

## Amendment to Advance Administrative Discretion

*Wash F., Jack R.S., and Cate R.*

---

**WHEREAS**, elections for some elected administrative leadership as well as Committee and Campaign stewards serving on the Local Council are not regularly scheduled; and

**WHEREAS**, this has resulted in unclear term duration for some Local Council members;

**WHEREAS**, term duration and election timing is not standardized, which causes confusion in the structure and determination of leadership; and

**WHEREAS**, certain bylaw-mandated practices neither serve the interests or capacity of the chapter, nor are they *de facto* adhered to, as they create a certain rigidity precluding the Local Council from effectively carrying out its duties;

**WHEREAS**, financial oversight regulations in the existing Bylaws are unworkable, requiring a finance committee of at least seven members, a policy which has never been honored;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, all members of the Local Council should be elected at annual Local Conventions, with exceptions in the case of Special Elections to fill vacancies or in the event that a new Committee or Campaign is established mid-term;

**RESOLVED**, financial responsibilities will be shared by Co-Chairs as well as the Treasurer,

**RESOLVED**, practices concerning vacancies, special elections, nominations and notice will be standardized,

**RESOLVED**, Article 4 of the Chapter Bylaws shall be amended as follows:

**Section 1: Nominations and Notice.** All Officers of the Local Council shall be elected at the Local's annual Convention or a General Meeting with, or via Special Election as described in Article 4, Section 5. Nominations to run for the Local Council must be submitted to the presiding Local Council at least 30 days notice to membership in advance of the Convention. Calls for nominations should be announced 45 days before any election, and nominations announced 15 days before the election. Any member may nominate another member in good standing for elected position in the Local who has attended at least 33% of the General Meetings of the Local in a non-founding year. No one may nominate themselves. All leadership positions of official chapter bodies (except Campaign Groups) holding Local Council seats, such as Committees and Administrative Groups, shall be elected at Local Convention or in a general meeting and voted on by all members in good standing, in accordance with the rules specified in these Bylaws.

**Section 2: Process.** The elections process shall be fair, transparent, and democratic, ~~occurring at the annual convention~~. The Local Council will be responsible for ensuring that elections are held, and may appoint an Elections Committee to oversee the process. The process of the election shall be ranked choice for every contested position ~~office actually contested~~. All nominees are expected to disclose other organizational and political affiliations.

**Section 3: Notice of Elections.** The Local Council shall give notice of any Local election in a dedicated email announcement no later than fifteen days prior to the election. This announcement shall include the time and place of the election, the candidates and/or questions before the membership in the election, and all pertinent instructions.

**Section 4: Special Election.** A Special Election shall be required to be held within 45 days in the case of the vacancy of an At Large Council Member position. In the case of any other Local Council officer vacancy prior to the end of that officer's allotted term, the Local Council may opt, by majority vote of the Council, to call a Special Election to elect a replacement officer. All nominees to election via Special Election shall be submitted to the Local Council no later than fifteen days prior to the date of the Special Election. Special Elections shall be announced to the general membership in a dedicated email no later than fifteen days prior to date of the election, and the Special Election shall be conducted during a regularly scheduled General Meeting, in accordance with all other rules governing elections as specified in these Bylaws.

**RESOLVED,** Article 5 of the Chapter Bylaws shall be amended as follows:

**Section 3: Vacancies.** In the event of a vacancy on the Local Council, the Local Council may as decided by majority vote of the Council, either appoint a replacement to serve until the following election, or schedule an election ~~call a Special Election, as described in Article 4, Section 5. This vote is excepted in the case of vacancies of At Large Council Members, who in the case of vacancy shall always be replaced via Special Election.~~

**Section 4: Terms and Term Limits.** ~~Officers~~ All Local Council members, including those representing Committees or Campaigns, shall be elected at the annual convention and their terms shall last until the completion of the following annual convention, approximately one year later. Members elected to the Local Council midterm in a Special Election to fill a vacancy, upon Campaign initiation or renewal, or for a newly created role will end their terms at the next Local Convention. No member may hold the same office for more than two consecutive full terms. No member may serve in multiple Local Council roles concurrently. ~~with the following exceptions:~~

~~Treasurer Trustees. A trustee shall be elected at the annual convention and their term shall last until the completion of the second annual convention of~~

their term, approximately two years. The Trustees shall be alternately elected, with only one trustee elected per annual convention. Committee Stewards. Committee Stewards are elected pursuant to Article 6. Stewards sitting on the Steering Committee Local Council shall not be subject to any prescribed term limit, unless otherwise determined by the committees themselves. No member may serve as steward simultaneously for more than one committee.

*At-Large Council Members.* At-Large Council Members are elected pursuant to Article 6, excepting cases of vacancy as described in Article 5, or immediate vacancies as a result of the creation of the At Large Council Member office. In these cases, At Large Council Members shall be elected by Special Election, as described in Article 4, Section 5. At-Large Council Members shall serve a maximum of a single, one year term; nNo member shall serve consecutive terms as an At Large Council Member. For the purposes of term limits, terms served as a result of a Special Election shall constitute a full term only if the position is filled less than two months after the initial election. No member may serve as an At-Large Council Member simultaneously with any of the enumerated offices of the local council, or as steward of any official committee of the chapter.

**Section 5: Oversight.** To ensure that the policies and strategies of the General Membership can be realized by the Local, the Local Council will oversee all Committees and other official formations of the Local, and help all parties within the Local to operate in concert. To this end, the Local Council is authorized to act, only by a 2/3rds or more majority, to form, disband, and/or consolidate Committees, as well as call a special election in the case of vacant Committee stewardship. See Article 6 for more information on Committees.

**RESOLVED,** Article 9 of the Chapter Bylaws shall be amended as follows:

**Section 1: Financial Oversight.** Financial oversight is the responsibility of the Treasurer and Co-Chairs. The Local Council may ~~shall~~ establish a Finance Committee chaired by the Treasurer and including both Treasurer Trustees to develop, enforce, and maintain financial controls of the organization's funds. Finance reports should be provided at every Local Council meeting and to The Finance Committee shall include both elected officers and members in good standing, and shall report to the Local Council and the General Membership its oversight activities at least quarterly. The Finance Committee will be chaired by the Treasurer and will include one or both Co-Chairs, both Treasurer Trustees, and at least three members in good standing who do not hold an elected office. The Local Council retains the oversight of the Finance Committee's rules of order. All policies generated by the Committee must be approved by the General Membership.