

Libertarian Party Of Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County

Bylaws and Principles

I. Name and Purpose

The Libertarian Party of Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County (LPMNDC), an affiliate of the Libertarian Party (LP) and the Libertarian Party of Tennessee (LPTN) exists to Promote the principles and candidates of the LP, the LPTN and the LPMNDC and expand the membership of the LP, the LPTN, and the LPMNDC

II. Statement of Principles

- A. Each individual possesses the inalienable right to life, liberty and to justly acquired property.
- B. No person or institution, public or private, has the right to use physical force against another except in the defense of life, liberty, or justly acquired property.
- C. All individuals are entitled to choose their own lifestyles as long as they do not forcibly impose their values on others.
- D. The only moral basis of government is the preservation and protection of individual rights.
- E. The voluntary exchange of goods and services is fundamental to any socioeconomic system which provides for the harmonious integration of divergent value systems.

III. Membership

- A. Membership in the LPMNDC shall consist of anyone who resides in Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County or a surrounding county without an organized LP affiliate that has signed a membership form and the non-aggression pledge. No county dues will be charged.
- B. To be a voting member of the LPMNDC at a caucus or meeting, you must have been a member of LPMNDC for at least 30 days.
- C. No LPMNDC membership dues shall be charged, however voluntary contributions and monthly pledges are encouraged.

IV. Officers

- A. Upon adoption of these bylaws, the voting members of LPMNDC shall elect a chair and a secretary/ treasurer.
- B. These officers shall hold office for one year, or until their successors are elected.
- C. All officers must have been LPMNDC members for at least 90 days.
- D. Any officer of the LPMNDC can be recalled by a 2/3 majority of the voting members.
- E. Duties of Officers:
 - 1. The Chair serves as the executive officer of LPMNDC, moderates all LPMNDC meetings, and sets the agenda for LPMNDC.

2. The Secretary/ Treasurer assists the Chair in maintaining membership records and records the proceedings of all LPMNDC business meetings, including accurate vote tallies. In accordance with LPTN by-laws, the secretary/treasure shall maintain a list of non-national members who are certified by the County Chair as LPMNDC members. This list shall be kept current and shall be forwarded to the LPTN Secretary bi-annually by February 1 and August 1 of each year, so that such, so that such may be certified as LPTN members.

The secretary/treasurer receives and gives receipts for all funds paid to and from LPMNDC. Regularly provides a report for all funds paid to and from LPMNDC.

V. Legislature and Voting

- A. The Legislature of LPMNDC consists of all voting members of LPMNDC defined in Article III sections A and B of these bylaws.
- B. All votes must be taken in a regularly scheduled, open meeting, except where otherwise noted.
- C. All amendments, proposals, resolutions, recommendations, etc. are voted on by a show of hands.
- D. Approval or repeal rests on a two-thirds majority vote of the Legislature, except where otherwise noted.

VI. Elections

- A. The election of LPMNDC officers occurs during the business meeting of the annual Caucus, except when a vacancy must be temporally filled.
- B. Within one month of election to the office of Chair, the Chair shall announce the date of the next annual caucus.
- C. Nominations for office come from the floor, and must be seconded.
- D. A candidate must receive fifty-one percent approval from voting members for election.
- E. None of the Above (NOTA) shall automatically be a candidate for nomination for all elected offices, and shall be announced by the Chair as such. Should NOTA receive a majority on the first ballot, the Chair shall immediately call for new nominations for that office, and a second vote shall be held. Should NOTA receive a majority on the second ballot, then no candidate shall be nominated for that office.
- F. Upon the resignation of or abandonment of duties of an officer the following procedures shall be used to replace said officers:
 1. All resignations of officers shall be submitted to the legislature of LPMNDC.
 2. An officers who fails to perform duties prescribed by these bylaws for their office for ninety days shall be considered to have resigned from that office.
 3. All efforts should be made to contact an officer believed to have resigned from office under Article VI, Section F, Sub-section 2.

4. At the general meeting immediately following the resignation, the moderator announces the vacancy and the date of the meeting in which nominations and the election occur.
5. The election follows the procedures outlined in Article VI, Sections A, B, C, and D.
6. The LPTN chair may appoint temporary officers, if officers cannot be elected as prescribed by these bylaws for a period of at least six months.

VIII. Funds and Spending

- A. Expenditures incurred while meeting the requirements of these by-laws and office related materials fall under the purview of the Chair.
- B. Expenditures for outreach (e.g. literature, banners, tables, signs, chairs, etc.) and political materials (e.g., maps, voter lists, paid petitioners, campaign software, etc.) require a majority approval of the legislature.

IX. Meetings

- A. General meetings must be held at least once every two months and should be announced at least thirty days in advance. All meetings are open to the general public.
- B. The Agenda is set by the moderator (i.e., Chair or Secretary/Treasure).

X. Amendments

- A. This entire document may be altered only during the business meeting of an announced annual caucus.
- B. Any proposed by-law, amendment, alteration, resolution, recommendation, etc. must pertain only to one thing and must be written in understandable language.
- C. Proposed amendments must be submitted to the LPMNDC secretary/treasure at least 90 days prior to the annual caucus in writing and posted or published in clear sight on the LPMNDC website and or any other acceptable method of notifying the membership. Said proposals shall also be read at one of the regular meetings proceeding the annual caucus.
- D. Amendments to Articles I and II require a seven-eighths majority approval and may be altered only during the business meeting of an announced annual caucus. All other amendments shall require three-fourths majority for approval.
- E. Unless otherwise stated, amendments shall take effect upon adoption.
- F. Any section of these by laws which shall be or become void due to changes in the bylaws of the national LP or LPTN shall automatically be considered void.

- G. The chair may call a special caucus for the specific purpose of making amendments required by changes to the bylaws of the national LP or LPTN, a sixty day notice shall be given of such a special caucus and such proposed changes in the same manner as regular amendments must be proposed.
- X. Adoption of by-laws
 - 1. Proposed by-laws shall be made known to those interested in the establishment of LPMNDC by being posted on the LPMNDC web site in clear site for at least 30 days before the bylaws may be considered.
 - 2. The date the bylaws shall be considered in a general meeting shall also be posted in clear site on the LPMNDC website in clear site for at least 30 days before the bylaws may be considered.
 - 3. A monitored discussion group shall be established for deliberation on the bylaws and goals and objectives of LPMNDC. Comments and suggestions from this discussion will be read and considered at the meeting considering the adoption of these bylaws.
 - 4. A quorum for the adoption of these bylaws shall consist of all present at the meeting at the time the bylaws are brought up for a vote.
 - 5. The bylaws shall be discussed and may be amended at the meeting by a simple majority.
 - 6. Upon adoption of these bylaws, the Libertarian Party of Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County shall exist in perpetuity, unless dissolved by three-fifths vote of the legislature.
 - 7. Once adopted, a copy of these bylaws shall be filed with the Secretary of LPTN.