

Libertarian Party of Central Virginia

A Virginia Non-Profit Organization



Bylaws

Est. 04 August 2021

Rev Date: 25 October 2021

Party Officers (2021 – 2022)

| <u>Position</u> | <u>Current Occupant</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Chair | Nicolas Kurfees |
| Vice Chair | Jason Bruce |
| Treasurer | Tommy Burleson |
| Secretary | Adam Plaskey |
| At-Large Member | Carter Garrison |

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Mission Statement

We, The Libertarian Party of Central Virginia (“LPCV”), do hereby take up the charge to affect a change, through peaceable measures, in the governing bodies that affect our lives. We commit ourselves to working toward a smaller, less intrusive government. We will promote individual liberty and property rights.

Through peaceful assembly, education of the public and politicians, and running candidates for local, state, and federal offices, we will maintain a visible presence in the Central Virginia area encompassing Henrico, Hanover, Louisa, Goochland, New Kent, and Powhatan Counties.

Article I. Membership

- 1.1 A member of the LPCV (“Member”) is a person that currently resides in the County of Henrico, Hanover, Louisa, Goochland, New Kent, or Powhatan, and has paid \$25 in annual dues to the LPCV within the last 12 months.

Article II. Board of LPCV Officers

- 2.1 LPCV shall be governed by an elected board (referred to as the “Board”) that will convene once per month. Officers of the Board (“Officers”) will be elected by plurality vote at the LPCV convention for a term of one (1) year.
- 2.2 The Board shall consist of five positions; Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, and At-Large Member. Each Officer shall have one vote at the monthly Board meeting.
- 2.2.1 The Chair will run the day-to-day operations of LPCV. The Chair will set the agenda for the monthly board meetings which, at the discretion of the Chair, may take place either online or at a physical location.
- 2.2.2 The Vice Chair will stand in for the Chair in his or her absence. The Vice Chair will supervise any such committees that are formed by the governing body.
- 2.2.3 The Treasurer will keep records of fundraising and expenses for all party functions, and file reports as required by local, state, and Federal law. The treasurer must ensure that IRS form 8871-I is filed per IRS instructions.
- 2.2.4 The Secretary will keep minutes of the meetings. The Secretary will keep track of member contact information, work in conjunction with the Treasurer to ensure membership dues are up to date and maintain a record of desired changes to these bylaws.
- 2.2.5 The At-Large Member will serve as the official liaison to the members of LPCV. The At-Large Member will be the primary point of contact for the Members and will broadcast official updates.
- 2.3 A Board vacancy is created by an Officer (i) resigning, (ii) missing 3 consecutive meetings, or (iii) being removed from his/her position in accordance with bylaw 2.4. In the event that a position becomes vacant, a new Officer will be elected by the remaining Officers. If the Chair vacates his/her post, the Vice Chair will become the Chair and the Officers will select a new Vice Chair. In the event of a tie, the new Officer will be elected by a plurality vote of Members present at the next monthly meeting.
- 2.3.1 Officers may retain their office after missing 3 consecutive meetings with unanimous consent of all other Officers.

- 2.3.2 Members may initiate the removal of an Officer through a recall vote against an Officer at a meeting. The proposing Member must state their intention to trigger a recall vote when asking to be recognized, and present specific cause(s) why they are initiating the vote prior to the vote taking place. If a majority of members vote to recall the Officer, a Board vote is triggered in accordance with bylaw 2.4.
- 2.4 A $\frac{3}{5}$ vote of Officers is required to remove an Officer from the Board. At least fourteen days prior to the vote, notification of the motion, with specific cause(s), will be sent by email to the Officer to be removed, and an email will be sent to all LPCV members. The Chair will send these emails, unless he/she is the Officer to be removed, in which case the Vice Chair will send the emails.
- 2.5 In the event the Officers fail to fill a vacant Board position, or if two or more Board positions become vacant simultaneously, a special convention will be held to fill the vacant Board position(s). Board positions will be filled by plurality vote of Members present. Members will be provided a three-week notice of this special convention by email.
- 2.6 The Board will meet once a month to assess and set goals, authorize expenditures, address issues relevant to LPCV and address issues brought forward from advisory committees. Quorum for the Board meetings shall be at least $\frac{3}{5}$ of the Officers.
- 2.6.1 Members will be welcome at all board meetings and are encouraged to participate, and sufficient notice of Board meetings shall be given to Members through email and other commonly used media. Members are welcome to observe Board meetings and may be recognized to speak.
- 2.7 All appropriations of LPCV funds must be approved through a recorded vote by a majority of Officers. Expenditures less than \$150 can be proposed and voted upon by the Officers. Expenditures greater than \$150 will first be voted upon by the Finance Committee (as defined in Article IV).
- 2.8 LPCV Officers may not hold any leadership position in or seek elected or appointed office as a nominee of any other political party.

Article III. Election Procedures

- 3.1 For members to seek positions on the Board they must also be a sustaining member of the LPCV and a member of the Libertarian Party of Virginia.
- 3.1.1 Elections for Officers will be conducted by secret ballot. The Board shall be responsible for providing a sufficient number of ballots.

- 3.1.2 Electronic ballot programs such as ElectionBuddy, OpaVote, or other similar programs may also be used.
- 3.2 Prior to voting for Officers the Convention (as defined in Article V) shall appoint two Members who are not candidates to tally the votes and/or to operate electronic ballot programs.
- 3.3 Officers shall be elected using ranked-choice ballots. The winner of the election shall be determined using the instant-runoff method.

Article IV. Committees

- 4.1 Committees may be created by the Board. These committees will inform the board on issues pertaining to local, state, and federal governing bodies and to assist with any other tasks that the Board deems necessary.
- 4.1.1 A permanent committee is hereby created to advise and direct major expenditures (the “Finance Committee”). The Treasurer will set the agenda and chair the Finance Committee meetings.
- 4.2 Upon the establishment of a committee the Board will set, edit, and/or approve guidelines pertaining to the function and purpose of the proposed committee, and the Officers will appoint a director of the proposed committee by a $\frac{3}{5}$ vote.
- 4.3 The board may also establish ad hoc committees that will dissolve following the completion of its specific purpose. Ad hoc committees will also be subject to the requirements in bylaw 3.1.2.
- 4.4 Established committees will be designated in the LPCV Committee Development document, as written by the Board, along with committee roles, rights and function.

Article V. LPCV Convention

- 5.1 The LPCV Convention (“Convention”) will be held annually (if a Convention has not already been held in that calendar year, excluding a special convention) no later than the end of the first week of December as called by the Board.
- 5.2 The Convention will elect new Officers by plurality vote of Members.
- 5.3 The LPCV will solicit, from its Members, candidates for elected office.
- 5.4 Amendments to the LPCV bylaws may be proposed at the Convention.
- 5.4.1 Amendments may only be sponsored by Members.
- 5.4.2 Amendments will be passed when approved by two-thirds of Members present.

- 5.5 Current LPCV members will be notified by the Board via email at least three weeks prior to the Convention.
- 5.6 Members at the Convention must be Members for at least thirty days within the previous twelve months. However, Members who do not meet the 30-day requirement at the time of the convention may be allowed to vote if two-thirds of the Members present who meet the 30-day requirement vote to waive said requirement.
- 5.7 A Member may designate another individual (“Proxy”) to cast a vote on their behalf at the Convention.
- 5.7.1 The Secretary must be given at least 14-day notice of the Proxy designation by the Member, which becomes valid once accepted by the Proxy at the Convention. The Board will notify the Member and Proxy of the intended designation once it has been recorded, no later than five (5) days prior to the Convention.
- 5.7.1.1 Should a Member submit a Proxy designation, then attend the Convention, the Proxy will be thrown out and the Member will vote on their own behalf.
- 5.7.1.2 In the event the Board does not notify the Member and Proxy prior to the Convention, the Member should contact the At-Large Member directly to mediate the situation.
- 5.7.2 It is understood, this Proxy designation is strictly for the Convention in the event a Member is unable to attend and cast their own vote and will expire immediately after the Convention in question.
- 5.7.3 Only Members of the LPCV may act as a Proxy for another Member.
- 5.8 A quorum at the Convention shall be a majority of all Members or their Proxies.

Article VI. Endorsements

- 6.1 Candidates seeking public office that have been endorsed by either the national Libertarian Party or the Libertarian Party of Virginia, or candidates seeking local office that are both members of LPCV and neither have nor are seeking the endorsement of any other political party shall be endorsed through a $\frac{3}{5}$ vote by the LPCV Board.
- 6.2 The LPCV Board may not endorse more candidates than there are positions up for election.
- 6.3 The LPCV Board may rescind any endorsement by unanimous consent.

Article VII. Voluntary Disaffiliation

- 7.1 Any county or group of counties may disaffiliate from the LPCV to either join another existing affiliate of the LPVA or attempt to form a new affiliate of the LPVA.
- 7.2 A convention (“Disaffiliation Convention”) must be held that must be open to all Members, members of the Libertarian Party of Virginia (“LPVA”), or sustaining members of the national Libertarian Party (collectively, “LP Members”). This convention may be open to non-members of these organizations if so desired, but the convention cannot exclude these LP Members from attendance.
- 7.2.1 All LPCV Officers must be notified of the Disaffiliation Convention by email at least 30 days prior to the convention. Such notification will include the convention time and location.
- 7.3 Only LP Members residing in the county or counties wishing to disaffiliate from LPCV are eligible to vote at the Disaffiliation Convention.
- 7.4 If the county or group of counties attempting to disaffiliate is joining an already existing LPVA local affiliate, two-thirds of convention voters must vote to approve joining the existing affiliate.
- 7.5 If the county or group of counties attempting to disaffiliate is attempting to form a new LPVA local affiliate, then the vote to disaffiliate must be approved by the number of convention voters required by the bylaws of the LPVA to form a new affiliate (currently 5) or by two-thirds convention voters, whichever number is greater. Disaffiliation with LPCV becomes effective only after the LPVA approves the new affiliate.
- 7.6 Any Officer who is a resident of the disaffiliating county or group of counties will be suspended upon the Board’s notification of the Disaffiliation Convention. A pro tempore officer(s) will be appointed by a majority Board vote to serve until the disaffiliation becomes effective. If disaffiliation does not occur, the pro tempore is automatically removed and the original Officer(s) retains their position on the Board and will become active in that position again upon the failure of the Disaffiliation Convention to disaffiliate.
- 7.7 Once disaffiliation becomes effective, the Secretary will remove the county from the LPCV bylaws without the need for a Convention.

Article VIII. Governing Law

8.1 The LPCV's affiliation with the LPVA will be subject to Section 04.03 of the Bylaws of the LPVA as amended March 14, 2020.

8.2 The LPCV Conventions and board meetings will be governed by the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

Adopted: 04 August 2021

Amended: 25 October 2021