Rules of the Democratic Ward Executive Committee for Ward 39A of the City of Philadelphia

as approved at the September 19th, 2022 meeting of the Ward Executive Committee

SCOPE AND PURPOSE

These rules are for use in governing the Democratic Ward Executive Committee of Ward 39A of the City of Philadelphia. Their purpose is to define a democratic institution in which all committee people are empowered as decision makers who collectively act together as an effective and powerful force for engaging and mobilizing voters, informing and representing constituents, and holding politicians accountable.

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DEFINITIONS

WARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The body consists of all Ward Executive Committee members, or “committee people,” of the Democratic Party in Ward 39A of Philadelphia. When there are no vacancies, the Ward Executive Committee consists of the two duly elected or appointed committee people for each voting division of Ward 39A. When there are vacancies, the Ward Executive Committee consists of all remaining committee people in Ward 39A.

WARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER, or COMMITTEE PERSON

An individual who has either been elected or duly appointed to fill a vacancy, in accordance with these rules, to the position of committee person in one of the voting divisions of Ward 39A. In

order to serve as committee person, an individual must, at a minimum, reside in the division they represent and be a registered voter of the Democratic Party.

WARD OFFICERS

The Ward Executive Committee members elected by the Ward Executive Committee to the positions of Ward Leader, Ward Chair, First Vice Chair, Second Vice Chair, Third Vice Chair, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer. In the *Rules of the Democratic Party of the City and County of Philadelphia*, the Ward Leader is referred to as "County Committeeperson," and the "Ward Chair" is referred to as "Chairperson."

WARD MEETING

A meeting of the Ward 39A Executive Committee, which all committee people are expected to attend, for the purpose of sharing information and conducting the business of the Ward. The Ward Officers shall make reasonable accommodations for virtual meeting options.

RULE I. RULES

ARTICLE 1. PROCEDURE TO ACT

SECTION A

Unless these rules provide otherwise, the Ward Executive Committee shall act by a majority vote of a quorum at a meeting of the Ward Executive Committee. The Ward Executive Committee shall not conduct business unless a quorum is present, virtually or otherwise. Where not otherwise set forth differently by these bylaws, Robert's Rules of Order apply when conducting the business of the ward.

SECTION B

For regular business, a quorum of the Ward Executive Committee is one-third, of the elected or duly appointed members.

ARTICLE 2. ADOPTING AND AMENDING RULES

SECTION A

Amendments to these rules may be made by a majority vote at any regular meeting of the Ward Executive Committee. Amendments proposed in accordance with the procedures specified in this Article must be considered at the first subsequent Ward meeting at which a quorum (one-half of Ward Executive Committee members), virtually or otherwise, is present.

SECTION B

Amendments must have one primary sponsor and at least three cosponsors to be considered. Any Ward Executive Committee person may sponsor or cosponsor an amendment.

SECTION C

Proposed amendments must be submitted to the Ward Secretary no less than fourteen days before the Ward meeting at which the amendment is to be considered. The Ward Executive Committee members shall receive the text of the proposed amendment with the Ward meeting agenda.

SECTION D

At the Ward meeting, the primary sponsor or, in their absence, one of the cosponsors, will have two minutes to advocate for the amendment, followed by debate on the topic. The Presiding Officer may limit debate on the amendment to ten minutes before bringing the amendment to a vote.

RULE II. WARD MEETINGS

ARTICLE 1. SCHEDULE AND LOCATION

SECTION A

A schedule for regular Ward meetings shall be established twice per year for the subsequent six month period. Typically, meetings will be monthly, and the time between Ward meetings shall not exceed three months.

SECTION B

Regular and special Ward meetings shall be held at publicly accessible locations within the boundaries of the Ward whenever possible. Virtual meetings may be held if necessary in the determination of the Committee on Organization. The amount of notice required is addressed in the following section, Rule II. Article 2.

ARTICLE 2. NOTICE

SECTION A

The date and time of all regular Ward meetings shall be sent to all committee people by email and posted to the Ward website no less than four weeks (28 days) before the meeting. The Ward Secretary shall be responsible for updating the calendar and notifying the Ward Executive Committee about the date and time of upcoming meetings.

SECTION B

The location of all regular Ward meetings shall be sent to all committee people by email and posted to the Ward website no less than three days before the meetings.

SECTION C

Committee people may request a paper notice of meetings. The Ward Secretary will keep a list of such requests. Twice per year, by no later than January 1 and no later than July 1, these committee people will be sent, by mail or hand delivery, a paper notice of the date and time of all regularly scheduled Ward meetings for the following six months by the Ward Secretary.

ARTICLE 3. AGENDA

SECTION A

The Committee on Organization shall set the agenda of each regular Ward meeting at the immediately preceding Committee on Organization meeting. Any committee person or group of committee people may propose a Ward meeting agenda item by submitting the item to the Ward Secretary no less than fourteen days before the Ward meeting. The Committee on Organization shall decide which proposed items will be included in the Ward meeting agenda, except that items proposed by four or more committee people must be included.

SECTION B

In order to bring a question to a vote at a regular Ward meeting, an agenda item must be proposed in accordance with Section A of this Article. Proposed agenda items that include a request for a vote must be accompanied at the time of proposal by a written resolution that can be approved or defeated by a yes/no vote.

SECTION C

The agenda for a regular Ward meeting shall be sent to all committee people by email no less than one day (24 hours) before the meeting.

ARTICLE 4. MINUTES

SECTION A

Minutes shall be recorded at all regular and special Ward meetings. Meeting minutes shall document attendance, all decisions made, all votes taken, and the results of all roll-call votes. Documents discussed at a meeting relevant to understanding the meeting may also be attached to the meeting minutes. Ward meeting minutes shall be sent to the Ward email list and posted to the Ward website within seven days of the meeting. The Secretary and Assistant Secretary will be responsible for taking minutes at each Ward meeting, sharing responsibility as necessary to

allow either Secretary to participate in the meeting. An additional Executive Board-approved duly-elected member may also be designated to record minutes, if needed.

ARTICLE 5. SPECIAL MEETINGS, CANCELLATIONS, AND RESCHEDULED MEETINGS

SECTION A

In the case of a need to conduct any business that requires a vote of the full Ward Executive Committee, and where an external deadline does not allow for the notice required for regular Ward meetings, the Committee on Organization may convene a special meeting. All Ward Executive Committee members must be notified of the time, date, location, and agenda of the special meeting at least one day (24 hours) before the meeting. Notice will be made by email, except that phone calls will be made to committee people who have requested paper notice. No business shall be conducted at the special meeting that is not listed in the agenda.

SECTION B

Notwithstanding the threshold for quorum at a regular Ward meeting, no Ward business shall be conducted nor vote held at a special meeting unless at least one-half of duly elected or appointed Ward Executive Committee members are present.

SECTION C

In the event that a meeting is canceled or rescheduled, Ward Executive Committee members will be notified of the change one day (24 hours) before the meeting. Notice will be made by email, except that phone calls will be made to committee people who have requested paper notice.

RULE III. COMMITTEES

ARTICLE 1. COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION

SECTION A

The Ward shall have a Committee on Organization, with the authority to conduct executive and administrative functions of the Ward, including: coordinating Ward meetings, schedules, and logistics; setting the agenda of Ward meetings; overseeing Ward public communications; and executing any other responsibility assigned to it within these rules.

SECTION B

The Ward officers shall be members of the Committee on Organization and shall be the only voting members. The Committee on Organization shall also consist of participating members, including: any committee person on a voluntary basis, any individual selected by the Committee

on Organization to perform a critical role in the current or upcoming election cycle, and any other individual at the discretion of the Committee on Organization. Participating members are encouraged to engage in discussion and debate, but do not have a vote in decisions of the Committee on Organization. To the fullest extent possible, the Committee on Organization as a whole shall strive to make decisions by consensus.

SECTION C

The Committee on Organization shall meet at least three days before each Ward meeting to discuss Ward activity and set the agenda for the Ward meeting. Meetings of the Committee on Organization may be conducted in person or virtually. A quorum of the Committee on Organization is five Ward officers. Any committee person may attend and participate in Committee on Organization meetings. The date and time of each Committee on Organization meeting shall be sent to the Ward email list no less than one week (7 days) before the meeting, and the location of each Committee on Organization meeting shall be sent to the Ward email list no less than one day (24 hours) before the meeting. The Committee on Organization shall record minutes at meetings, which shall list all of the decisions made at such meetings, and which shall be made readily available to Ward Executive Committee members no less than three days before the next subsequent Ward meeting.

SECTION D

The Ward will use a six-month planning process with a spring planning cycle defined from January 1 – June 30 and a fall planning cycle defined from July 1 – December 31. In advance of each cycle, the Committee on Organization will lead a planning process for the purposes of (1) scheduling meetings of the Ward Executive Committee for the subsequent election cycle sufficiently early to meet the notice requirements of Rule II, (2) identifying Ward activities to be carried out over the subsequent cycle, and (3) appointing people to specific positions for the purposes of executing Ward activities, developing leadership, and sharing responsibilities.

SECTION E

In advance of each planning cycle, the Committee on Organization will solicit proposals for Ward activities and positions for the following cycle in a Ward meeting and via the Ward email list. Activities will be decided by the Ward by consensus to the extent possible. By the beginning of each cycle, the Committee on Organization shall appoint the cycle's Chair or Chairs of the Endorsements Committee. By one month into the cycle, the Committee on Organization shall in addition approve a written activity plan for the cycle which will include (1) activities the ward will undertake and (2) individuals appointed to lead these activities. Appointed positions shall include at a minimum leadership of the cycle's field operations, public communications, printed materials, and Election Day program. Positions shall also be filled to lead any further activities critical to the mission of the Ward or responsible for management of Ward public image or human or financial resources.

SECTION F

Committee on Organization decisions may be overturned by a majority vote of members present at a subsequent Ward Executive Committee meeting at which a quorum is present. Reconsideration of the decision must be proposed as a Ward meeting agenda item with an attached resolution, following the procedure described in these rules for setting the agenda of Ward meetings (see Rule II, Article 3).

RULE IV. FINANCES

ARTICLE 1. POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

SECTION A

The Ward's political action committee (PAC) may accept contributions from any individual or PAC not otherwise expressly prohibited in this rule.

SECTION B

During a primary election financial cycle, defined to extend from 30 days after the previous general election until 30 days after the primary election, the Ward's PAC shall not accept contributions from any candidate on the ballot that the Ward has not endorsed. A contribution to the Ward from any unendorsed candidate or unendorsed candidate's campaign PAC shall be returned. The endorsement of the Ward shall not be conditioned publicly or privately on the future willingness of a candidate to contribute.

SECTION C

The Ward's PAC shall only accept contributions from any 501(c)(6) organization by an affirmative majority vote of duly elected, and appointed, committee persons during a regular meeting, or a duly called special meeting, of the Ward Executive Committee. The meeting shall be held in person, with the option to attend remotely via digital communications.

This vote shall be specifically listed within the respective meeting's agenda as an individual action item. The donation amount, along with the name of the organization, shall be clearly stated in the meeting's agenda. If multiple donations are to be voted upon, each donation, with the name of the organization making the donation, shall be listed as their own individual action item.

The vote can be made by voice acclamation, roll call vote, secret ballot, or by other means as determined by a majority of those committee persons present at the respective meeting.

The vote shall be final, with no appeals.

ARTICLE 2. FINANCIAL REPORTING AND TRANSPARENCY

SECTION A

The Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer shall be responsible for the timely filing of all campaign finance reports with local, state, and federal agencies. The Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer shall be responsible for ensuring that the Ward is in compliance with all local, state, and federal campaign finance rules.

SECTION B

The Ward shall provide access via link to PA Department of State website on the Ward's website to the City, Commonwealth and Federal campaign finance reports for South Philadelphia Open Ward 39A Political Action Committee. The Treasurer and/or Assistant Treasurer will also provide a brief financial summary at one of the two Ward meetings immediately following each primary and each general election.

RULE V. ELECTIONS AND ENDORSEMENTS

ARTICLE 1. PURPOSE

The Ward 39A endorses candidates that share our values and principles. The purpose of this endorsement rule is to outline a transparent process that respects individual viewpoints and also encourages the members of the Ward to find common ground and consensus. Acting together as an organized body, we have greater collective power to build a more just and equitable world and to serve our constituents. An endorsement process grounded in these principles will drive increased turnout and civic participation and meet our responsibility to inform and educate residents about candidates running for public office and their principles.

ARTICLE 2. ENDORSEMENTS COMMITTEE

SECTION A

An Endorsements Committee shall be formed prior to every primary and general election to support the Ward's decision-making process. It will undertake activities such as researching candidates and ballot questions, creating and circulating candidate questionnaires, and scheduling opportunities for residents to meet candidates for public office. The Committee shall make its findings publicly available including publishing on the Ward website any questionnaire responses submitted by candidates.

SECTION B

The Endorsements Committee shall be led by one or more Chairs nominated by the Committee on Organization and confirmed at a Ward meeting by majority vote, additional nominations can be made with the support of ten or more committee people and submitted to the Ward Executive

Committee for a vote. Any committee person may serve on the Endorsements Committee. The opportunity to join the Committee shall be extended to committee people via notification to the Ward email list in advance of any Endorsements Committee meeting, and also in the Ward meeting immediately following the appointment of the Chair(s). Individuals who are not committee people may also serve with the approval of the Committee on Organization or of the Endorsement Committee Chair(s). The membership of the Endorsements Committee shall be maintained by the Chair(s) and communicated to the Ward Secretary.

SECTION C

A plan including Endorsement Committee activities and meetings for an election cycle shall be presented to and approved by the Committee on Organization in timely order for incorporation into the Ward's overall activity plan for the cycle.

SECTION D

Endorsements Committee activities and business shall be communicated to all members of the Endorsements Committee. Notice of Endorsements Committee meetings shall be made to all committee people via the Ward email list. Any committee person may attend Endorsements Committee meetings.

SECTION E

The Endorsements Committee shall present its research to the Ward Executive Committee in advance of votes on endorsements. The Committee may communicate these findings to the Ward email list, and shall also have the opportunity to address the Ward at endorsement meetings, before the endorsement process begins. The Endorsements Committee is not required or expected to make recommendations for endorsement, but may do so at the discretion of the Endorsements Committee Chair, or, in the case of more than one Chair, with the unanimous consent of all Chairs.

ARTICLE 3. ENDORSEMENT PROCESS

SECTION A

Meeting: Endorsements may only take place at a meeting of the Ward Executive Committee. For the purpose of endorsing candidates, a quorum of the Ward Executive Committee is a simple majority of the elected or duly appointed members. The Ward Chair shall chair endorsement meetings. In case of absence, an endorsement meeting may be chaired by the Ward Leader, First Vice Chair, Second Vice Chair, or Third Vice Chair, with precedence in that order.

SECTION B

Proxy Voting: A Ward Executive Committee member may request that a proxy be permitted to vote on their behalf if they are unable to attend the meeting. A written request for proxy

representation, indicating the proxy by name and signed by the requesting committee person, must be presented by the proxy to the chair of the meeting at the commencement of a meeting in which endorsements will take place. Proxies must be approved by roll call vote of the Ward at a meeting in which quorum for endorsements per Article 3, Section A of this rule has been met. No proxy shall be seated unless voted in favor of by 50% of committee people present, virtually or otherwise, excluding all proxies. The publicly available minutes will note requests for proxy representation and the result of votes on seating proxies.

SECTION C

Tellers: Prior to any votes on endorsements taking place, the chair of the meeting shall nominate two tellers to count votes. The tellers must each be properly seconded by two additional committee people not including the chair of the meeting or the nominated teller. Voting shall be conducted by secret ballot in a format that can be recorded and counted exactly. Ballots shall be counted by both tellers. The chair of the meeting may request to count the ballots as well. Ballots shall be preserved and any committee person may request to review the ballots after the conclusion of the meeting.

SECTION D

Voting Procedure: The remaining sections of this rule shall be carried out sequentially, and repeated once for each elected office or ballot question that may be endorsed in an election cycle. The term “office” is used in the remaining section but the procedure described also applies to endorsement of positions on ballot questions.

SECTION E

Nominations: Any committee person may nominate for endorsement a candidate who is running for office or a position on a ballot question that will be on the ballot for voters in the Ward 39A. Motions to nominate must be seconded. For ballot questions, both positions shall be considered to be nominated.

SECTION F

Debate: Once nominations have been made, committee people and proxies shall have an opportunity to speak in favor or against endorsing candidates or positions. Periods of debate shall be grouped by office or ballot question, not candidate. Debate may be closed if a committee person moves to do so and the motion is supported by 60% or more of committee people and seated proxies present.

SECTION G

Candidate Selection: Once nominations have been made, the meeting chair will verify the total number of candidates nominated for each office. If in a single winner race the number of candidates nominated exceeds two, or if in a multi-winner race the number of candidates

exceeds the number of candidates a voter may select on the ballot, a runoff vote will be held to determine which candidates will be eligible for endorsement by the Ward.

In runoff selection, committee people and proxies shall vote in rounds. In each round, they shall vote for the number of candidates a voter may select on the ballot. After each round, the candidate receiving the fewest votes will be removed from consideration for endorsement. In the first round, and only the first round, all candidates who receive 3 or fewer votes will be eliminated from consideration. In the case of ties, the meeting chair shall conduct a direct vote to determine which last-place candidate shall move forward to the next round. In the case of a tie on this tie-breaking vote, the Ward Leader or their designee shall decide which candidate is removed from consideration. In the case of a single winner race, the runoff will conclude when two candidates remain. In the case of multi-winner races, the runoff will conclude when the number of candidates remaining equals the number of candidates a voter may select on the ballot.

SECTION H

Candidate Endorsement: Once candidate selection is concluded, the Ward shall vote on candidate endorsement. In single winner races, committee people shall vote once, either to ratify a single candidate, if only one has been nominated, or to choose between two nominated candidates if more than one has been nominated. In multi-winner races, a single vote shall be conducted for each eligible candidate.

In all cases, for a candidate to receive the endorsement of the Ward Executive Committee, they must receive at least 60% of the affirmative votes of committee people and seated proxies at an endorsement meeting at which quorum has been established according to these rules.

SECTION I

Reconsidering a nomination: Any committee person can re-submit a candidate for endorsement. However, no candidate who has previously been considered and failed to win endorsement shall be reconsidered at the same meeting for another endorsement vote unless the motion is supported by 60% of committee people and seated proxies. Candidates may also be reconsidered for endorsement at subsequent Ward meetings at which all requirements for endorsement are met.

SECTION J

Special Voting Procedures: Some races may require the establishment of an alternative voting procedure including but not limited to runoff voting, ranked choice voting, or caucusing. A committee person may make a motion to propose an alternative voting procedure at any point in an endorsements meeting. That motion must be supported by at least 60% of committee people and seated proxies for the alternative to be adopted. Nothing in this section will be construed as providing for the creation of a mechanism that changes the thresholds required for endorsement, approval, or quorum as indicated in this rule. Alternative voting procedures must be proposed separately for each office for which endorsements are being considered.

ARTICLE 4. SUPPORT FOR ENDORSED CANDIDATES

Only endorsed candidates shall appear on the official sample ballot of the Ward Executive Committee made available to residents of the Ward 39A at each election. The Ward shall also make public on its website the results of endorsements. No Ward canvassing operations, communications, or other resources will support candidates that have not been endorsed according to these rules.

ARTICLE 5. BINDING OF THE WARD LEADER TO COLLECTIVE DECISIONS

Once the Ward Executive Committee has endorsed a candidate for office or a position on a ballot question, the Ward Leader in their official capacity shall not take any public action or public position in their role as Ward Leader that is inconsistent with that endorsement, including votes or statements at meetings of the Philadelphia Democratic County Committee.

ARTICLE 6. INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS OF COMMITTEE PEOPLE

SECTION A

The endorsement process strives to balance the power of working collectively to support candidates with the rights of individual committee people to make their own decisions freely to support or oppose candidates. Individual committee people may engage in any legal activity to support the candidacy or potential candidacy of someone seeking public office, so long as their actions do not violate any other provision of the rules of the Ward.

SECTION B

No committee person will take any action, produce any material, or make any statements that misrepresent the official endorsements or positions of the Ward Executive Committee.

SECTION C

No committee person will sell their vote.

RULE VI. VACANCIES AND APPOINTMENTS

ARTICLE 1. COMMITTEE PERSON VACANCIES

SECTION A

When a vacancy occurs, it must be announced publicly. At a minimum, the announcement shall be sent to the Ward email list and posted to the Ward website. The announcement shall indicate a clear official channel, such as an email address or phone number, for eligible residents to apply to fill the vacancy. If there is a remaining committee person in the division, this person

must be notified of the vacancy by preferred contact method. An effort should be made to publicize the vacancy through social media, community groups, and canvassing in the division.

SECTION B

During an announcement and application period of no less than four weeks (28 days), candidates may apply to fill the vacancy via the established official channel. To be considered, applicants must meet the following minimum criteria: (a) be registered Democrats and residents of the division in which the vacancy occurs, and (b) collect at least *10 signatures* from registered Democratic voters in their division.

SECTION C

At the next Ward meeting at which a quorum is present, following the announcement and application period, candidates to fill the vacancy shall be considered. Each candidate will have one minute to present themselves and four minutes to answer questions from existing committee people. Then the Ward Executive Committee will vote on the candidates, with each committee person entitled to one vote during each round of voting. A candidate who receives a majority of the votes of the committee people present shall be appointed to fill the vacancy. If no candidate receives a majority of votes on the first ballot, the candidate who receives the fewest votes will be removed from contestation, and voting will occur again. This procedure will repeat until a candidate wins a majority. If there is only one candidate and they do not receive a majority of votes, the vacancy shall remain unfilled.

SECTION D

A member can only be removed from the Ward Executive Committee for good cause shown. In order for a removal request to be brought, any committee person may ask for a vote of removal via a written request sent to the Ward Leader. The written request must lay out the alleged grounds for removal.

The Ward Leader must immediately share the request with the member whose removal is sought and communicate any response back to the member seeking removal in an effort to resolve the matter informally. Should such mediation fail to resolve the issue, the Ward Leader shall share the request with the Ward Executive Committee and shall schedule a hearing of the Ward Executive Committee no sooner than 30 days from the date of the request.

The member for whom removal is sought shall be entitled to a full, fair, non-summary hearing before the Ward Executive Committee prior to a vote. At the end of the hearing, a vote for removal shall be held. Removal of a member shall require a vote of two-thirds of the Ward Executive Committee and can only be based upon the alleged grounds for removal.

ARTICLE 2. WARD OFFICER VACANCIES

SECTION A

When a vacancy in a Ward officer position occurs, the next officer in line shall act in the capacity of the vacant position until the vacancy is filled.

SECTION B

Within one week (7 days) of the vacancy occurring, notice shall be sent to all committee people by preferred contact method and posted to the Ward website. The notice shall specify the date and time of the Ward meeting at which the vacancy is to be filled. The vacancy shall be filled at the next scheduled Ward meeting only after notice has been sent to all committee people by preferred contact method.

SECTION C

The vacancy shall be filled by any elected or duly appointed committee person in accordance with the Ward officer nomination and voting procedures used during Ward reorganization. The vote shall only occur if a quorum is present.

ARTICLE 3. ASSOCIATE COMMITTEE PEOPLE

SECTION A

This article defines the role of an “associate committee person” for the purpose of increasing the Ward’s capacity, building leadership, and increasing diversity of representation, including of residents who cannot vote.

SECTION B

Qualifications: Associate committee people must live in Ward 39A. If they are eligible to vote, they must be registered electors of the Democratic Party.

SECTION C

Requirements: Associate committee people shall support and conduct themselves in accordance with the principles of Ward 39A. Associate committee people shall canvass three three-hour shifts each in the primary and general election cycles, or volunteer at least 20 hours per year in support of other Ward activities.

SECTION D

Rights: Associate committee people may and are encouraged to attend and participate in meetings of the full Ward and of Ward committees. Associate committee people may not vote on

Ward endorsements or other business. Associate committee people shall not misrepresent the Ward or its official positions.

SECTION E

Selection: Any committee person may nominate an individual who meets the qualifications and requirements of this article to be an associate committee person. Nomination shall be accomplished by writing to the Ward Secretary at least fourteen days before a Ward meeting. A vote will be conducted at the following Ward meeting, with a majority vote, of those committee persons present with a quorum, necessary for approval.

SECTION F

Term: The term of an associate committee person is two years from the date of approval. The Ward Secretary shall maintain a list of associate committee people and their terms on the Ward website. Any associate committee person may be removed with or without cause. Removal of an associate committee person shall follow the same procedure set forth as the process for the removal of a ward officer.

RULE VII. REORGANIZATION

ARTICLE 1. WARD OFFICER ELECTION PROCEDURE

SECTION A

This Article applies to the selection of Ward Officers at the Ward reorganization meeting following committee person elections. Ward Officers will be elected one at a time in the following order: Ward Leader, Ward Chair, First Vice Chair, Second Vice Chair, Third Vice Chair, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer.

SECTION B

The incumbent Ward Chair shall preside over the election of the new Ward Leader and Ward Chair. The newly-elected Ward Chair shall preside over elections to the remaining positions. In case of the absence of the incumbent Ward Chair, the First Vice Chair, Second Vice Chair, or Third Vice Chair may preside, with precedence in that order.

SECTION C

Any committee person who has not already been elected to a Ward Officer position may be nominated. Committee people may nominate themselves or others. Nominations must be seconded and accepted by the nominee. The nominations period ends after the presiding officer calls for additional nominations, but hears none after a pause of at least ten seconds.

SECTION D

For each position, all nominees shall have a reasonable and equal amount of time to make a statement in favor of their candidacy. Following this, committee people may ask questions, to which each nominee shall have a reasonable and equal amount of time to respond. Discussion ends after the presiding officer calls for additional questions, but hears none after a pause of at least ten seconds.

SECTION E

For each position, the winning candidate will be elected by a simple majority of committee people present. If there are three or more candidates for a position, voting will proceed in sequential rounds until a candidate receives a majority. In each round, if no candidate receives a majority of the votes, then the candidate receiving the fewest votes will be removed from consideration and a new vote taken.