regularly to an auditor or to a committee appointed by the chairperson.

Section 8 – The Executive Board Shall be allowed by this Constitution to develop policies for the operation of the Door County Democratic Board with a majority vote of a quorum at an Executive Board Meeting.

ARTICLE V – Executive Board

Section 1 – The Executive Board shall consist of the four (4) officers who shall be elected at the annual election.

Section 2 – The county chairperson shall be the chair of the Executive Board.

Section 3 – The Executive Board shall meet at the call of the chair. There will at least seven (7) day notice for a meeting.

Section 4 – Any action about urgent matters of personnel, campaign and party strategy, and finance that may be taken at a meeting of the Executive Board may also be taken without a meeting and voted on by email subject to the policies developed and approved by the general membership.

Section 5 – If a vacancy, other than the chair occurs, it shall be filled by appointment for the remainder of the term. If the chair becomes vacant it will be filled by the vice-chairperson for the remainder of the term.

ARTICLE VI – Dues and Finance

Section 1 – Membership dues shall be determined by the Democratic Party of Wisconsin.

Section 2 – Dues will be sent to the Democratic Party of Wisconsin, who will return the county party portion.

Section 3 – Funds for the county party may be solicited/earned from sources other than membership dues.

ARTICLE VII – Meetings

Section 1 – The most recently revised “Roberts Rules of Order” shall be the parliamentary authority for all meetings.

Section 2 – Unless otherwise ordered by the Executive Board the county party will hold regular meetings monthly. Electronic and physical notice for all meetings will be sent at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting.

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Section 3 – If three (3) months pass without a meeting, twenty percent (20%) of the general membership may petition the Democratic Party of Wisconsin State Chairperson who shall call a meeting of the county party giving 10 days written notice to county party members.

Section 4 – The annual meeting for the election of officers shall be held not earlier than November 1 and no later than December 31 of each year. Notification of the annual meeting for the election of officers shall be sent at least ten (10) days in advance of the meeting. Only those people meeting the definition of member (see Article III) will be permitted to vote.

Section 5 – Special meetings may be called by the chairperson, the Executive Board or by any eight (8) members of the county party.

Section 6 – Five (5) members shall constitute a quorum or an alternative version would be “5% of the general membership shall constitute a quorum.”)

ARTICLE VIII – Endorsement

The county party shall not endorse any candidate for elective office in a primary election unless the county party recommends an endorsement because of unusual circumstances to the DPW Administrative Committee and the Administrative Committee approves said recommendation.

ARTICLE IX – Amendments

Section 1 – This constitution may be amended after two readings at any regular or special meeting of the county party provided that the proposed amendment is presented in writing at least 10 days before it is to be voted upon and provided that two thirds (2/3) of those present approve the amendment.

Section 2 – This constitution and all amendments shall be sent to the Democratic Party of Wisconsin for approval before becoming effective.

ARTICLE X – Constitutional Preference

Section 1 – This constitution shall supersede any previous constitution, by-laws, or rules adopted by the Democratic Party of Door County.

Section 2 – If and when this constitution is in conflict with the constitution of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin, the latter shall prevail.

Adopted and amended at a regular meeting of the Democratic Party of Door County on:

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Date: _____

Chairperson: _____

Date: _____

Secretary: _____

Date: _____