

Libertarian Party of Wake County Plan of Organization

Article I. Name

The name of this organization, as filed with the North Carolina State Board of Elections, is Libertarian Party of Wake County, hereinafter referred to as WakeLP, and this name is and will remain until such time its members elect to change it as part of an update to this document.

Article II. Purpose

The purpose of WakeLP is to:

1. Serve as a local affiliate of the Libertarian Party of North Carolina (LPNC)
2. Maintain a statement of key issues in Wake County and a WakeLP stance on those issues as a guide for Libertarian political candidates and office-holders within Wake County
3. Disseminate libertarian ideas by entering into political information activities
4. Encourage members to seek political offices throughout Wake County and support candidates during elections for those offices.
5. Recognize, coordinate with and promote local organizations throughout Wake County that support libertarian policies and principles.

Article III. Membership

Members and associates of the Libertarian Party of North Carolina (LPNC), as defined in the party's bylaws, who reside in Wake County are members or associates of the Libertarian Party of Wake County.

Article IV. Officers

The officers of the Party shall be the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer elected in odd-numbered years by the County Convention. The officers serve as executives for the next County Convention and for regular business meetings as defined in Article VII, referred to as Business Meetings throughout this document. The WakeLP Officers are titled and defined as follows:

1. Chair. The Chair serves as the WakeLP chief executive officer and will preside at the County Convention and at Business Meetings. The Chair leads or delegates the

scheduling and announcement of all Business Meetings to ensure WakeLP has at least one (1) Business Meeting per month. The Chair must provide the Secretary with a meeting agenda in sufficient time for the Secretary to distribute that agenda to Members prior to each Business Meeting.

2. Vice Chair. The Vice Chair serves to assist the Chair and presides on occasion when the Chair is absent from a County Convention or a Business Meeting. When there is a vacancy in the position of Chair, the Vice Chair assumes the office of chair.

3. Treasurer. The Treasurer serves to receive, disperse, and account for WakeLP funds. The Treasurer ensures funds and accounts are managed as described in Article VIII. The Treasurer will also fulfill the legal obligations required by N.C. General Statutes for an individual acting as treasurer of a political party.

4. Secretary. The Secretary serves as the recording officer at the County Convention and at Business Meetings. Additionally, the Secretary serving at the beginning of the County Convention is responsible for publishing the minutes of that convention.

Article V. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the control and management of all of the affairs, properties, and funds of the Party consistent with this Plan of Organization and any pertinent resolutions that may have been adopted by the County Convention.

Section 1. Composition

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the officers of the Party and one (1) At-Large member.

Section 2. Committees and Additional Affiliate Positions

1. The Chair, with the approval of the Executive Committee, shall appoint an assistant treasurer and may establish or disestablish committees, and create or terminate additional positions to serve supplemental purposes or perform delegated tasks and to advise the Executive Committee.

2. WakeLP members appointed by the Executive Committee to additional positions serve at the pleasure of the Executive Committee.

3. No Executive Committee member shall be appointed to these positions.

Section 3. Election

1. Executive Committee members shall be elected every two years in odd-numbered years at the annual WakeLP Convention. Elections to fill any vacancies will be conducted in even-numbered years.
2. If no qualified candidates are nominated for any position on the Executive Committee at the Convention, then that position shall be considered vacant and may be filled by the Executive Committee.
3. Attending delegates to the Convention may vote for “None of the Above” for any position on the Executive Committee. If “None of the Above” is elected, that position shall remain unfilled until the next County Convention, at which time the attending delegates may hold a special election to fill that position for the remainder of the term. The Executive Committee may assign the duties of that position to any Party member, but the person filling that position will not have a vote on the Executive Committee.

Section 4. Qualifications

Each member of the Executive Committee must maintain membership with the Party as defined in Article III. Executive Committee members must not be registered with the State of North Carolina with any political party other than the Libertarian Party of North Carolina.

Section 5. Term

The term of the members of the Executive Committee shall run for two years, expiring at the end of the County Convention at which their successors are elected (or they are re-elected). If the member was elected in an even-numbered year or appointed in the interim, then her or his term expires at the end of the next County Convention.

Section 6. Resignation

Executive Committee members may resign by supplying notice in writing to the Chair or Vice Chair. Additionally, any member of the Executive Committee who fails to attend three consecutive business or five business meetings overall shall be considered to have tendered an automatic resignation. The Executive Committee may accept or refuse an automatic resignation by majority vote.

Section 7. Vacancies

The Executive Committee may appoint new members if vacancies or suspensions occur. Those appointed shall serve until the next State Convention, where an election

shall be held to fill such position(s). If the appointed new member fails to be elected, the Executive Committee cannot reappoint that person to the same position during that term of office.

Section 8. Quorum

A majority of the filled voting positions on the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at all meetings.

Article VI. County Convention

1. As an affiliate of the LPNC, WakeLP holds a county convention annually prior to the LPNC convention that corresponds to the same year. The primary purposes of the County Convention are to:

- a. Elect WakeLP officers and an at-large member (in odd-numbered years)
- b. Fill any vacancies or unfilled offices (in even-numbered years)
- c. Elect delegates to represent Wake County at the LPNC convention
- d. Adopt resolutions or changes to this document to better meet the needs of WakeLP

2. The Convention Chair is the currently-serving WakeLP Chair. Delegates at a County Convention consist of all current members in attendance at that convention.

3. The Executive Committee shall set the date and location of the next County Convention no less than four weeks prior to the event. No-less than three weeks prior to the convention, they shall announce the convention to the membership in a reasonable combination of media with a concerted effort to reach all of the membership.

4. The nomination and election of WakeLP officers and At-Large Executive Committee member will take place at the County Convention. Any member may nominate any member including him or herself without the requirement for a second.

5. If more than two (2) members are nominated for any Executive Committee position (not including NOTA) the election shall be conducted using a ranked-choice ballot. The ballot shall allow voters to rank a number of choices in order of preference equal to the total number of candidates for each office.

- a. For the purposes of this section: (1) a candidate shall be deemed "continuing" if the candidate has not been eliminated; (2) a ballot shall be deemed "continuing" if it is not exhausted; and (3) a ballot shall be

deemed "exhausted," and not counted in further stages of the tabulation, if all of the choices have been eliminated or there are no more choices indicated on the ballot. If a ranked-choice ballot gives equal rank to two or more candidates, the ballot shall be declared exhausted when such multiple rankings are reached. If a voter casts a ranked-choice ballot but skips a rank, the voter's vote shall be transferred to that voter's next ranked choice.

- b. If a candidate receives a majority of the first choices, that candidate shall be declared elected. If no candidate receives a majority, the candidate who received the fewest first choices shall be eliminated and each vote cast for that candidate shall be transferred to the next ranked candidate on that voter's ballot. If, after this transfer of votes, any candidate has a majority of the votes from the continuing ballots, that candidate shall be declared elected.
 - c. If no candidate receives a majority of votes from the continuing ballots after a candidate has been eliminated and his or her votes have been transferred to the next ranked candidate, the continuing candidate with the fewest votes from the continuing ballots shall be eliminated. All votes cast for that candidate shall be transferred to the next-ranked continuing candidate on each voter's ballot. This process of eliminating candidates and transferring their votes to the next-ranked continuing candidates shall be repeated until a candidate receives a majority of the votes from the continuing ballots.
6. "None of the Above" is automatically considered a candidate in all WakeLP elections. Should "None of the Above" win any election, that office will remain unfilled for the convention term. However, the office of Treasurer cannot remain unfilled. If NOTA wins the election for Treasurer, the Chair must appoint a Treasurer before the close of the Convention. Similarly, if the Treasurer is the only currently serving member of the Executive Committee, s/he must appoint a successor before her/his resignation can be accepted and made effective

7. Voting on other matters will require the following:
- a. Resolutions may be adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of members present and voting;
 - b. Updates to this document may only be adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of members present and voting;

- c. Any such adopted updates take effect immediately, and;
- d. Other orders of business at the County Convention are conducted in accordance with the approved agenda. The Democratic Rules of Order (Francis & Francis, 10th ed.) shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specifically covered by this Plan of Organization.

Article VII. Business Meetings

For the purpose of conducting its business, WakeLP holds regular business meetings led by the officers. The primary purposes of a Business Meeting are as follows:

1. To provide reports from the WakeLP officers to the Membership of the regular business conducted since the last meeting
2. To inform the Membership where it can be of service to Wake County on behalf of the WakeLP
3. To allocate funds as described in Article VIII. Other orders of business at a Business Meeting are conducted under the leadership of the presiding officer in accordance with the provided agenda and following an ordered procedure.

Article VIII. Provisions for Handling Funds

Under the guidance of the treasurer and/or assistant treasurer, EC members are responsible for ensuring that funds are collected, dispersed, and accounted in congruence with the following provisions:

1. Contributions will be used for their expressed or designated purpose when applicable.
2. Unallocated funds may be allocated for a specific purpose by a majority membership vote at the County Convention or a Business Meeting. Remaining unallocated funds not yet purposed by a Membership vote may be allocated by the WakeLP officers for a purpose necessary to conduct business.
3. The Treasurer and/or assistant treasurer must complete and submit accurate quarterly or semi-annual reports to the North Carolina State Board of Elections as required by law for the Libertarian Party of Wake County to remain a recognized party organization.

4. Should WakeLP ever dissolve, any monetary assets will be used to pay all WakeLP liabilities. If any assets remain thereafter, they will be donated to the LPNC or its successor.

Amended April 21, 2021