

BYLAWS OF THE BROOKLYN LIBERTARIAN PARTY

As approved at the Founding Convention on 17 May 2009

Article I. Organization

The name of this organization shall be the Brooklyn Libertarian Party (the “Brooklyn LP”). Upon the chartering of the Brooklyn LP by the State Committee of the Libertarian Party of New York (“LPNY”), the Brooklyn will be a County Organization as defined in the bylaws of the LPNY.

Article II. Objectives

The Brooklyn LP is a political organization that has as its primary objective the extension of individual freedom to its furthest limits, subject to reasonable prohibitions to prevent the initiation of force and the perpetration of fraud. In recognition of the fact that the force of government has been used as an instrument for the expropriation of individual rights and freedom, the Brooklyn LP enters the political arena for the avowed purpose of limiting the intervention of government to the prevention of violence against persons and property, as well as of fraud, and the development and protection of individual property rights.

Article III. Membership

A. Membership in the Brooklyn LP shall be open to any individual who submits a completed Membership Application as determined by the County Committee, and who pays dues as determined by the County Committee.

B. Dues for membership shall be set by the County Committee. Annual memberships shall expire on the last day of the month which is one year after dues were last paid.

Article IV. Conventions and Meetings

A. Conventions

1. The Brooklyn LP shall hold an Annual Convention each year. The Annual Convention shall elect officers and may endorse candidates for public office, adopt or amend bylaws, and adopt policy resolutions.

2. Special Conventions may also be called at any time for any particular purpose by either (1) the County Committee, or (2) anyone who makes a written request to the Chair or Secretary, which declares who is calling for the Special Convention and for what purpose, and is signed by twenty-five percent (25%) of the members in good standing of the Brooklyn LP. Only subjects which directly relate to the purpose for which the Special Convention is called may be considered at any Special Convention.

3. Written notice shall be provided to each Brooklyn LP member in good standing not less than ten (10) nor more than sixty (60) days in advance of any Convention. Such notice shall include the date, time and location of the Convention, and, for Special

Conventions, shall also include who is calling the Special Convention and for what purpose. Attendance without protest at any Convention by any member shall constitute a waiver of notice, as shall the signing of a waiver of notice before or after the Convention.

4. Conventions shall be held in Brooklyn, except in years when an election is held for Mayor of the City of New York, when the Annual Convention may be held in any borough of New York City.

5. Any individual who shall have been a member in good standing of the Brooklyn LP for the fifteen (15) days prior to any Convention, and who is present at that Convention, shall be entitled to vote at that Convention. No voting by proxy shall be permitted.

6. Ten percent (10%) of the members in good standing of the Brooklyn LP must be present to commence or re-commence any Convention. For the purpose of voting at the Convention, a quorum shall consist of fifty percent (50%) of the voting members in attendance at the Convention, but not less than five (5) persons. No decision requiring a vote shall be made without a quorum.

7. Voting for candidates in an election to fill any party office or to be endorsed by the Brooklyn LP or for any other purpose shall abide by the following rules:

a. Voting members may vote for any number of candidates up to and including the number of positions for the office to be filled, or “none of the above”.

b. Any candidate who receives the required level of majority of ballots cast shall be deemed elected.

c. In the event that not all positions for the office are filled by the foregoing vote, another vote shall be held for the remaining positions after the following candidates have been removed from the slate:

i. all elected candidates;

ii. considering the candidates in order from the lowest vote total received to the highest, all candidates whose combined supporters, had they voted differently, could not have caused any candidate who was not elected to have been elected or caused “none of the above” to obtain a majority;

iii. if no candidates are removed from the slate under the previous subsection, then the candidate or candidates who received the lowest vote total.

d. In the event that a majority of the ballots cast are for “none of the above”, or if all candidates have been removed from the slate by the foregoing procedure, nominations for the remaining positions shall be reopened and none of the previous candidates shall be eligible.

B. Chapter Events

The Brooklyn LP may hold meetings throughout the year and plan events including fundraising events.

Article V. Officers

A. The officers of the Brooklyn LP shall be the Chair, the Vice Chair, the Secretary, and the Treasurer.

B. Duties

1. The Chair shall preside at all Brooklyn LP County Committee Meetings and Conventions, shall act as administrator and spokesperson, and shall have such other authority as granted by the County Committee. The Chair shall be a resident of Brooklyn when elected. The Chair shall be, or appoint, the Brooklyn LP representative to the state committee of the LPNY.

2. The Vice Chair shall act as associate to the Chair, shall act in place of the Chair in the absence of the Chair, and shall be a resident of Brooklyn when elected.

3. The Secretary shall create and keep an accurate and complete record of the membership of the Brooklyn LP, and of all Conventions and meetings of the County Committee, and shall act in place of the Chair in the absence of the Chair and the Vice Chair. At each meeting, the Secretary shall present the minutes of the previous meeting for approval. In all elections and roll call votes, the Secretary shall call the roll of the members and keep an accurate tally of such votes.

4. The Treasurer shall collect, hold, and disburse funds, maintain records of all financial transactions, and provide reports of financial status at meetings as directed by the County Committee, and at least annually. Each month, the Treasurer shall send a renewal notice to each member of the Brooklyn LP whose membership is due to expire that month.

C. Separate elections shall be held at the Annual Convention for each office above, in which those elected must receive a majority of the votes cast.

D. In the event that an election to fill any party office cannot be held due to the inability to convene a Convention or gather a quorum to vote at any Convention, the County Committee shall call a Special Convention for the purpose of electing a new officer as soon as practical.

E. Nominations for all offices shall be from the floor. Nominating committees shall not be permitted.

F. All elected officers shall serve until the close of the Convention at which their successor is elected, or until such time as they are no longer able to serve or are removed from membership in the Brooklyn LP, at which time the Chair shall select their replacement, or if the Chair's position is to be filled, the Vice Chair shall become Chair.

G. To be eligible for election, a person must be a member in good standing of the Brooklyn LP.

H. The same person may not serve both as Chair, and as any other officer.

I. Any officer may be impeached for good cause by three-fourths (3/4) vote of the County Committee, or upon submission to the Chair or Secretary of a petition to that effect signed by at least one-half (1/2) of the members in good standing of the Brooklyn LP. The County Committee shall then call a Special Convention to consider the matter, at which such officer may be removed from office by two-thirds (2/3) vote.

Article VI. County Committee

A. All executive authority to which a private organization is entitled, and which is not limited by these bylaws, or applicable law, shall be vested in the County Committee.

B. The County Committee shall consist of the Chair, the Vice Chair, the Secretary, and the Treasurer. Each individual member of the County Committee shall be entitled to a single vote. A quorum shall be considered present whenever a majority of the members of the County Committee are present.

C. The County Committee shall meet at least once annually, at the close of the Annual Convention. Meetings of the County Committee shall be held in person in Brooklyn or Queens, except upon the consent, in each instance, of every member of the County Committee.

D. Meetings may be called by (1) the Chair, (2) the County Committee, or (3) a written request submitted to the Chair or Secretary signed by one-third (1/3) of the members of the County Committee. The Secretary shall notify each member of the County Committee of any meeting at least five (5) days in advance, unless emergency circumstances dictate otherwise. Attendance without protest at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice, as shall the signing of a waiver of notice before of after the meeting.

E. The County Committee shall not have the authority to expend any Brooklyn LP funds in support of any candidate for public office not endorsed in accordance with these bylaws.

F. The County Committee shall not have the authority to lend money to any officer of the Brooklyn or to otherwise engage in a material commercial transaction with any officer of the Brooklyn without approval in each case of a majority of the disinterested County Committee members, after full disclosure of all material facts pertaining to the transaction.

G. All meetings of the County Committee shall be open to observation by all members in good standing of the Brooklyn, limited only by the need for orderly meetings.

H. All expenditures greater than \$100 (one hundred) shall require approval of the County Committee.

Article VII. Endorsements

A. Candidates for public office whose jurisdiction lies partly or entirely within Brooklyn may be endorsed by a majority vote at any Convention.

B. Such candidates may also be endorsed by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the County Committee, except that candidates to be on the general election ballot may not be endorsed by the County Committee prior to the Annual Convention for that year.

C. The Brooklyn LP may withdraw its endorsement of any candidate for public office by vote of a majority of the entire County Committee.

Article VIII. Amendment of Bylaws

These bylaws may be amended by any of the following procedures:

1. The County Committee may, by majority vote, propose an amendment. Notice of the proposed amendment, including the text of the amendment, shall be sent to each member in good standing of the LP not less than ten (10) nor more than sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Convention. The amendment passes upon approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting members of the Convention.

2. A Special Convention may be called for this purpose, at which a two-thirds (2/3) vote shall be required for ratification. The notice of the Special Convention shall include the text of the proposed amendment.

3. The proposed amendment may be entered on the agenda of the Annual Convention by any voting member submitting the proposed text of the amendment, signed by ten percent (10%) of the voting members, to the Secretary before consideration of the matter of amendments is concluded; a three-fourths (3/4) vote shall be required for ratification.

Article IX. Procedural Rules

The latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall be the parliamentary authority governing all matters of procedure not in conflict with these bylaws at all Conventions and all meetings of the County Committee.