

BY-LAWS FOR THE FREDRICKSBURG DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE

Article I. Name

The name of this organization shall be the Fredericksburg Democratic Committee, hereafter referred to as the "Committee."

Article II. Authority

The Committee is organized under the authority of and in accordance with the Code of Virginia and the Party Plan of the Democratic Party of Virginia. Nothing contained in these By-Laws is intended to conflict with either the Code or the Party Plan. If such a conflict should occur, the Code and/or the Plan will have precedence. All activities of the Committee, including mass meetings, primaries, conventions, and fundraising will be conducted in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Party Plan.

Article III. Purpose

The purpose of the Committee will be:

1. To serve as the organizing body of the Democratic Party within the City of Fredericksburg and to assist in the election of Democratic nominees for office.
2. To encourage voter registration and voter participation in the City of Fredericksburg.
3. To raise funds for the Democratic Party and Democratic nominees for office.
4. To organize and appoint election officials to work in all primary, general, and special elections in the City of Fredericksburg pursuant to the election laws as contained in the Code of Virginia.

Article IV: Membership

1. Membership of the Committee will consist of persons elected at large ~~on the first Saturday in December of every odd-numbered year~~ pursuant to the Party Plan, to serve a term of two years beginning January 1 of the next year.
2. Membership eligibility is based only on a person's being registered to vote in the City of Fredericksburg.

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3. Members of the Young Democrats of Fredericksburg and the Young Democrats of ~~Mary Washington College~~ the University of Mary Washington shall be extended membership as ex-officio non-voting members.
4. If residing in the City of Fredericksburg, all Democratic officeholders (whether local, state, or federal), all state party officials, and officers of the Congressional District Committee shall be ex-officio voting members of the Committee.

Article V. Removal of Members

1. The Committee may remove from office and membership any person who misses four consecutive meetings without cause, who shall be guilty of willful neglect of any duty imposed upon such member, or who, in the opinion of the Committee, violates the trust of the Committee.
2. Before the member's removal, the Committee will provide the member ten (10) days written notice of the charges and an opportunity to address the charges in a hearing before a subcommittee.
3. Any such removal decision may be appealed to the Congressional District Committee and, if required, to the State Steering Committee of the Virginia Democratic Party.

Article VI. Officers

1. The Committee will organize and elect its officers ~~no more than forty (40) days following the December re-organizational meeting during which the Committee is elected~~ pursuant to the Party Plan. At this organizational meeting, the Committee will elect a chairperson, vice chairperson, secretary, and treasurer.
2. The officers' terms will coincide with the two-year terms of their election to the Committee.
3. A vacancy in any office will be filled by majority vote of those members present at a meeting called for such a purpose with ten (10) days written notice having been provided.
4. Removal of an officer will follow the same procedure as denoted in Article V.
5. The chair may appoint additional officers and sub-committees that might be needed to insure the full operation of the Committee.

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Article VII. Membership Vacancies

1. Written applications using a standard form will be used to fill vacant membership positions on the Committee.
2. Vacancies will be filled by a vote of remaining members of the Committee based on the majority vote of those present at a regular meeting or called meeting to which at least ten (10) days written notice has been given to Committee.
3. New members will become full voting members of the Committee as soon as they are elected.

Article VIII. Duties of the Officers

1. The chair will preside at all meetings of the Committee and generally guide the business and functioning of the Committee. The chair may appoint additional officers or committees as he or she deems necessary and serve as the ex-officio member of all subcommittees. The chair will perform other duties as required by the By-Laws, the Party Plan, and the Code of Virginia.
2. The vice chair will assume all duties of the chair in the absence of the chair and other duties delegated by the chair when the latter for any cause is unable to act.
3. The secretary will keep accurate records of each meeting and provide timely written notice of all meetings other than regularly scheduled monthly meetings. The secretary will also keep the Committee member roll.
4. The treasurer will have charge of all funds belonging to the Committee and will deposit them in a bank to the credit of the Committee. He or she will pay all bills by check and make regular reports to the Committee. Further, the treasurer will perform all duties delegated by the chair.
5. The records of all officers will be available for inspection by any member of the Committee. Requests to inspect records will be given in writing and will be honored by all officers within ten (10) days of the receipt of such request.

Article IX. Executive Committee

1. An Executive Committee will be created consisting of the chair, vice chair, secretary, treasurer, and a representative for each ward.

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2. Local Democratic elected officials as well as Democratic state and party officials within the City of Fredricksburg and the presidents of the Young Democrats of Fredericksburg and ~~Mary Washington College~~ the University of Mary Washington will be ex-officio non-voting members of the Executive Committee.
3. The Executive Committee shall have the general supervision of the affairs of the Committee between its regular business meetings, make recommendations to the Committee, and perform such other duties as are specified in these By-Laws. As early as practicable after each of its meetings, the Executive Committee shall report to the full Committee any actions taken.

Article X. Meetings and Established Quorum

1. There will be at least four scheduled meetings during each year. Meetings can be called by the chair, by 30 per cent (30%) vote of the members of the Committee if a signed call is filed with the secretary ten (10) days before the proposed meeting, and by a majority vote of a regular meeting of the Committee.
2. A quorum for all meetings shall consist of at least ~~20~~ 30 percent (~~20~~ 30%) of the membership.
3. Ten (10) days written notice ~~will be given~~ shall be provided for all meetings other than regularly scheduled monthly meetings. Electronic notice shall constitute written notice for each member so electing.

Article XI. Amendments and Suspension of By-Laws

1. The By-Laws may be amended by a majority of the Committee at any time.
2. The By-Laws may also be amended by the majority of the quorum present and voting at any meeting if written notice is given to all members at least ten (10) days before the vote on the amendment.
3. The By-Laws may be temporarily suspended at any meeting by a majority vote of a quorum present at any meeting.

Article XII. Parliamentary Authority

The rules governing the Committee will be the current edition of the Robert's Rules of Order in all cases that those rules are applicable and do not conflict with the By-Laws, Party Plan, and the Code of Virginia.