

RULES of the GREEN PARTY OF ONONDAGA COUNTY

Adopted by the Convention of the Green Party of Onondaga County held on May 15, 2012 in Syracuse, New York.

ARTICLE 1: AUTHORITY AND JURISDICTION

All the duties and powers pertaining to County Organizations pursuant to the Rules of the Green Party of New York State shall for Onondaga County, New York be vested in the Green Party of Onondaga County.

ARTICLE 2: MEMBERSHIP

1. Enrolled Members: Membership in the Green Party of Onondaga County shall include all Green Electors who are currently enrolled in the Green Party with the Board of Elections in Onondaga County, New York, as Green Party voters. The Green Party of Onondaga County shall recognize the membership rights of any Green Elector from the time they file their Green Party enrollment with the Onondaga County Board of Elections.

2. Supporting Members: Any resident of Onondaga County aged 13 and older may become a Supporting Member of the Green Party of New York State upon affirmation of the rules and principles of the Green Party and payment of dues. Supporting Members shall have all the rights of membership provided for in these rules except where prohibited by statute or the Rules of the Green Party of New York State. A Supporting Member must also be an Enrolled Member of the Green Party unless not qualified to enroll pursuant to state law.

3. Dues: Dues for Supporting Members shall be established from time to time by the State Committee. Dues shall be paid out of personal funds and payable to the Green Party of New York State. One-half of the dues from Supporting Members received by the state party during the previous quarter shall be rebated to the County Organization within 30 days after the next quarter begins every January 1, April 1, July 1, and September 1.

4. Removal of Enrolled Members: Pursuant to Section 16-110(2) of the Election Law of New York State, upon written complaint to the Chair against a duly enrolled Green Elector in Onondaga County against another duly enrolled Green Elector in Onondaga County, the County Coordinating Committee may appoint a Judicial Committee to conduct a hearing to determine if said Green Elector is not in sympathy with the principles of the Green Party and therefore should have their Party enrollment canceled in a court proceeding. The Judicial Committee shall provide at least 15 days written notice to said Green Elector stating the complaint, the date of a hearing, and affording full opportunity to said Green Elector to present a defense. Upon a Judicial Committee determination that a Green Elector is not in sympathy with the principles of the Green Party, a duly enrolled Green Elector may institute a proceeding against said Green Elector asking the Supreme Court or a justice thereof within the judicial district to determine whether the Party's determination was just and, if so, direct the enrollment of said Green Elector to be canceled.

5. Removal of Supporting Members: Upon written complaint to the Chair against a Supporting Member in Onondaga County by an Enrolled or Supporting Member in Onondaga County, the County Coordinating Committee may appoint a Judicial Committee to conduct a hearing to determine if said Supporting Member is not in sympathy with the principles of the Green Party and therefore should have their Supporting Membership canceled. The Judicial Committee shall provide

at least 15 days written notice to said Supporting Member stating the complaint, the date of a hearing, and affording full opportunity to said Supporting Member to present a defense. Upon a Judicial Committee determination that a Supporting Member is not in sympathy with the principles of the Green Party, an Enrolled or Supporting Member may institute a proceeding against said Supporting Member asking a County Convention to determine whether the Judicial Committee's determination was just and, if so, direct the Supporting Membership of said Supporting Member to be canceled.

ARTICLE 3: COUNTY CONVENTION

1. Dates: The Green Party of Onondaga County shall meet in convention open to every Enrolled and Supporting Member in Onondaga County once in the Spring, once in the Fall, and at other times by call of the County Coordinating Committee.

2. Spring Convention: A Convention shall meet every Spring, not earlier than 21 days before the first day to sign designating petitions and not later than 3 days before the first day to sign designating petitions for the purpose of adopting a platform resolutions for the coming election, endorsing Green candidates for party and public office, and such other business as the members may propose.

3. Fall Convention: A Convention shall meet every Fall not earlier than 4 days after and not later than 20 days after the September primary election for the purpose of electing party officers, rallying support for Green candidates for public office, and such other business as the members may propose.

4. Special Convention: A Special Convention may be called on 15 days notice at the discretion of the County Coordinating Committee to consider such business as County Coordinating Committee proposes.

5. Notice: Members shall be notified of any Convention at least 15 days in advance. Proper notice shall consist of posting notice on the electronic communications systems (including the listserv, website, and facebook page) of the County Organization.

6. Quorum: A Convention quorum shall be the Enrolled and Supporting Members present at a properly notified Convention.

ARTICLE 3: COUNTY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

1. Members: The members of the Coordinating Committee shall consist of the Officers and State Committee members from Onondaga County. The Coordinating Committee shall perform the day-to-day business of the Green Party of Onondaga County within the framework of policies made by the County Convention.

2. Meetings: The County Coordinating Committee shall determine the time and place of its meetings provided that it meets no less than once in every three months. Meetings of the County Coordinating Committee shall be open to observation by any Enrolled or Supporting Member.

3. Notice: Members shall be notified at least 3 days in advance of any Coordinating Committee meeting. Proper notice shall consist of posting notice on the electronic communications systems (including the listserv, website, and facebook page) of the County Organization.

4. Quorum: A Coordinating Committee quorum shall be a majority of its members.

ARTICLE 4: OFFICERS

1. Elections: The Fall Convention shall elect for one year terms from its membership a Chair, a Secretary, and any other officers it deems necessary to conduct the County Organization's affairs.

2. Chair: The Chair shall be responsible for filing all required notices with the State and County Board of Elections, except those which have to do with financial matters, or which by law or by party rules are required to be filed by some other officer. The Chair shall be the Presiding Officer of the Green Party of Onondaga County. If any other officer is unable to fulfill their duties, the Chair shall be responsible for ensuring that these duties are performed.

3. Secretary: The Secretary shall be responsible for recording and posting the minutes of all Conventions and Coordinating Committee meetings of the Green Party of Onondaga County. Within ten days after the adoption of any county rule or amendment, the Secretary shall file a copy with the Secretary of the Green Party of New York State and with the Onondaga County Board of Elections.

4. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be appointed by the Coordinating Committee and serve at its pleasure. The Treasurer shall be responsible for keeping a record of income and expenses, making financial reports to Conventions and Coordinating Committee meetings, filing with the proper offices and boards of elections all campaign and financial disclosure reports and statements required by law, filing quarterly financial statements with the state treasurer of the Green Party, and performing such other duties relating to financial matters as the Green Party of Onondaga County may require.

5. State Committee Members: The State Committee members from Onondaga County shall represent the Green Party of Onondaga County on the State Committee of the Green Party of New York State. State Committee members shall be elected according to the Rules of the Green Party of New York State and Election Law. State Committee members shall act in State Committee meetings in accordance with any instructions of the County Coordinating Committee and Convention.

6. Removal of Officers: Pursuant to Section 2-116 of the Election Law, any officer of the Green Party of Onondaga County may be removed for disloyalty to the party or corruption in office after notice of at least 15 days is given and a hearing upon written charges has been had by the County Coordinating Committee. A consensus of the Coordinating Committee members present shall be required for removal.

7. Vacancies: In the case of death, enrollment in another party, resignation, or removal for any other cause of an elected officer of the Green Party of Onondaga County, the vacancy created thereby shall be filled by the Coordinating Committee until the next Convention, which shall then elect a replacement. Vacancies on the State Committee shall be filled according to the Rules of the Green Party of New York State and Election Law.

ARTICLE 6: NOMINATIONS FOR PUBLIC OFFICE

1. The Right of Enrolled Greens to Run for Public Office: Every Enrolled Member of the Green Party of Onondaga County has the right to submit a designating petition for nomination for public office at a primary election pursuant to the Election Law of New York State.

2. The Right of the Green Party to Assert Its Political and Financial Independence and Party Democracy: In order to receive organizational and financial support from the Green Party of Onondaga County, Green candidates for public office shall observe the rules in this article concerning

the political and financial independence of the Green Party and the designation of candidates by the membership. The Green Party of Onondaga County reserves the right to campaign against candidates who obtain a Green Party nomination without observing these rules for political and financial independence and party democracy.

3. Political Independence: The Green Party shall be politically and economically independent of the big banks and corporations and their political representatives in the Democratic, Republican, and allied parties that permit the running of fusion candidates on their ballot lines who are also on the Democratic or Republican ballot lines.

4. Financial Independence: The Green Party and all of its candidates for public office shall not accept financial contributions from for-profit businesses, their trade associations, or associated political action committees.

5. Enrolled Green Party Candidates: Green Party candidates shall be enrolled members of the Green Party unless otherwise provided for in these rules.

6. Green Party Candidates Not Enrolled in the Green Party: The Green Party may nominate, designate, and/or authorize a candidate who has filed his or her enrollment in the Green Party, but pursuant to Election Law remains officially enrolled in another party until after the next general election. The Green Party may nominate, designate, and/or authorize a candidate who has chosen to remain enrolled in no party.

7. Candidates of Green Party Allies: The Green Party may nominate, designate, and/or authorize the candidates of other political parties or independent bodies that share Green Party principles and goals and are politically and financially independent of the big banks and corporations and their political representatives in the Democratic, Republican, and allied parties.

8. Authorization of Non-Enrolled Candidates for Public Office: The County Committee may authorize candidates who are not duly enrolled members of the Green Party pursuant to Section 6-120 of the Election Law and to the other provisions of the rules of the Green parties of Onondaga County and New York State.

8. Candidates of Democratic, Republican, and Allied Parties: The Green Party shall not nominate, designate, and/or authorize the candidates of the Democratic and Republican parties or any other party or independent body that has a policy that permits the nomination, designation, and/or authorization of candidates of the Democratic, Republican, and allied parties.

9. Onondaga County District Nominations: The nomination, designation, and/or authorization of candidates for office in any political subdivision of Onondaga County shall be made by a vote announced and open to only the Enrolled Members of that political subdivision. For regularly scheduled elections, such meetings will be held at the Spring Convention. For special elections and other special circumstances, a special meeting shall be called.

9. Multi-County District Nominations: If a district comprises more than one county, then the nomination, designation, and/or authorization of a candidate shall be made by a meeting of the affected County Organizations affiliated with the state party.

ARTICLE 7: PROCEDURAL RULES

1. Parliamentary Authority: The current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be the final authority governing all meetings of the Convention and Coordinating Committee insofar as they are applicable and not inconsistent with these rules or statute. Meetings may use a consensus seeking process whenever practical and consistent with statute.

2. Single Transferable Vote: The Green Party of Onondaga County shall use the following procedure for the single transferable vote (STV) in internal party elections as provided for in these rules. Voters shall cast their votes for each candidate in order of preference: 1, 2, 3, and so on. The threshold for election shall be determined by the following formula: $\text{Votes Cast} / (\text{Seats} + 1) + 1$ vote, rounded down to the nearest whole number. An STV election shall proceed according to the following steps:

- (1) Any candidate who has reached or exceeded the threshold with first preference votes shall be declared elected.
- (2) If a candidate has more first preference votes than the threshold, that candidate's surplus votes shall be fractionally transferred to other candidates according to the next preference listed on each ballot. The surplus fractional vote shall be expressed as a percentage of that candidate's total votes: $\text{surplus percentage} = (\text{number of votes} - \text{threshold}) / (\text{number of votes})$.
- (3) If no one new meets the threshold after the transfer of surplus votes, the candidate with the fewest votes shall be eliminated and that candidate's votes shall be transferred to the next preference listed on each ballot.
- (4) Steps 1, 2, and 3 shall repeat until either a winner is found for every available seat or there are as many seats as remaining candidates.
- (5) In County Committee elections of members of the State Committee, which require at least one-half of all elected members to be female, if during the count the number of elected women and remaining women candidates would drop below 50 percent (50%) with the elimination of one more woman candidate, then those remaining women candidates shall not be eliminated.

ARTICLE 8: AMENDMENTS

These Rules may be amended by a two-thirds vote at a Convention of the Green Party of Onondaga County provided that proposed amendments are posted on the party website by the time notice is given of the Convention.