

BYLAWS of the Stonewall Democratic Club of Greater Sacramento

Article I Name

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Stonewall Democratic Club of Greater Sacramento. In these bylaws, it is also referred to as the Club.

Article II Purpose

Section 1.

The mission of the Stonewall Democratic Club of Greater Sacramento is to advance equal rights for all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. We will support public policies that advance that mission in the

United States, the State of California, and the greater Sacramento area. We will help elect qualified, openly lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people to public office, as well as Democratic Party candidates that

support equal rights for the LGBT community. We will work to sensitize and educate all Democratic candidates and office holders, the Democratic Party in general, and the community at large, to the issues and concerns of

the LGBT community. Conversely, within the LGBT community we will promote the Democratic Party's broad message of economic justice and social equality.

Section 2.

To achieve this mission, the Stonewall Democratic Club of Greater Sacramento will work:

A. To lead our party to improve its record and speak out on issues of importance to the LGBT communities, and to work for the nomination and election of Democratic candidates, including qualified openly LGBT candidates.

B. To achieve diversity in our membership and our governing bodies.

C. To elect openly LGBT people to local office and to achieve appointments of openly LGBT people to city and county boards and commissions in the greater Sacramento area who will be fully supportive of our fight for equality and against bigotry and intolerance.

D. To take a position on candidates and ballot measures.

E. To register voters who support the Club's mission and encourage their participation in the electoral process.

F. To educate the LGBT communities, and people who are supportive of them, on the equal rights issues we face and assist them in that struggle.

G. With other LGBT groups and individuals to promote our mission of equality.

H. With other local grassroots Democratic Clubs in the greater Sacramento Area, and our nongay allies, in order to advance the prominence of openly LGBT people within the Democratic Party.

Section 3.

The Club shall develop a platform enunciating priorities consistent with the goals stated in Section 2.

Article III Membership

Section 1.

Any person who subscribes to the stated purpose of the Club shall be eligible for membership in the Club.

Section 2.

Every person who is eligible to be a member of the Club and who has paid annual dues shall be a member in good standing. The Executive Board, upon the recommendation of the Membership Committee, shall determine questions of eligibility.

Section 3.

In order to be eligible to serve on the Executive Board or any committees, a member must be in good standing.

Section 4.

Any member whose actions are judged by a majority of the Executive Board to be prejudicial or detrimental to the Club may be expelled from the Club, upon recommendation of the Executive Board, by a two thirds vote of those

members present and voting at a regularly scheduled meeting of the membership.

Section 5.

Executive Board shall set the annual dues. Dues are payable when a person joins the Club and annually thereafter.

Article IV Executive Board

Section 1.

The Executive Board shall consist of the elected officers. The immediate past President may and any Sacramento based National Stonewall Democrats Board members may also be a part of the Executive Board as ex officio members without voting privileges.**

Section 2.

The Executive Board shall meet at the call of the President or upon call of a majority of the Executive Board. Meetings require five days notice. In case of emergency, notice may be waived by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

Section 3.

Emergency actions or funding to a maximum of \$500 may be authorized upon agreement by a majority of the Executive Board. A good faith effort shall be made to poll all members of the Executive Board. If necessary, the

polling may be by telephone or email. Any action taken by this method shall be communicated to the other Executive Board members in a timely manner.

Section 4.

The quorum for meetings of the Executive Board shall be a majority of the voting members of the board. Proxies shall not be valid at meetings of the Executive Board. No one member of the Executive Board shall have more than one vote.

Section 5.

Meetings of the Executive Board shall be open to the membership unless the Board, by a majority vote, calls for a closed session. Discussion at any Executive Board meeting may be limited by a majority vote of the board to members of the board. Actions taken in closed session shall be noticed at the next general meeting of the membership.

Section 6.

The duties of the Executive Board shall be to approve the budget; authorize the receipt of revenue and payment of expenses; set the membership dues; formulate policy and approve projects to carry out the purposes of the Club; review all projects and activities of the standing committees of the Club.

Article V Officers

Section 1.

The elected officers of the Club shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, Membership Chair, Fundraising Chair, Political Action Chair,**and Communications Chair.***

Section 2.

The duties of the elected officers shall be as follows:

A. President. The President shall set the agenda for and preside over all meetings of the Executive Board and of the membership; appoint all members and the chair of the standing committees; serve as an exofficio member of all committees; appoint such other committees or persons as may be deemed necessary; serve as the official

representative of the Club in public forums; make decisions for the Club on policy when specifically empowered to do so by the Executive Board; advise the membership of pertinent matters affecting the welfare of the Democratic Party and the Club; disburse funds of the Club within limits set by the Executive Board; and act as Treasurer in the absence or inability of the Treasurer.

B. Vice President. The Vice President shall preside at meetings of the Executive Board and of the membership in the absence or inability of the President ; and perform such other duties as the President may direct. The Vice President shall lead the Club's local advocacy efforts as Chair of the Advocacy Committee. The VP will work closely with the PAC Chair to educate candidates about LGBT issues and leverage endorsements, and with the President to identify local advocacy projects. ****

C. Secretary. Secretary/Treasurer. The Secretary/Treasurer shall maintain a record of all meetings of the Executive Board and of the membership; be prepared to read the minutes of the previous meeting at each meeting of the Executive Board or of the membership; receive and maintain in official club records the reports of elected officers and directors of standing committees and chairs of recognized caucuses; maintain a compendium of standing rules, resolutions and policies adopted by the Club and such correspondence as the President or Executive Board may direct; The Secretary/Treasurer shall also maintain the financial records of the club; receive and disburse funds of the Club or, if a financial services company is hired to do the above, then he/she may supervise their activities; the Secretary/Treasurer may prepare an annual budget of anticipated revenues and expenses;

Provide an addenda to the budget as needed; report the financial status of the Club to the Executive Board on a regular basis; prepare and submit all required Fair Political Practices Commission reports on a timely basis (unless such reports are done by the financial services company); and provide all information necessary for periodic audits as may be directed by the Executive Board; and perform such other duties as the President may direct.

D. Membership Chair. The Membership Chair shall maintain all membership records, including membership renewals, maintain a roster of the membership, report membership to National Stonewall Democrats; and perform such other duties as the President may direct.

E. Fundraising Chair. The Fundraising Chair shall be in charge of the Fundraising Committee and shall develop and administer all fundraising programs; work with the Treasurer on budget and financial issues; and perform such other duties as the President may direct.**

F. The Political Action Chair. The Political Action Chair shall be in charge of the Political Action Committee (see Article VI Committees, Section 2, subsection C); and perform such other duties as the President may direct.**

G. The Communications Chair. The Communications Chair shall be in charge of providing communications concerning meetings, programs and projects of the Club.***

Section 3.

An officer may be removed from office upon recommendation of a majority of the Executive Board on a roll call vote or upon submission of a petition signed by at least 25 percent of the members. Such recommendation or petition must be submitted to the membership at a called meeting and shall require a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting to remove the officer.

Section 4.

If an officer is removed per Section 3 above or by resignation, and the vacancy occurs prior to January 31, the Board shall have a special election by the membership at the next General Membership meeting. Nominations will

be taken from the floor and the vote by show of hands with the person receiving the most votes elected to office. If the vacancy occurs after January 31, the Executive Board may appoint someone to fill the unexpired portion of the term of the vacated office.*

Article VI Committees

Section 1.

The standing committees, if needed, shall be as follows: Communications Committee, Fundraising Committee, Political Action Committee, Advocacy Committee and the Membership Committee*****

Section 2.

The functions of the standing committees shall be as follows:

A. The Communications Committee shall provide communications concerning meetings, programs and projects of the Club to the LGBT communities and the community at large, and develop mechanisms for promoting awareness of the Club and enhancing its image through the media.

B. The Fundraising Committee shall develop and administer all fundraising programs.

C. The Political Action Committee shall be responsible for coordinating activities to maintain and enhance relations between the Club and elected officials, candidates for public office, the local, state and national Democratic Party, and the Lesbian and Gay Caucus of the California Democratic Party; develop activities to increase LGBT participation in public boards, commissions and elective office; make recommendations to the Executive Board on legislation at the local, state and federal levels; develop a local legislative agenda and plans for implementing the agenda to be submitted to the Executive Board and membership; and work with other clubs and organizations to

support or oppose such legislation as directed by the Executive Board and the membership.

D. The Membership Committee shall be responsible for developing ways to expend the Club's membership as well as retaining current members.

E. The Advocacy Committee shall be responsible for creating and responding to advocacy opportunities in line with The Club's mission to support public policies that advance LGBT equality and educate the community at large to the issues and concerns of the LGBT community. The Advocacy Committee will engage The Club's membership, other LGBT organizations, and allies in these efforts. ****

Section 3.

The President may appoint ad hoc committees, such as the Nominations Committee, pursuant to Article IV, Section 2, subsection A. The chairs of any ad hoc committees will serve the President or Board in an advisory capacity only.**

Article VII Elections*****

Section 1.

The election of officers of the Club shall be held in the month of June and shall assume office at the end of the of the June membership meeting

Section 2.

By the regularly scheduled general membership meeting in March, the President shall nominate a chair and members to serve as a Nominating Committee. The members of the Nominating Committee may not be candidates for office. The Nominating Committee shall be responsible for, but not limited to, recruiting qualified candidates for office and managing all aspects of the election process.

Section 3.

The annual election process shall be as follows:

A. Beginning April 1, the Nominations Committee shall engage in a search for candidates for all officer positions.

B. At the regularly scheduled general membership meeting in May, the Nominations Committee shall present candidates that have shown an interested in running for a board position, accept nominations from the floor, and close nominations.

C. If there are no contested races, the Nominations Chair at the June General Membership meeting may move that the nominees be elected by voice vote.

D. If there is more than one candidate for any office, then ballots for those races will be provided, a vote taken and the results announced. Each candidate will be given the opportunity to address the membership prior to the vote.

E. The new officers may be sworn in after the election or at then next general membership meeting.

Article VIII Meetings

Section 1.

Meetings of the membership shall be held at least four times each year.

Section 2.

A quorum for meetings shall be those members present and voting, the meeting being duly advertised pursuant to these bylaws.

Section 3.

Notice of all meetings shall be given to members in a timely fashion.

Section 4.

Meetings may be closed to nonmembers at the request of any member and the approval of two-thirds of the members present and voting.

Article IX Rules of Procedure

Section 1.

The current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall guide questions not covered by these bylaws. *****

Section 2.

Questions of interpretation of these bylaws may be appealed to the Executive Board whose decision shall be final.

Section 3.

Membership records shall be confidential and the use of the club mailing lists shall require a majority vote of the Executive Board.

Article X Amendments

Section 1.

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of those members voting after the proposed amendment has been approved by majority vote at a preceding regularly scheduled meeting.

Bylaws adopted March 5, 2003.

Bylaws amended August 11, 2003 (See items with *)

Bylaws amended March 14, 2005 (See items in **)

Bylaws amended May 12, 2008 (See items in ***)

Bylaws amended September 10, 2012 (see items in ****)

Bylaws amended March 11, 2013 (see items in ****)

Bylaws amended July 14, 2014 (see items in ****)

As certified by the Undersigned:

As certified by the Undersigned:

President Vice President

Secretary Treasurer

Membership Chair