

## Amendment to reconcile terms, definitions, and procedures with accepted practices

*Wash F., Jack R.S., & Bob M.*

**Whereas**, our bylaws are unnecessarily long, contain repetitive language, and need some grammatical adjustments;

**Whereas**, the term “Local Council” is unclear and most other DSA chapters use the term “Steering Committee” to refer to what we call our Local Council.

**Therefore be it resolved**, all instances and any future references of **Local Council** will be replaced with **Steering Committee**;

**Be it further resolved** that Article 1 [Name] is amended as follows:

### **Article 1: Name**

The name of this organization shall be the New Orleans Democratic Socialists of America, also known as New Orleans DSA ~~or DSA 504~~, and referred to throughout this document as the Local or Chapter.

**Resolved**, Article 4 [Election of Officers], Section 2 is amended as follows:

**Section 2: Process.** The elections process shall be fair, transparent, and democratic, ~~occurring at the annual convention~~. The **Steering Committee** ~~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~~.

**Resolved**, Article 5 [Local Council], Section 2 is amended as follows:

### **Article 5: ~~Steering Committee~~Local Council**

**Section 1: Purpose.** The New Orleans DSA **Steering Committee** ~~Local Council~~ serves as the democratically elected leadership of the Local and ~~is the highest legislative and judicial body under the General Membership. The Local Council shall set, maintain, and carry out policies which advance the principles, policies, and strategies enumerated in these bylaws and by the General Membership.~~

~~The Local Council~~ shall have responsibility for management of the overall direction of the Local as stipulated by general membership, and shall, collectively or through a representative appointed as needed by majority vote of the ~~Steering Committee Local Council~~, act as the public spokespersons for the Local.

The ~~Steering Committee Local Council~~ shall manage the day-to-day affairs of the Local between General Meetings.

[...]

*Section 2(e). Committee Stewards:* Each committee steward will be responsible for communicating and incorporating the work performed in committees in ~~Steering Committee Local Council~~ activities. ~~Each committee is exclusively responsible for delegating their own chair, or co-chair.~~

*Section 2(f). At-Large ~~Steering Committee Local Council~~ Members:* At least one At-Large ~~Committee Council~~ Member must not identify as white, cisgender, and male. Each At-Large ~~Committee at-large Council~~ Member will be responsible for serving as a point of contact and project facilitator for the membership as a whole, including:

1. Assisting in membership mobilization and engagement, and
2. Assisting in the coordination of projects involving multiple committees or caucuses. Each ~~At-Large Committee at-large~~ Member will be additionally expected to report on any projects, concerns and needs resulting from this work.

**Resolved**, Article 8 [Delegates], Section 1 is amended as follows:

**Section 1: Election.** Delegates to National, Regional, and State bodies shall be elected by the General Membership at a ~~the General Meeting most immediately preceding the Convention or other gathering at which delegates are needed.~~ The delegate election process will conform to DSA National bylaws and the National Convention calendar.

**Resolved**, Article 11 [Rules of Order], Section 1 is amended as follows:

**Section 1: Majority Vote.** Unless specified otherwise in these bylaws, decisions are made by a simple majority vote (any amount over 50% ~~"50% plus one"~~).