

Potential Arlington GOP Bylaws Changes

June 25, 2017

The potential substantive changes to the Arlington County Republican Committee (“Committee”) bylaws are described below. The page and line citations refer to the bylaws document that accompanies this description. The current bylaws are on the Arlington GOP website [here](#). The bylaws also refer to the Republican Party of Virginia (RPV) Party Plan, which is online [here](#).

Page 2, Line 6

Clarifies the version of *Robert’s Rules of Order* that is to be used. The RPV Party Plan refers to the same version.

Page 2, Line 18

Adds language clarifying that the elected Republican officials who are members of the Committee must be elected within the same geographic jurisdiction as the Committee (i.e., not Richmond).

Page 2, Lines 18-19

Deletes the sentence that establishes a minimum number of members. The minimum number is unnecessary and can cause confusion when interpreted with the Party Plan’s methodology for determining the number of members (see Article VI, Section A). The Committee has the discretion under the Party Plan to set a total membership number that is greater than one hundred twenty-seven.

Page 3, Line 12

Deletes the word “elected” because it is unnecessary. All at-large members are to be elected members.

Page 3, Line 18

Deletes the requirement that only registered voters in a precinct may vote on the election of fellow precinct members. This decision should be made by the Committee as a whole.

Page 3, Lines 19-27

Sets the current membership dues as minimum dues. Adds language clarifying that members who pay two-years dues don’t have to pay again at the beginning of the second year.

Page 4, Lines 16-21

Clarifies that “those present” refers to members present at the meeting.

Page 4, Line 24

Conforms filing fee language in this subparagraph to the fee language in Article III, Section 2.

Page 4, Line 25

Conforms this subparagraph to the changes below that shift the Secretary’s membership responsibilities to the Membership Director.

Page 5, Lines 11-12

Changes the bylaws language on the frequency of regular meetings to what is specified in the Party Plan. The bylaws currently require monthly meetings and the Party Plan directs that members who miss more than three meetings in a row be removed from the Committee. The Committee may be the only unit in the Commonwealth with a monthly meeting requirement. The potential change would enable the Committee to reduce the number of regular meetings, and thus the attendance responsibility for members. The Committee’s Executive Committee still wants to have monthly meetings, but many of them could be converted to informal meetings after the bylaws are changed.

Page 5, Lines 15-16

Updates the notice requirements to reflect the current pervasive use of email.

Page 5, Line 18 – Page 12, Line 3

Updates various provisions related to membership voting to make them consistent with the associate membership category recently added by the Committee. Associate members cannot vote and should therefore not affect anything related to voting in the bylaws.

Page 5, Lines 23-24

Changes the proxy holder requirements so that they are identical to the Party Plan. The current bylaws could unnecessarily limit who can serve as a proxy holder.

Page 5, Line 35

Deletes the Corresponding Secretary position to conform to the changes below removing this office from the Committee’s leadership (see page 8, lines 8-13).

Page 5, Lines 38-43

Adds a notice provision for motions and amendments to motions that members intend to make at meetings. Members would still be able to offer motions or amendments without any notice, but the Committee would have to vote to suspend the rules, requiring a two-thirds vote to be approved instead of the normal majority.

Page 6, Lines 5-8

Conforms this paragraph to the associate membership provision added by the Committee since this paragraph was adopted.

Page 6, Line 17

Deletes the sentence about precinct captain succession. The Precinct Operations Director should make any interim appointments.

Page 8, Lines 8-13

Removes the Corresponding Secretary position, which is antiquated, and changes the "Recording Secretary" to just "Secretary." The current Corresponding Secretary is Matt Hurtt. He would become the new "Outreach Director," which would be created by the changes proposed below (see page 10, lines 17-19).

Moves the Secretary's duties related to membership to the Membership Director provision below (see page 10, line 10).

Page 8, Line 33

Changes the number of standing committees from six to seven to reflect the addition of the Outreach Committee below (see page 10, lines 17-19).

Page 8, Line 34

Deletes the requirement that standing committees have a minimum of two members. This requirement should be removed because the Committee has not had standing committees with members in recent years. Adding members to standing committees beyond their current directors should be discretionary and not required.

Page 9, Lines 24-27

Changes the name of the "Research and Resolutions Committee" to the "Policy Committee," which is what the Committee has been calling this standing committee in recent years. Moves

the resolutions procedures to the jurisdiction of the Executive Committee, since it is the only operational standing committee within the Committee and has the most comprehensive perspective on what recommendations should be made to the Committee on resolutions.

Page 10, Lines 10-16

Adds the Recording Secretary's membership duties to the Membership Director's position.

Page 10, Lines 17-19

Adds an Outreach Committee, which would be directed by Matt Hurtt.

Page 11, Lines 3-4

Adds three members to the Executive Committee selected from the voting members of the Committee.

Page 11, Line 8

Conforms the required Executive Committee meeting frequency to the proposed changes on regular meeting frequency.

Page 11, Lines 23-31

The resolutions procedures moved from the Research and Resolutions Committee paragraph described above.