



Event Agenda

Friday, 12 April

6 pm – The Robert Dome Mixer

Featuring: Food, Drinks, Mingling, and Mayhem

Saturday, 13 April

8 am – Light Breakfast & Coffee

9 am – 12 pm – Convention Business

See page 3-4 for Business Agenda

12 pm - 1:30 pm – Lunch

Featuring: From Felon to Firearms Owner, ft. State Rep Candidate Justin Franks

Running for Office, featuring: LPWA's 2023 Candidates

1:30 pm – 5 pm – Convention Business, cont.

See page 3-4 for Business Agenda

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm – VIP Meet and Greet

Featuring: Close-Up Magic with Doc Dixon

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm – Dinner

Featuring: LPWA Awards, Silent Auction & More

7:30 pm – Magic and Comedy

Featuring: Doc Dixon

Sunday, 14 April

8:30 am – Light Breakfast & Coffee

9 am – (mostly virtual) Presidential Candidate Town Hall

10 am – Protect Your Comms: Privacy Phones for Non-Techies

11 am – Fiery But Mostly Peaceful: Libertarian Women

Featuring: Bess Byers, Cannabis Activist and Social Media Specialist for Reason Magazine

12:00 pm – Lunch and Food Freedom

Featuring: Texas Slim of the Beef Initiative

1:30 pm – Cultivating a Strong Town

Featuring: John Pattison from Strong Towns

State Convention Rules

1) Rules of Procedure

- a) Unless specified explicitly by the Constitution or Bylaws, rules of procedure shall be governed by Robert's Rules Newly Revised.
- 2) Upon being recognized by the Chair, the person recognized shall state name and county of residence for the record.
- 3) The Lead Teller will announce the total number of voting members attending the Convention after the Call to Order and after each recess if members announce their vacancy for the remainder of the session. The Lead Teller will decide all disputes regarding Credentials. The Convention may override a decision of the Lead Teller by a 2/3 vote.
- 4) Amendments to the Constitution, Bylaws, Program/Platform and Resolutions shall take effect immediately.
- 5) Discussion of all Constitution, Bylaws, and Resolution issues shall be in the following format: the Chair will recognize the Committee Chair or Resolution author for a period of not more than five minutes and then shall recognize one person in opposition. The Chair will continue to recognize speakers, alternating between pro and con positions for three minutes each up to a count of three in opposition and three in favor. Speakers must be recognized by the chair and then approach the microphone. Any speaker who takes a pro or con position on an item may not call the question immediately after speaking.
- 6) Members may nominate themselves for elected positions. Each nominee may address the convention body for up to three minutes. Members may speak for or against nominees for up to one minute, in which case nominees may have a one-minute response.

Recommendations for Debate Etiquette

It is recommended as good form when referring to other members of the convention to use the preferred style of address. While this is not required, it is encouraged to ensure mutual respect and provide a heightened experience for everyone.

a) Officers and Board members

- i) Officers and board members are referred to by their gendered or gender neutral title.

(1) Examples: "Mr. Vice-Chair", in a discussion "The Vice-Chair stated that passing the motion would increase the cost associated with our monthly service fee."

b) Members

- i) Members may be referred to by their gendered or gender-neutral title and accompanying home county if known.

(1) Examples: "The chair recognizes Ms. Johnson from Pierce County." or "Unlike what my fellow party member from Jefferson County argues, this motion doesn't go far enough..."

2024 Convention of the Libertarian Party of Washington State

Convening on 13 April 2024, in Spokane Washington

Call to Order – 9:00 am

Teller's Report

Quorum and voting thresholds set.

Approval of the Agenda

Submitted by the Chair

Chair's Report

State of the Party Address

Vice-Chair's Report

Review of party activities in the state.

Secretary's Report

Review of membership report.

Treasurer's Report

Review of financial summary report.

Business Agenda – 10:00 am

While election results are being counted, the next item for consideration under the Constitution and Bylaws or any other portion of the agenda may be taken up by the Chair until results are ready to be presented. Additionally, after Change 5 of the Constitution and Bylaws review, depending on time, elections may be held at the discretion of the Chair.

Constitution and Bylaws Review

In the event that the delegation is at ease during elections, amendments that had not yet been heard shall be brought to the floor.

For a list of proposed amendments, see page 6 of this booklet.

Officer Elections

Chair

State Executive Committee At-Large Representative Elections

All 8 positions up for re-election

Judicial Committee Elections

Associate Justice Position 2A - 3 year term

Associate Justice Position 2B - 3 year term

Associate Justice Position 2C - 3 year term

National Delegate Elections

35 positions up for election

Platform Review

No Platform changes have been submitted.

Adjournment – 5:00 pm

Proposed Changes
[Amendments]
to the
Constitution and Bylaws
of the
Libertarian Party of
Washington State
for April 2024 Convention
Consideration

(Removals indicated by ~~strike text~~. Additions indicated by underline text. Colors can be matched to changes in the combined Bylaws and Constitution document)

Pg 8 - Change 1 – expand ability for members to choose new leadership in the event of a vacancy

Pg 8 - Change 2 (a and b) – change to approval voting in multi-winner races

Pg 9 - Change 3 (a and b) – Change the number of Representatives

Pg 10 - Change 4 – change Representative terms to 1 year

Pg 11 - Change 5 – increase the number of nominations required to run for State Executive Committee

Pg 11 - Change 6 – absentee denoted voting for officer elections (only) at state conventions

Pg 12 - Change 7 – remove references to and requirements for national party membership

Pg 13 - Change 8 – increase membership dues

Pg 13 - Change 9 – remove Bylaws requirement for education, training, and recruitment

Pg 14 - Change 10 – removing BCRA compliance language

Pg 14 - Change Last – merging policies into one

Pg 15 - Complete Merged Bylaws and Constitution Document

Change 1 – expand ability for members to choose new leadership in the event of a vacancy

Impact to LPWA:

This change will clarify that in the event of the position of Chair becoming vacant, the Vice-Chair may choose to allow membership to select a new Chair rather than becoming Chair automatically. It would also ensure that it is clear that, in any circumstance, including in the case of resignations of both Chair and Vice-Chair, any vacant SEC position can be filled at a properly announced convention.

Changes:

Constitution Article VI, section A6 – adds language expanding ability of members to vote on leadership in the case of chair vacancies

6. In the event that the office of State Chair becomes vacant, the Vice-Chair ~~shall~~ may choose to either become the State Chair for the remainder of the term or act as the interim State Chair until a new State Chair is elected at a properly announced Convention or Special Convention.

Constitution Article VI, section A1 – adds language clarifying expanding ability of members to vote on leadership in the case of chair vacancies

11. Any vacant position on the State Executive Committee may be filled as defined in Article XVII at any properly announced Convention or Special Convention.

Change 2 – change to approval voting in multi-winner races

Change 2a would affect all multi-winner races, while Change 2b would only affect the delegate election

- For this change, we suggest the vote first be between Change 2a vs Change 2b, then whichever option wins can go up against the existing language for a possible change.

Impact to LPWA:

For multi-winner races, like election of representatives and judicial committee members and delegates to national, this would shift the party from ranked choice voting (STV) or score voting (SV) to approval voting (AV). As may be argued by different sides to this, STV tends to allow more minority candidates to win (especially in cases in which the number of possible candidates is small compared to the number of voters), and is a bit harder to tally, but provides an answer in a single round – while AV tends to get winners that are more representative of the body as a whole (especially when there is a majority requirement like proposed here), and is easier to tally, but might lead to the need for more rounds of voting.

Changes for 2a:

Constitution Article XVII, section D, E2c, and G – changes the system of voting for multi-winner races to approval voting

D. Multi-Winner Races with a required set of winners [in which the number of possible candidates exceeds the number of possible winners] shall be performed using an Approval Voting (AV) system

1. Voters may indicate any number of “approval votes” as they would like on their ballots.

2. Candidates are elected if they meet both of the following criteria:

a. Rank in the top number of candidates for the number of open seats in in terms of most approval votes received.

b. Receive an approval vote on a majority of valid ballots cast.

3. In the event of a tie where there are fewer remaining seats than tied candidates, the body shall add one additional round of voting for the remaining candidates where voters may vote for as many candidates as there are remaining possible seats.

4. In the event that seats remain open after a ballot, the body may open a process for new nominees and hold another round of approval voting to fill the remaining seats. If no further election rounds are held, these positions are deemed vacant.

Changes for 2b:

Constitution Article XVII, section D, E2c, and G – changes the system of voting for multi-winner races to approval voting, but adds language that this is only for delegate elections

D. Multi-Winner Races with a required set of winners [in which the number of possible candidates exceeds the number of possible winners] shall be performed using an Approval Voting (AV) System for election of delegates to the national convention and for all other elections shall be performed using a proportional voting system, usually either of a single transferable vote with a finish line (also called Single Transferable Vote or STV) or apportioned score voting.

Change 3 – Change the number of Representatives

Change 3a would set the number to 5, while Change 3b would have a scale for the number based on membership

- For this change, we suggest the vote first be between Change 3a vs Change 3b, then whichever option wins can go up against the existing language for a possible change.

Impact to LPWA:

Smaller SEC. This proposal changes the number of Reps from 8 to as little as 4. With 4 officers, the overall SEC would change from 12 to as few as 8. Fewer seats will tend to lead to more competition and fewer people needed to fill seats and perform Representative duties. This will also tend to allow (or force) party members to be more selective about who represents them (without having to rely upon NOTA). The change 3b section allows the size of the SEC to change automatically as the party grows.

Changes:

Constitution Article VII, section A1 – removes set amount of Reps, leaving details to the Bylaws

There shall be ~~eight (8)~~ a number of Representatives allocated to the State Executive Committee, elected from the Party sustaining membership at the annual State Convention in the manner determined in the Party Bylaws.

Bylaws Article II, section F – changes the number of Representatives

1. There shall be ~~eight (8)~~ ^(C3) five (5) ^(C3a) a number of ^(C3b) Representatives upon the State Executive Committee elected at the annual convention. All ~~eight (8)~~ ^(C3) Representative shall be elected at the same time on a single ballot.
 - a. *The number of Representatives elected will be determined by a count of the total number of sustaining members in the Party as of the state of the Convention. The number of Representatives allowed on the SEC cannot be changed between Conventions.*
 - b. *There shall be a minim number of four (4) and a maximum number of eight (8) Representatives allowed.*
If the Party has less than 200 sustaining members, then the number of Representatives shall be four (4)
If the Party has between 200 and 300 sustaining members, then the number of Representatives shall be five (5)
If the Party has between 301 and 400 sustaining members, then the number of Representatives shall be six (6)
If the Party has between 401 and 500 sustaining members, then the number of Representatives shall be seven (7)
If the Party has over 500 sustaining members, then the number of Representatives shall be eight (8)
(This italicized section only for C3b)
2. The State Executive Committee may temporarily fill vacancies. If a vacancy occurs, whether filled with a temporary replacement or not, all ~~eight (8)~~ Representatives shall have their term end at the next Party Convention and all of the positions shall be open to reelection by the convention.

Change 4 – change Representative terms to 1 year

Impact to LPWA:

The way the Bylaws are currently written, Representatives are elected for two year terms. However, if there is even a single vacancy during the year, then all Representatives must run for election again after only one year. This is necessary to maintain the proportionality of the Representatives versus the Party voting membership. This change would make stated term length in our bylaws match what actually ends up happening.

(Note that because this only changes the Bylaws, it only requires a simple majority to pass.)

Changes:

Bylaws Article II, section F: Representatives – changes the election cycle from 2 years to 1 year

2. The State Executive Committee may temporarily fill vacancies. ~~If a vacancy occurs, whether filled with a temporary replacement or not, all Representatives shall have their term end at the next Party Convention and all of the positions shall be open to reelection by the convention.~~

3. Representatives will be elected ~~in odd-numbered years each year at the Annual Convention~~ to serve for ~~two~~ (2) one (1) year terms ~~(except that if there are vacancies as discussed above, in which case there will be an election in even-numbered years for a one (1) year term).~~

Change 5 – increase the number of nominations required to run for State Executive Committee

Impact to LPWA:

Increases the number of nominations for a person to qualify to be on the ballot for Party officer positions or SEC Representative positions. Notionally, this would make it harder for a virtual unknown to come in and get on the SEC without some support of existing members.

Changes:

Constitution Article XII – adds new section to add this requirement

Elections for State Executive Committee at Convention

A candidate for any Officer position or any of the positions of Representative on the State Executive Committee must receive nominations from at least 10% of the eligible voters to be able to be considered a nominee and run for that position in the associated election.

Change 6 – absentee denoted voting for officer elections (only) at state conventions

Impact to LPWA:

This change specifically allows absentee denoted voting for elections of officers at conventions. This allows more of the party members to have a say in elections of officers at convention if they desire, even if they are not able to participate in the convention itself in person. They would still not be able to participate in other convention business (such as amendments or resolutions or even elections of delegates and Representatives), just the elections.

Changes:

Constitution Article III, section 2e – adds reference to absentee denoted voting for elections of officers at convention

Absentee voting will be allowed within the corporation for all meetings except most of the annual convention. Most of the annual convention will be ran without any absentee voting allowed; however, specifically absentee denoted voting only is allowed and only for election of officers. See Article XVII, section I. Absentee voting, when used, does not affect quorum requirements; quorum requirements must still be met without counting any absentee votes that members hold.

Constitution Article VI: Officers, section A2 – adds reference to absentee denoted votes being allowed when voting for officers

Party Officers will be elected individually, on separate ballots, in the order set forth above, at the annual Party Convention. No offices shall be combined. All Party sustaining members may vote in the officer elections at convention, whether in person or my absentee denoted vote.

Constitution Article XII: Annual Party Conventions – changes to allow absentee denoted voting for elections, but not for other things at convention

Eligible sustaining members who are not able to attend the convention may still participate in officer elections by absentee denoted vote as detailed in Article XVII, section I1.

Bylaws Article VIII: Party Conventions, section A5 – changes to allow absentee denoted voting for election of officers (though not for other items)

Proxy voting is not allowed. All forms of absentee voting is not allowed for most of the convention. However, absentee denoted voting is allowed only for the election of officers.

BTW, as a reminder, the Constitution Article XVII, section I – already contains language about denoted voting that will not be changing here, but will now be applied to convention officer elections and not just SEC meetings, etc

I. Absentee Voting. When allowed in specific situations mentioned in these controlling documents, members with voting power shall be allowed to have their voice heard in votes even if they cannot be physically or electronically present for the vote itself. In any situation in which a member would have voting power if they were present, then that member will be allowed to submit their vote in any number of ways. All absentee votes will need to be verifiable in some way, whether by voice mail or email or signed note or letter or other.

1. Denoted Vote. If the item up for vote is known in detail by the voter—in that the voter has the full word-for-word motion to consider ahead of time—then the voter may just send in their vote on that motion. This would apply to elections as well, as long as the voter knew what position was being voted on and could send in ahead of time their vote for candidate(s) for that position.

Change 7 – remove references to and requirements for national party membership

Impact to LPWA:

At this time (as of March 2024), LPWA is unable to get a reliable list of national LP membership. This change will ensure that LPWA can verify who is eligible to be a delegate to conventions.

Changes:

Bylaws Article VIII, section C1 – removes requirement for national party membership to national conventions

All delegates and representatives to national conventions of the Libertarian Party must be sustaining members of ~~both the State Party and National Parties~~ at the time of their participation in the convention.

Constitution Article XII, section 2 – removes option for national party membership to participate in state conventions

Any Party sustaining member is eligible to be a Delegate and when in attendance may vote at convention; provided that they have been a sustaining member of either the Party or the national Libertarian Party on or before . . .

Change 8 – increase membership dues

Impact to LPWA:

Looking back decades, the dues for LPWA have been set at \$25 per year. If these dues were keeping up with inflation, they would have almost doubled during that time. This would allow the Party to take in slightly more dues money to keep up with recent increases in costs.

(Notes: Because this only changes the Bylaws, it only requires a simple majority to pass. If this does pass, the SEC will have to update some other standing rules and documents. The change wouldn't hit current sustaining members until the next time they renew their membership.)

Changes:

Bylaws Article I, section C – changes the dues amount

Any individual who has, in the previous twelve (12) months, paid membership dues in the amount of ~~twenty-five (25)~~ thirty (30) dollars to the Party . . .

Change 9 – remove Bylaws requirement for education, training, and recruitment

Impact to LPWA:

Currently the Bylaws require that the SEC organize training for volunteers and candidates. If this is removed, it will not change the behavior of the SEC. The purpose of our organization is set in Article II of our Constitution.

(Note that because this only changes the Bylaws, it only requires a simple majority to pass.)

Changes:

Bylaws Article III, section C – removes requirement

~~Education, Training, and Recruitment~~

- ~~1. The State Executive Committee shall organize an official training for volunteers and candidates.~~
- ~~2. Training material shall be openly shared with regional organizations and statutory county committees.~~
- ~~3. The purpose of training material shall be to educate on values of the Party; instruct structure and methods of volunteer activity and growth of membership of the Party; and to provide information for candidates and potential candidates on structure, regulations, and other basic necessities for successful campaigns.~~

Change 10 – removing BCRA compliance language

Impact to LPWA:

This change would not impact how LPWA interacts with BCRA or FEC filings. In the past, in conflict with this section, we have given to federal races and have filed appropriate reports. This language in this section seems to heavily imply – if not outright say – that we can't participate in federal elections, which seems to contrary to our current intent.

Changes:

Constitution Article V – delete it

Article V: BCRA Compliance

- ~~1. The Party shall not make any purchase, payment, distribution, loan, advance, deposit, or gift of money or anything of value for the purpose of influencing any election for federal office.~~
- ~~2. Nothing in these documents is meant to directly influence federal election activity.~~

Change Last – merging policies into one

Impact to LPWA:

Combines existing Party policies into one single document. Merges the existing Constitution and Bylaws into a new set of Bylaws. The only real substantive change is that all future amendments will now require at least 2/3 majority; there will no longer be a subset of policy that only requires simple majority agreement to change. This will generally make the policies easier to read and is in keeping with the way most organizations (including the national LP) are organized nowadays.

Changes:

Entire Merging of Both documents – looking at the proposed new document, regular lettering is from prior Constitution, *italicized* letting is from prior Bylaws, and other minor un-substantive changes [needed to merge the 2 documents coherently] are presented without color or associated change number in subscript

Constitution Bylaws of the Libertarian Party of Washington State –

As Last Amended in Convention 25 March 2023

With Merger and Changes proposed for Convention April 2024

Statement of Principles

We, the members of the Libertarian Party, challenge the cult of the omnipotent state and defend the rights of the individual.

We hold that all individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives, and have the right to live in whatever manner they choose, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live in whatever manner they choose.

Governments throughout history have regularly operated on the opposite principle, that the State has the right to dispose of the lives of individuals and the fruits of their labor. Even within the United States, all political parties other than our own grant to government the right to regulate the lives of individuals and seize the fruits of their labor without their consent.

We, on the contrary, deny the right of any government to do these things, and hold that where governments exist, they must not violate the rights of any individual: namely,

- (1) the right to life — accordingly we support the prohibition of the initiation of physical force against others;
- (2) the right to liberty of speech and action — accordingly we oppose all attempts by government to abridge the freedom of speech and press, as well as government censorship in any form; and
- (3) the right to property — accordingly we oppose all government interference with private property, such as confiscation, nationalization, and eminent domain, and support the prohibition of robbery, trespass, fraud, and misrepresentation.

Since governments, when instituted, must not violate individual rights, we oppose all interference by government in the areas of voluntary and contractual relations among individuals. People should not be forced to sacrifice their lives and property for the benefit of others. They should be left free by government to deal with one another as free traders; and the resultant economic system, the only one compatible with the protection of individual rights, is the free market.

Article I: Name and Affiliation

1. The name of this organization will be the Libertarian Party of Washington State Incorporated, hereinafter referred to as “the Party” or “LPWA”.
2. We, the sustaining members of the Party, desire to clearly state that we want the Libertarian Party of Washington to remain affiliated with and supportive of the national Libertarian Party by default. Any move to disaffiliate the state party from national – or to disband the state party entirely – must have support of a seven-eighths (7/8) majority vote of all delegates at an annual convention in which notice has been included that this topic will be voted on.

Article II: Purpose and Duration

The duration of this Party will be perpetual.

The purpose of the Party is to proclaim and implement its Statement of Principles by:

1. Nominating and running candidates for office in the State of Washington;
2. Entering into political information and educational activities;
3. Promoting, chartering, and coordinating regional organizations throughout the State of Washington;
4. Calling conventions of Libertarian Party Members within the State of Washington;
5. Providing delegates for national Libertarian Party conventions;
- and
6. Filling vacancies on the Libertarian Party ticket.

Article III ~~III~~: Controlling Documents

1. The controlling documents of the Party are these ~~this Constitution and the Party Bylaws~~. Authority for ~~procedures not otherwise addressed in the Controlling Documents is Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised~~.
2. *The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Party in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution of the Party, these Bylaws, and any special rules of order the Party may adopt.*
3. Some specific procedures that will be done differently than that specified in Robert's Rules include the following:
 - a. Digital Meetings. All meetings of the Party, except the annual convention itself, may be done, in whole or in part, via digital or electronic means.
 - b. Reading in Debate. Reading shall be allowed in debate. Additionally, video presentation or any other method of sharing information germane to the debate shall be allowed, even though it may not come fresh in the moment from the participant's mind or voice box.
 - c. Voting members at a meeting may allow non-voting members (or even person who are not members of the Party) to speak in meetings, but the voting members in the meeting retain their right to withdraw that privilege if they desire.
 - d. Voting within the corporation will be done in accordance with Article XVII ~~of this Constitution~~, even when those actions contradict the normal voting processes of the established parliamentary rules.
 - e. Absentee voting will be allowed within the corporation for all meetings except most of the annual convention. Most of the annual convention will be ran without any absentee voting allowed; however, specifically absentee denoted voting only is allowed and only for election of officers. ^(c6) See Article XVII, section I. Absentee voting, when used, does not affect quorum requirements; quorum requirements must still be met without counting any absentee votes that members hold.

Article IV ~~IV~~ : Membership

1. Any person residing within the State of Washington who endorses in writing the following statement is a member of the Party:
"I do not believe in nor advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals."
~~The requirement and standards for membership will be set forth in the Party Bylaws.~~
2. *Anyone meeting the following shall be understood to hold active Sustaining Membership within the Libertarian Party of Washington State (LPWA):*
 - a. *Any individual residing within the bounds of Washington State, or who otherwise qualifies as a Washington State resident, and;*
 - b. *Any individual who has signed the statement of principles in accordance with the paragraph above ~~the LPWA Constitution~~, and;*
 - c. *Any individual who has, in the previous twelve (12) months, paid membership dues in the amount of twenty-five (25) thirty (30) ^(c8) dollars to the Party or conducted a minimum amount of volunteer work on behalf of the Party. The State Executive Committee shall implement a process for identifying and recording qualifying donations. The State Executive Committee shall set minimum amounts and qualifying types of volunteer work, applied uniformly, and implement a process for identifying and recording qualifying volunteer work.*
3. *Any member may require that their membership information may not be distributed to any organization not affiliated with the Libertarian Party of Washington State (LPWA). An affiliate of the LPWA is defined as the Libertarian National Committee and chartered regional chapters of the LPWA.*
4. *Any sustaining member has a right to contact the general membership of the Party concerning Party business; the State Executive Committee shall establish procedures for so contacting the membership.*

5. *Lifetime Achievement Award - a high honor bestowed onto a sustaining member for substantial and significant contributions to the Party over a sustained period of time of at least twenty years. Contributions may be through volunteerism, financial, or other in-kind donations.*
 - a. *Due to the significance and privileges that this high honor receives, it may only be granted through the following process:*
 - i) *Any Party sustaining member may nominate a sustaining member that meets the requirements for a Lifetime Achievement Award.*
 - ii) *The current Party Chair may then decide whether to pursue the Lifetime Achievement Award for a nominated sustaining member. The Chair may only put forth a sustaining member for consideration once per term and not more than once per two-year period, whichever is greater.*
 - iii) *If the Chair chooses to pursue a Lifetime Achievement Award for someone, it must next pass a vote of the State Executive Committee.*
 - iv) *Once a member is approved for Lifetime Achievement Award by the State Executive Committee, they may only be approved and ratified as a Lifetime Achievement Award Member by a majority vote of the membership in attendance at state convention that takes place at least 30 days after the member was approved by the State Executive Committee.*
 - b. *This honor may be rescinded by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at a state convention.*
 - c. *A Lifetime Achievement Award Member receives all privileges of a dues paid sustaining member for the remaining lifetime of that person and may not be transferred or proxied.*
 - d. *A Lifetime Achievement Award Member shall be permitted to all party functions and events including meals and other services that would normally be included as part of the event.*
 - e. *A Lifetime Achievement Award Member will still be required to pay for accommodations, transportation, and other ancillary fees occurred to attend party functions and events.*
6. *Honorary members of the Party can be elected by delegates at the state convention by a simple majority vote or named by the State Executive Committee with a two-thirds (2/3) approval. Honorary members shall have no voting status or sustaining membership privileges. Honorary members are still required to agree with the statement of principles in accordance with the LPWA Constitution.*
7. *Awards*
 - a. *Not technically a membership, awards are non-binding. They exist to recognize achievements by members amongst their peers.*
 - b. *Each of the awards listed below may be presented no more than once per year at the state convention to no more than one recipient each.*
 - c. *All items designated as awards may be nominated by any sustaining member of the party at least thirty (30) days before an annual convention.*
 - d. *For an award to be presented at a convention, both the Chair and the Vice-Chair must agree to the presentation.*
 - e. *Below are the defined possible awards:*
 - The Gadsden Award - an award for activism bestowed on sustaining members who distinguish themselves through the efforts of containing or reducing government and protecting civil liberties and freedom.*
 - The Torchlight Award - an award for leadership bestowed on sustaining members who distinguish themselves in coordinating, organizing, and engaging fellow members to achieve a goal to further the spread of liberty.*
 - The Liberty Bell Award - an award for outreach bestowed on sustaining members who distinguish themselves in inspiring others to join the Libertarian Party (national and/or state) or make a significant impact on the spread of the Libertarian message to the public.*

The Patriot Award - an award for support bestowed on individuals (either members or not) who distinguish themselves through substantial efforts to assist with the goals and efforts of the Libertarian Party.

The Porcupine Award - an award for party spirit bestowed on sustaining members who distinguish themselves by example of Libertarian values and principle.

Article V: BCRA Compliance

- ~~1. The Party shall not make any purchase, payment, distribution, loan, advance, deposit, or gift of money or anything of value for the purpose of influencing any election for federal office.~~
- ~~2. Nothing in these controlling documents is meant to directly influence federal election activity.~~ (C10)

Article VI ~~##~~ : Party Officers

A. Generally:

1. The Party shall have four (4) Party Officers, as follows: State Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary.
2. Party Officers will be elected individually, on separate ballots, in the order set forth above, at the annual Party Convention. No offices shall be combined. All Party sustaining members may vote in the officer elections at convention, whether in person or my absentee denoted vote. (C6)
3. Terms of office for Party Officers will commence after adjournment of the annual convention in odd numbered years, and terminate after adjournment of the annual convention in the succeeding odd numbered year.
4. Only Party sustaining members eligible to vote at the annual Party convention may serve as Party Officers.
5. Party Officers have the executive powers and duties of the Party. Additional powers and duties of the Party Officers are set forth herein ~~and in the Bylaws.~~
6. Members of the State Executive Committee shall not be members of any political party in the State of Washington other than the LPWA or its affiliates.
7. *Any Officer who may have a conflict of interest in discharging their duties as an Officer shall fully advise the State Executive Committee regarding the possible conflict.*
8. *Each Party Officer will be responsible for maintaining documentation within their area of responsibility.*
9. *Each officer will be responsible for transferring all records and accounts pertaining to their area of responsibility within fourteen (14) days after the election or appointment of their successor.*
10. *Each Party Officer will provide a written report to be presented (at the annual Party Convention in odd-numbered years) and passed on to the next Officer.*
11. *No Party Officer may incur expenses beyond budget without approval of the State Executive Committee.*
12. In the event that the office of State Chair becomes vacant, the Vice-Chair ~~shall~~ (C1) may choose to either (C1) become the State Chair for the remainder of the term or act as the interim State Chair until a new State Chair is elected at a properly announced Convention or Special Convention (C1).
13. The State Executive Committee may appoint or reinstate Party Officers other than the State Chair if vacancies or suspensions occur, such officers to serve the remainder of the vacated term.
14. Any Party Officer or Representative may be suspended for cause by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the State Executive Committee. The defendant will not participate in the vote. The Vice-Chair is recused from voting to suspend the State Chair.
15. A Party Officer may challenge their suspension by written appeal to the Judicial Committee within thirty (30) days of receipt of notice of such suspension. Failure to appeal within thirty (30) days shall confirm the suspension and bar any later challenge or appeal.
16. Any vacant position on the State Executive Committee may be filled as defined in Article XV at any properly announced Convention or Special Convention. (C1)

- B. Disciplinary Action:** In the event disciplinary action must be considered for an Officer of the Party and/or a member of the State Executive Committee, the following process shall be taken:

1. If the person has access to sensitive accounts or items, those accounts or items shall be temporarily disabled during the investigation. If any item shall not be able to be locked or disabled, the person under consideration shall be notified to cease use of any such items or accounts until further notice. This shall be done in writing and must be certified by the Secretary, or the highest-ranking member of the State Executive Committee not being considered for discipline.
2. The person under consideration for disciplinary action shall be notified no less than seven (7) days before the next meeting of the State Executive Committee. The notice shall include a list of charges so that the person may prepare their defense.
3. A notice to the State Executive Committee must be submitted for an executive session to hold a hearing. Once proper notice has been given and the meeting is in progress, the hearing will commence in the following manner:

Note: For the purpose of clarity, the following is defined:

-The person(s) presenting the complaint shall be referred to as the plaintiff.

-The person(s) address by the complaint shall be referred to as the defendant.

- a. The complaint shall be heard.
- b. The plaintiff shall provide evidence to support the complaint.
- c. The defendant shall reply in contest or no contest. If there is no contest, the proceedings may close.
- d. The defendant may provide evidence in their defense.
- e. Each member of the State Executive Committee may take up to ten (10) minutes to ask questions of the plaintiff and defendant. (Members may not yield their remaining time to another member.)
- f. After each member has had an opportunity to ask questions, the State Executive Committee may take one of the following actions:
 - i) Pursue another round of questioning
 - ii) Convene another session at a determined time
 - iii) Close the hearing and return to general session
- g. At the closure of the hearing, members of the State Executive Committee, the plaintiff, and defendant may make any closing remarks or statements.
- h. At the end of the hearing, the State Executive Committee must make a consensus for one of the following actions:
 - i) Go to general session with no action.
 - ii) Go to general session with a motion.

C. State Chair:

1. *The State Chair shall be the chief executive officer and chief spokesperson of the Party, holding all powers pertaining to the ordinary business affairs of the Party.*
2. *The State Chair may appoint, hire, and discharge Party volunteers and paid personnel, such as an office manager and an events chair, consistent with any express State Executive Committee policies.*
3. *The State Chair may contract, or delegate authority to contract on their behalf, for products and services, consistent with any express State Executive Committee policies.*
4. *The State Chair shall appoint committee chairs and directors as necessary to perform functions as required in these Bylaws and shall recommend approval of said committee chairs and directors to the State Executive Committee for confirmation. All confirmed committee chairs and committee rules, as established in the State Executive Committee standing rules, shall be made available to all members of the party on the LPWA website within thirty (30) days of State Executive Committee approval.*

D. Vice-Chair:

1. The Vice-Chair shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the State Chair in the event of their resignation, incapacity, death, suspension, or absence.

E. Treasurer:

1. The Treasurer shall be responsible for establishing and maintaining a system of accounts in accordance with Cash Basis Accounting Practices.
2. The fiscal year of the Party shall begin on January 1st of each year.
3. In the event the Treasurer is unable to perform the duties of the office, the records of the Party shall revert to the State Chair.

F. Secretary:

1. The Secretary will be responsible for recording the minutes of the State Executive Committee meetings and Party conventions.
2. The Secretary will ensure that draft copies of convention minutes are available to Party sustaining members within thirty (30) days following a convention.
3. The Secretary shall notify State Executive Committee members of the time and location of meetings. The Party Secretary is responsible for Party membership records (including both Active and Inactive Members at all levels), Party archives, and all other records not otherwise provided for in the controlling documents.

G. Representatives

1. There shall be ~~eight (8)~~ ^(C3) ~~five (5)~~ ^(C3a) a number of ^(C3b) Representatives upon the State Executive Committee elected at the annual convention. All ~~eight (8)~~ ^(C3) Representative shall be elected at the same time on a single ballot.
 - a. The number of Representatives elected will be determined by a count of the total number of sustaining members in the Party as of the state of the Convention. The number of Representatives allowed on the SEC cannot be changed between Conventions.
 - b. There shall be a minimum number of four (4) and a maximum number of eight (8) Representatives allowed.
 - If the Party has less than 200 sustaining members, then the number of Representatives shall be four (4)
 - If the Party has between 200 and 300 sustaining members, then the number of Representatives shall be five (5)
 - If the Party has between 301 and 400 sustaining members, then the number of Representatives shall be six (6)
 - If the Party has between 401 and 500 sustaining members, then the number of Representatives shall be seven (7)
 - If the Party has over 500 sustaining members, then the number of Representatives shall be eight (8) ^(C3b)
2. The State Executive Committee may temporarily fill vacancies. ~~If a vacancy occurs, whether filled with a temporary replacement or not, all~~ ~~eight (8)~~ ^(C3) ~~Representatives shall have their term end at the next Party Convention and all of the positions shall be open to reelection by the convention.~~ ^(C4)
3. Representatives will be elected ~~in odd-numbered years~~ ^(C4) each year at the Annual Convention ^(C4) to serve for ~~two (2)~~ ^(C4) one (1) ^(C4) year terms ~~(except that if there are vacancies as discussed above, in which case there will be an election in even-numbered years for a one (1) year term)~~ ^(C4).
4. The rules and process governing how to suspend, ~~fire~~ remove, and replace any Representative for cause shall be the same as those stated for Party Officers in ~~the Constitution~~, Article VI, section B.

Article VII ~~###~~ : State Executive Committee

A. Membership:

1. There shall be ~~eight (8)~~ a number of ^(c3) Representatives allocated to the State Executive Committee, elected from the Party membership at the annual State Convention ~~in the manner determined in the Party Bylaws.~~
2. The Party Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary are members of the State Executive Committee.
3. The State Chair shall preside at State Executive Committee meetings, and may vote only if the Chair's vote would change the outcome.

B. Powers:

1. The State Executive Committee will have all policy making, investigatory, and review authority over all the affairs, properties, and funds of the Party not prohibited by the Controlling Documents of the Party.
2. The State Executive Committee will meet in the manner, and conduct itself according to rules, as provided in ~~the Party these~~ Bylaws.
3. The State Executive Committee shall have the power to confirm committee chairs and directors as provided in ~~the Party these~~ Bylaws.
4. The State Executive Committee may never expel a member from the Party, but may petition the Judicial Committee to suspend a sustaining member of the Party upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

C. Meetings:

1. *The State Executive Committee shall convene only in meetings open to any and all sustaining members. Within a properly announced open meeting, a closed "Executive Session" may be convened to discuss the following confidential matters: contracts worth more than one thousand dollars (\$1000) per year, personnel and/or disciplinary matters requiring State Executive Committee action, and pending or active litigation. The purpose of the private session shall be announced prior to convening privately, and no votes may be taken until the open meeting is reconvened, at which time motions and discussion may or may not proceed.*
2. *The State Executive Committee shall meet at least quarterly, as may be determined by the Committee, or by a call of the State Chair, or by written request of one-third (1/3) or more of the members of the Committee.*
3. *A quorum for State Executive Committee meetings will consist of at least half the current total Committee members. If neither the Chair nor the Vice Chair is in attendance, the present members of the State Executive Committee may elect a Presiding Chair pro tem.*
4. *Members of the State Executive Committee may participate in votes at the meetings even if not able to attend, by way of absentee voting described in Article XV, section I.*

D. Rules and Procedures:

1. *All State Executive Committee members shall be notified of the time and location of meetings no less than twenty-one (21) days in advance; provided that, in the case of emergency meetings called by the State Chair seven (7) days shall be adequate.*
2. *The State Executive Committee may adopt such rules of procedure as it deems necessary.*
3. *Any petition to the Judicial Committee to suspend a member from the Party shall be preceded by a written motion to the State Executive Committee summarizing the reasons for suspension. The motion will require two (2) seconds to be considered. Any Party sustaining member subject to a motion for petition to suspend shall receive a copy of the written motion thirty (30) days before the matter may be considered by the State Executive Committee and given a reasonable opportunity to be heard in a regular meeting of the State Executive Committee before a dispositive vote is taken. In the event a motion for petition to suspend a member passes the State Executive Committee, the State Executive Committee shall select one (1) of its members to represent the State Executive Committee in its petition to the Judicial Committee.*
4. *The State Executive Committee shall conduct all financial ownership of state party fundraising and funds distribution. All unchartered regional funds raised shall be done on behalf of the Party. Funds of the Party shall be made available to chartered regional organizations to conduct regular business on behalf of the Party.*

5. *The State Executive Committee shall elect an Audit Committee consisting of at least three Party sustaining members (who are not members of the State Executive Committee) whose terms shall last two years. The purposes of the Audit Committee shall be to:*
 - a. *ensure the accuracy, transparency, and comprehensibility of Party financial statements*
 - b. *review the adequacy of internal financial policies and controls*
 - c. *investigate reports or complaints of irregularities in the handling of Party finances or financial statements*
 - d. *communicate findings of the audit committee to the State Executive Committee*

E. Education, Training, and Recruitment

- ~~1. The State Executive Committee shall organize an official training for volunteers and candidates.~~
- ~~2. Training material shall be openly shared with regional organizations and statutory county committees.~~
- ~~3. The purpose of training material shall be to educate on values of the Party; instruct structure and methods of volunteer activity and growth of membership of the Party; and to provide information for candidates and potential candidates on structure, regulations, and other basic necessities for successful campaigns.~~ (C9)

Article VIII ~~{IV}~~ : Statutory State Committee

A. Applicability:

Article VIII applies during only such times as when the Party has major party status per state statute.

B. Membership:

The Statutory State Committee shall be composed of Party sustaining members who have been selected by Statutory County Committees to serve on the Statutory State Committee.

C. Powers:

The Statutory State Committee has the following powers:

1. To call conventions of Libertarian Party sustaining members within the State of Washington;
2. To provide delegates for National Libertarian Party conventions;
3. To nominate Presidential electors; and
4. To fill vacancies on the Libertarian Party ticket.

D. Meetings:

1. *The Statutory State Committee shall convene only in open meeting.*
2. *The Statutory State Committee shall meet during January of each odd-numbered year, or by a call of the State Chair.*
3. *A quorum for the Statutory State Committee meetings will consist of at least half the current total Committee members.*

E. Rules and Procedures:

~~The Statutory State Committee will meet in the manner, and conduct itself according to rules, as provided in the Party Bylaws.~~

1. *Notice of the Statutory State Committee meeting held in January of each odd-numbered year shall be made seven (7) days in advance to all Statutory County Committees lawfully organized in accordance with the Party's Constitution and these Bylaws. Notice of the time, location, and agenda of all other Statutory State Committee meetings shall be made no less than twenty-one (21) days in advance.*
2. *The presiding officer at Statutory State Committee meetings shall ensure that minutes are regularly taken and that the minutes shall be available to any Party sustaining member upon request.*

3. *The Statutory State Committee may adopt such additional rules of procedure as it deems necessary.*
4. The Statutory State Committee may delegate its powers to the State Executive Committee, or to an appropriate standing committee created by the controlling documents, or to the Party Convention.

Article IX ~~IV~~ : Judicial Committee

A. Membership:

1. The Judicial Committee will consist of not more than nine (9) Party sustaining members.
2. A candidate for election to the Judicial Committee must be a Party sustaining member for at least three (3) years.
3. Party Officers and members of the State Executive Committee and the Statutory State Committee are not eligible to serve on the Judicial Committee.
4. Members of the Judicial Committee shall be elected at each Party Convention and serve for a *term of three (3) years* ~~period specified in the Bylaws~~, unless they are recalled by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at a Party Convention.
5. Within sixty (60) days of each annual convention the Judicial Committee shall elect from its members a Chief Justice.
6. Vacancies on the Judicial Committee will be filled at the next annual Party Convention.

B. Generally:

~~Members of the Judicial Committee shall serve for a term of three (3) years.~~

1. *No member of the Judicial Committee may sit in judgment of an appeal of a ruling or action of the State Executive Committee or the Statutory State Committee, which occurred while that member served on either Committee.*
2. *The Judicial Committee shall, when required by its duties, have access to all written records of the Party and Party committees concerned.*

C. Powers:

The Judicial Committee shall hear appeals or petitions from Party sustaining members concerning:

1. Interpretation of the controlling documents;
2. Disputes involving access to Party records;
3. Suspension of Party Officers; and
4. Disputes involving representation on the State Executive Committee, or the Statutory State Committee or its committees

D. Rules:

1. The Judicial Committee shall review any petition by the State Executive Committee to suspend a member from the Party.
2. Decisions of the Judicial Committee shall be limited to summary affirmation or reversal of any official act of a Party Officer, or the State Executive Committee, or the Statutory State Committee. The State Executive Committee, or the Statutory State Committee, or the appellant/petitioner may request a written opinion from the Judicial Committee.
3. Judicial Committee decisions are subject to repeal by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of delegates at the next Party convention.
4. Members of the Judicial Committee may participate in votes at the meetings even if not able to attend, by way of absentee voting described in Article XV, section I.

~~The Judicial Committee will meet in the manner and conduct themselves according to the Party Bylaws.~~

E. Chief Justice:

1. *The Chief Justice may not serve consecutive terms as Chief Justice.*
2. *The Chief Justice will receive all appeals and petitions, and schedule hearings so as to obtain a quorum of the Judicial Committee.*

F. Timing and Notification:

1. *The Chief Justice must notify the Party Officers within seven (7) days that an appeal or petition has been received, and provide the substance.*
2. *The Chief Justice shall provide at least fourteen (14) calendar days notice to all interested Parties to a hearing, unless otherwise agreed to by all parties concerned.*
3. *Hearings must be held within forty-five (45) calendar days from the time a written request is received by the Chief Justice, unless otherwise agreed to by all parties concerned.*
4. *The Judicial Committee must provide a ruling within fifteen (15) calendar days of the conclusion of a hearing, unless otherwise agreed to by all parties concerned.*

G. Hearings:

1. *In hearing a petition to suspend a sustaining member from the Party, a quorum of the Judicial Committee will consist of seven-eighths (7/8) of its members. In all other matters, a quorum of the Judicial Committee will consist of a simple majority.*
2. *All parties to a hearing will have the right to represent their interests in the manner of their own choosing, consistent with the rules, guidelines, and principles of the Judicial Committee.*
3. *With the consent of all parties, the Chief Justice may call for written arguments and a mail ballot of the committee. Unless the parties agree otherwise, the Judicial Committee must provide a ruling within sixty (60) calendar days of the date of the original appeal or petition.*

Article X ~~{VII}~~ : Regional Organizations

1. The State Executive Committee may charter as regional organizations those organizations requesting such status, to represent counties or other political or geographical entities, if requested by affected members and approved by the State Executive Committee. Regional Organizations may be, in the sole and exclusive discretion of the State Executive Committee, Statutory County Committees. Regional organizations will be chartered for the following purposes:
 - a. Endorsing candidates, initiatives, and city/county bills and ordinances in their name.
 - b. Working to elect Libertarian candidates.
 - c. Promoting Libertarian principles through political information and educational activities.
 - d. Selecting representatives to appropriate Party activities.
2. Every organization so chartered will ratify the Statement of Principles of the Party and provide the names and titles of its regional officers to the State Executive Committee annually.
3. ~~The State Executive Committee will promote and charter regional organizations.~~ Regional organizations can be county or other local organizations.
4. Organizations applying for regional organization status will petition the State Executive Committee. The petition will explicitly ratify the Statement of Principles of the National Party and will be signed annually by no fewer than five (5) Party sustaining members residing in that region, or 100% of party sustaining membership in that region, whichever is fewer.
 - a. Petition shall be accompanied by ratified Regional controlling documents ~~Constitution and/or Bylaws~~. State Executive Committee shall approve or deny petition within thirty (30) days of submittal in written format. Chartered regional leadership contact information shall be posted by the State Executive Committee on the Party website and regular newsletters/publications.

- b. ~~Regional controlling documents Constitution and/or Bylaws~~ shall instruct leadership structure, membership, goals/purpose, candidate nominations, boundaries, and meeting/communication requirements.
- 5. *The State Executive Committee will have the power to suspend regional organizations by a two-thirds (2/3) vote. Suspension is subject to written appeal to the Judicial Committee within thirty (30) calendar days of notification of suspension. Upon failure to appeal, the charter of the regional organization will be revoked. The State Executive Committee will not suspend any regional organization within a period of four (4) months prior to the annual convention. A regional organization may be suspended from the Party for the following reasons:*
 - a. *Violating the Statement of Principles.*
 - b. *Endorsing or supporting a candidate in opposition to one nominated by a recognized branch of the Libertarian Party.*
 - c. *Failing to hold a local meeting within the region at least once every calendar quarter.*
- 6. *Upon appeal by the regional organization, the Judicial Committee will conduct a hearing. Following the hearing, the Judicial Committee will have thirty (30) calendar days to decide either to revoke the charter of the regional organization, or to continue the charter. Until the Judicial Committee decides, the regional organization charter will continue to be in force.*
- 7. *Sustaining members of the Party residing in unchartered regions may petition the State Executive Committee for recognition as chartered regions; such petitions must identify boundaries such as county lines, and must meet requirements set forth in the controlling documents.*

Article XI ~~{VII}~~ : Statutory County Committees

A. Applicability:

Article XI applies during only such times as when the Party has major party status per state statute.

B. Membership:

Statutory County Committees are composed of current Party sustaining members in the County who are appointed by the committee chair and confirmed by the County Executive Committee. The committee chair shall be elected by ballot at a convention of Party sustaining members residing in the County. Persons elected as Libertarian Precinct Committee Officers in the county shall have the right to address each meeting of the Statutory County Committee for up to one minute, but shall not have any voting rights.

C. Generally:

- 1. *A Statutory County Committee may petition for Regional Organization status under Article X of ~~the Party Constitution and Article VI~~ of these Bylaws. The petition will explicitly ratify the Statement of Principles of the Party and will be signed by no fewer than five (5) Party sustaining members who are also Statutory County Committee members residing in that county.*
- 2. *A Statutory County Committee shall conduct business related to statutory powers only in open meeting.*
- 3. *The presiding officer at Statutory County Committee meetings shall ensure that minutes are regularly taken and that the minutes shall be available to any Party sustaining member upon request.*
- 4. *The Statutory County Committee may adopt such additional rules of procedure as it deems necessary.*

D. Powers:

- 1. Statutory County Committees shall select from their numbers up to two (2) representatives to the Statutory State Committee. Any representative to the Statutory State Committee must have been a sustaining member of the Party for at least one (1) year.
- 2. Statutory County Committees shall have such other powers as may be delegated by these controlling documents or by the State Executive Committee.

The Statutory County Committee will meet in the manner, and conduct itself according to rules, as provided in the Party Bylaws.

Article XII ~~[VIII]~~ : Annual Party Conventions

A. **Generally:**

1. The Party will meet in convention as provided in these Bylaws and any convention rules ~~and the Party may adopt Bylaws.~~ *The annual Party convention shall be held in the first quarter of the calendar year, or a date selected by the State Executive Committee.*
2. Any Party sustaining member is eligible to be a Delegate and when in attendance may vote at convention; provided that they have been a sustaining member of ~~either~~ ^(C7) the Party ~~or the national Libertarian Party~~ ^(C7) on or before the date thirty (30) days before the convention and their membership didn't lapse during the fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the convention as determined by the State Executive Committee or Credentials Chair; provided further, that the eligible Delegates under this section who are at any particular convention may, upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote, waive the requirements of this paragraph for other Party sustaining members who are present but not otherwise eligible to vote at that convention.
Eligible sustaining members who are not able to attend the convention may still participate in officer elections by absentee denoted vote as detailed in Article XVII, section I1. ^(C6)
3. *Credentials for any convention will be determined by the Credentials Chair, consistent with the controlling documents of the Party.*
4. A quorum shall consist of no less than ten percent of the total current Party sustaining membership qualified to be voting convention delegates, and shall be reported by a Teller Committee Chair prior to commencement of any voting segment of the convention.
5. The rules for each convention will be adopted by the convention as its first order of business.
6. *The Party Chair shall become the Chair of the Convention. Chair of the Convention shall serve from convention call to order to adjournment, unless removed by a four-fifths (4/5) vote of the delegation present.*
7. *Chair of the Convention shall appoint Parliamentarian and Sergeant at Arms. The Parliamentarian shall hold highest authority to answer information per the prescribed rules of the convention. The Sergeant at Arms shall be used to keep order of the convention upon request of the Convention Chair and Parliamentarian.*
8. *The Credentials Chair shall act as Chair of the Teller Committee. If Credentials Chair declines or is not available, Party Secretary shall appoint a Teller Committee Chair. The Teller committee shall report a quorum prior to commencement of any voting segment of the annual convention, and must amend their report to the convention if the voting delegation has changed. (Change in voting delegation consists of late-arrival credentialed delegates or delegates who permanently exit the convention. Proxy voting is not allowed. All forms of absentee voting is not allowed for most of the convention. However, absentee denoted voting is allowed only for the election of officers.* ^(C6)
The Teller Committee Report shall state: 'There are (###) delegates certified and eligible to conduct business. Quorum requires (###) delegates. Quorum has/has-not been met.' Teller Chair shall submit written original and amended reports to the Secretary to be entered into convention minutes.
9. At annual conventions Party Officers, State Executive Committee members, and Judicial Committee members ~~may shall be elected as provided in the Bylaws,~~ a Party Platform may be adopted or revised, the ~~Constitution and~~ Bylaws may be amended, resolutions may be adopted, and initiatives, bills, ordinances, and candidates for public office may be endorsed or have their endorsement removed.
10. The convention date(s) and location city shall be announced on the homepage of the Party's website and other official publication methods designated by the State Executive Committee at least sixty (60) calendar days prior to the annual convention.
11. In years when a National Libertarian Party Convention is to be held, the annual convention will elect delegates and alternates to the national convention ~~in accordance with procedures set forth in the Party Bylaws.~~ In the

event of conflict, selections made by the annual Party convention shall have priority over the selections of the Statutory State Committee.

12. In years when a United States Presidential Election is to be held, the annual convention will elect representatives to the United States Electoral College. In the event of conflict, the selections made by the annual Party convention shall have priority over the selections of the Statutory State Committee.
13. *Written submittal of Platform/Plank changes, ~~Constitution Changes~~, or Bylaw changes shall be delivered to Party Chair and/or Secretary and received no later than forty (40) days prior to convention.*
 - a. *Proposed changes or amendments made after the deadline must be germane to ones made before the deadline. No new proposals on a new topic may be made after the deadline. Nor shall new proposals or amendments be taken up at the convention itself if not germane to one already announced.*
 - b. *US Mail, hand-delivery, or e-mail are considered acceptable forms of written submittal.*
14. *Convention agenda (Order of the Day), Convention Rules, and written Platform/Plank, ~~Constitution~~, or Bylaw changes shall be made available to Party sustaining members twenty (20) days prior to the annual convention. US Mail, e-mail notification, Party Newsletter, or general posting for review on the Party website are considered acceptable forms of notification to Party sustaining members.*

B. Special Conventions

1. The State Executive Committee may call a special convention by a four-fifths (4/5) majority vote of those present at a regular State Executive Committee meeting. In the event of conflict, the convention date selected by the State Executive Committee shall have priority.
2. Sustaining members of the Party may call a special convention by submitting a petition to the State Chair, signed by at least twenty-five (25) percent of the Party sustaining members eligible to be voting delegates at convention. Those petitioning will bear all costs including required notification.

Elections for State Executive Committee at Convention

A candidate for any Officer position or any of the positions of Representative on the State Executive Committee must receive nominations from at least 10% of the eligible voters to be able to be considered a nominee and run for that position in the associated election. (CS)

C. Convention Committees:

1. *The convention committees are the Convention Organizing Committee, ~~Constitution and~~ Bylaws Committee, Platform Committee, Nominating Committee, Credentials Committee, and Rules and Resolutions Committee.*
2. *Convention Committee Chairs will be appointed or terminated by the State Chair, with the approval of the State Executive Committee. The State Chair will appoint the Convention Organizing Committee Chair and the chairs of the convention committees at a State Executive Committee meeting to occur within four (4) months after the State Party convention. In addition to a Committee Chair, each committee may consist of up to twelve (12) Party sustaining members, selected by appointed committee chair. After that State Executive Committee meeting any unfilled positions may be filled by either the State Executive Committee or by the respective convention committee chairs. Committees and Committee membership contact information shall be made publicly available for sustaining members of the Party via the Party website and/or regular communication.*
3. *All convention committee meetings will be open to all Party sustaining members, who may obtain the committees schedules from their respective chairs.*
4. *Chairs of the convention committees will be responsible for completion and reproduction at party expense of their final committee reports.*
5. *The chairs of the ~~Constitution and~~ Bylaws Committee and the Platform Committee will certify and cause to be published electronically at Party expense each document in its entirety as amended by the convention.*
6. *The Nominating Committee is responsible for identifying candidates for internal Party positions (such as state officer or Judicial Committee member) and should only do so for positions which do not have announced candidacies within thirty (30) days of the annual Party convention.*
7. *Convention committee reports shall be available, upon request, to any Party sustaining member.*

8. *The State Chair will ensure that the committee's reports, and the reports of committee members submitted separately, are presented at the convention.*

D. Elections for National Party Conventions:

1. *All delegates and representatives to national conventions of the Libertarian Party must be sustaining members of ~~both~~ ^(C7) the State ~~Party and National Parties~~ ^(C7) at the time of their participation in the convention. Further, delegates must have been paid state party sustaining members for no less than sixty (60) days before the vote that selects them. Unfilled seats may be filled at the national convention by a three-fifths (3/5) vote of the entire state delegation -- and may include people who are not residents of Washington state as long as they fulfill all the other requirements and there are no other available members desiring to participate who do meet the requirement to be residents of Washington state.*
2. *The State Chair will announce to the convention body the total number of delegates and representatives to national party convention committees, and the number to be selected by the State Party convention.*
3. *Nominations of delegates from the floor shall not require seconds. Sustaining members may nominate themselves.*
4. *After the election of delegates, alternate delegates may be elected.*
5. *After the election of delegates and alternates, representatives to national committees may be elected.*
6. *The duly elected delegates present at the convention will select a Delegation Chair and determine their own substitution procedures (using the normal voting procedures laid out in Article XVII of ~~the Party's Constitution~~ these Bylaws whenever allowed by the rules of the national convention).*
7. *A list of the delegates and alternates, and a description of the substitution procedures, shall be submitted by the Delegation Chair to the State Chair and the National Secretary within seven (7) calendar days of the convention.*
8. *In any situation in which this Party has control over any votes at the national level (such as election of Regional Representatives that are controlled entirely by voters from Washington), the voting procedures laid out in Article XVII of these Bylaws ~~the Party's Constitution~~ shall be used wherever not prevented by higher national policy or procedure.*

E. Elections for Judicial Committee members:

1. *Three (3) new Judicial Committee members shall be elected at each annual Party convention. In the event of a resignation or vacancy on the Judicial Committee, a sustaining member shall also be elected to complete the term of the original member.*
2. *Nominations of qualified candidates will be accepted from the floor. Sustaining members may nominate themselves.*
3. *Multiple members elected at the same time for the same term will be elected all at one time on the same ballot.*

F. Nominating and Endorsing candidates:

1. *All Libertarian candidates for partisan office shall be sustaining members of the Party, and shall be nominated by sustaining members of the Party. [was from Article XIV of the Constitution.]*
2. *In the event of conflict, the person(s) selected to fill vacancies on the Libertarian Party ticket by the Campaigns Committee or other committee delegated with such power by the annual Party convention shall have priority over the selections of the Statutory State Committee.*
~~Nomination of candidates for public office will be according to this Constitution and the Party Bylaws.~~
3. *Only the party's regional organizations and convention delegates have power to endorse candidates for public offices. Candidates must first be nominated by Party sustaining members, which may occur at any time prior to election, and must sign Libertarian Statement of Principles to be recognized as an official nominated candidate. List of nominated candidates shall be made available for review to sustaining members of the Party on the party website, including full contact information.*
4. *Convention delegates have the power to endorse candidates for public office, initiatives, bills, and ordinances. Any such candidate, initiative, bill, or ordinance must first be nominated by party members, which may occur at*

any time. Candidates must sign the Libertarian Statement of Principles to be recognized as an officially nominated candidate. A list of nominated candidates, initiatives, and bills, including any available contact information for candidates and sponsors shall be made available on the party website.

5. After the convention adjourns, LPWA power to endorse and remove endorsement from candidates and initiatives will transfer from delegates to the Campaigns Committee with confirmation of the State Executive Committee. LPWA power to endorse or remove endorsement from bills will transfer to the Legislative Director and the State Executive Committee. Chartered regional organizations also retain their power to endorse or remove endorsement from candidates, initiatives, bills, and ordinances in their name after the convention adjourns.
6. The endorsement of a candidate during or after the convention may be withdrawn for cause by a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of State Executive Committee members.
7. "None of the Above" (NOTA) may be nominated, seconded, and supported on the same basis as an actual candidate, for either partisan or non-partisan endorsements. If "NOTA" wins, there shall be no endorsement for that office.
8. In partisan races, the Party, Officers of the Party, or regional chartered organizations may only endorse candidates who are members of the Libertarian Party or an affiliate.
 - a. Note that a candidate's use of the phrase "prefers _____ party" is not to be considered endorsement by nor membership in the party stated.
 - b. The Party, or anyone of authority who holds an elected or appointed position within the Party, may not endorse, nor shall the use of the name "Libertarian Party" be used in any such manner so as to imply endorsement of, any candidate who prefers any party other than the Libertarian Party.
9. If two (2) candidates of the Party are seeking endorsement for the same position, all candidates shall be afforded equal opportunity to address the Delegates before votes or NOTA may be nominated.
10. Delegates and regional organizations may endorse or notably NOT endorse any proposed legislation or initiatives to the people. Endorsed legislation or initiatives will be listed on the Party website. Legislation or Initiatives that have NOT been endorsed will be listed on the Party website with justification for non-endorsement.

G. Platform [was Article XIII]

1. The Party may adopt a Platform or plank at the annual Party convention by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of delegates in attendance.
2. Any Platform plank, or the entire Platform, may be repealed by a simple majority vote of delegates at the convention.
3. All platform planks shall be consistent with the Statement of Principles of the Party.

Article ~~XV~~ XIII: President and Vice President

The officers of the Party shall notify the Secretary of State of Washington that the candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States selected by the national Libertarian Party are the nominees of the Party.

Article ~~XVI~~ XIV: Election Code Superseded

In accordance with the rights of political parties recognized by the Supreme Court of the United States in *Eu v. San Francisco County Democratic Central Comm.*, 489 U.S. 214 (1989), any provision of the Washington State Election Code regarding internal party governance that conflicts with the provisions of this Constitution or with the these Bylaws of the Party is hereby superseded.

Article ~~XVII~~ XV: Voting

These voting rules apply at all levels of the Party, whether in full membership at conventions, or the State Executive Committee, or even in committees and sub-committees. These rules apply to all types of races or voting, whether

for people to fill positions or options to choose between. These rules define the normal default plan for voting, but other systems may be used in certain situations if agreed upon by a three-fourths (3/4) majority of the voting group.

A. Races and votes

1. that don't necessarily require a winner
or
2. in which the number of candidates is the same as
or less than the number of possible winners
or
3. are single-winner races with only two (2) candidates
... shall be performed in accordance with established parliamentary rules.

B. Any time the assembly in any meeting expresses a desire to use more than one (1) level of the parliamentary action to "Amend" – which fundamentally implies that there are more than two (2) candidate options for a single-winner race – shall be considered a race that needs to be decided by the methods below and not be established parliamentary rules.

C. Any call for Division on a vote by any voting member shall result in immediate counted vote.

D. Multi-Winner Races with a required set of winners [in which the number of possible candidates exceeds the number of possible winners] shall be performed using an Approval Voting (AV) System ^(C2) for election of delegates to the national convention and for all other elections shall be performed using a ^(this part added for C2b, but not C2a) proportional voting system, usually either of a single transferable vote with a finish line (also called Single Transferable Vote or STV) or apportioned score voting ^(deleted for C2a, but not for C2b).

For Approval Voting:

1. Voters may indicate any number of "approval votes" as they would like on their ballots.
2. Candidates are elected if they meet both of the following criteria:
 - a. Rank in the top number of candidates for the number of open seats in in terms of most approval votes received.
 - b. Receive an approval vote on a majority of valid ballots cast.
3. In the event of a tie where there are fewer remaining seats than tied candidates, the body shall add one additional round of voting for the remaining candidates where voters may vote for as many candidates as there are remaining possible seats.
4. In the event that seats remain open after a ballot, the body may open a process for new nominees and hold another round of approval voting to fill the remaining seats. If no further election rounds are held, these positions are deemed vacant. ^(C2)

E. Single-Winner Races with a required winner:

1. If the candidates in the race fall on a clear spectrum (such as selecting a dollar amount to spend on a project), then the race shall be performed in accordance with parliamentary rules for filling a blank.
2. If the candidates in the race are randomly distributed (such as election of officers or selection of a complex budget with more than one variable difference between candidate alternatives), then:
 - a. Unanimous consent is allowed if achieved.
 - b. If there is time, voting may be performed in accordance with normal parliamentary rules (meaning that each voter only gets to vote for only one candidate and a majority is required to win, but no candidate is required to be dropped from the election, and the election is just repeated until there is a majority winner).

c. If time or resources doesn't allow for enough rounds of voting to get a clear winner by normal parliamentary rules, then the vote shall be performed using either a Condorcet voting system or a score voting system, as the participants shall decide.

F. Ties shall generally be resolved in a manner consistent with parliamentary rules. (For elections and other races that must be decided, this means that all candidates are given the option of dropping out of the race—but none are required to—and then the vote is retaken as many times as necessary until the votes have changed enough to determine a clear winner.) But, if time or resources doesn't allow for more rounds of voting, a tie between candidates shall be resolved by looking at which candidate had the greatest (plurality) support in the closest previous round (if any) – or, failing that, random chance may be employed to determine the winner between any tied candidates.

G. Score voting is a voting method wherein all voters may cast votes for any candidates they choose, with each candidate being scored independently. Generally, when score voting is used by this Party to determine a single winner it shall be done as follows:

1. Valid votes shall be integers in the range of 0-9, inclusive.
2. The winner of the score election shall be the candidate with the highest score.
3. The scores for each candidate shall be calculated by summing the valid votes for that candidate and then be dividing by the greater of:
 - a. the number of valid votes cast for that candidate in that race
 - b. the number of the ballots that contain a valid score for that race

H. In all elections and votes, the write-in candidate of None Of The Above (NOTA) is allowed – even in cases in which nominations are closed and no other write-ins are allowed.

1. In single-winner races. Voters who choose NOTA may not express a vote for anyone else. Ballots that list NOTA and anyone else will be considered invalid. If NOTA wins a race or election, then the position or choice shall be left vacant or blank for the immediate moment. However, Other methods could be used to vote again, such as nominations may be reopened and a new election held. None of the candidates that lost to NOTA may run for or be appointed to the position or choice at least until the next Special or Annual Convention.
2. In multi-winner races, NOTA can win a position, but not necessarily all of them. In this sense, in multi-winner races, NOTA stands not so much for “None Of The Above” and more like “None Of The Additional Options” or “None Of Those Below”.
 - a. In Approval Voting, Ballots that list NOTA and anyone else will be considered invalid.
 - b. In Ranked Voting, voters may select NOTA as one of their options and not just the one-and-only option they place on their ballot. In ranked ballots, if a voter lists NOTA in a numbered position, then none of their votes past that number will be counted, but the ballot themselves will not be automatically considered invalid.
 - c. If NOTA wins a spot in a multi-winner race or election, then the position or choice shall only be filled with those candidates, if any, that came out ahead of NOTA in the race (and met other criteria, such as majority votes). No further candidates coming in behind NOTA in the counting will be allowed to fill that position or choice until at least the next Annual Convention (even in further rounds of voting done at the present convention).

I. Absentee Voting. When allowed in specific situations mentioned in these controlling documents, members with voting power shall be allowed to have their voice heard in votes even if they cannot be physically or electronically present for the vote itself. In any situation in which a member would have voting power if they were present, then

that member will be allowed to submit their vote in any number of ways. All absentee votes will need to be verifiable in some way, whether by voice mail or email or signed note or letter or other.

1. Denoted Vote. If the item up for vote is known in detail by the voter—in that the voter has the full word-for-word motion to consider ahead of time—then the voter may just send in their vote on that motion. This would apply to elections as well, as long as the voter knew what position was being voted on and could send in ahead of time their vote for candidate(s) for that position.
2. Proxy Vote. Members with voting power in a situation may send in their vote by transferring their voting power to another member that is present. The decision on how the vote is cast then lies with the present member. (Usually, the present member will cast their vote in the same way as the proxy vote(s) they carry, but that is not required unless specified by the original voter in their transfer of proxy to the proxy voter.) No more than a single proxy vote is allowed to be held by the present member.
3. Members with voting power in a situation may use any combination of absentee voting as long as the intentions are clearly communicated ahead of time in a method verifiable by the authority verifying the vote. This means that a single absent voter may send in a denoted vote for some specific issue(s) and a general proxy vote for any other issues that may come up for vote. Proxy votes may also be set up by the original voter such that the proxy is transferable in cases where the first (or any successor) proxy voter also ends up being absent for some reason. Depending on the intent communicated by the original voter, proxy votes may expire if the proxy holder is absent, or they may transfer to another voter designated by the original voter—or by the proxy voter if that was allowed by the original voter.

Article ~~XVIII~~ XVI: Amendments

1. The Statement of Principles, preamble to ~~this Constitution~~ these Bylaws, affirms the philosophy upon which the Libertarian Party is founded, upon which it shall be sustained, and through which liberty shall prevail. The enduring importance of the Statement of Principles requires that it (and Article I and this paragraph) may be amended only by a seven-eighths (7/8) majority vote of all delegates at an annual convention in which notice has been included that this topic will be voted on.
2. ~~This Constitution~~ These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of delegates in attendance at any party convention.
3. ~~The Party Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of delegates in attendance at any Party convention.~~

Notes:
