

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
TRUMBULL COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES
Amended June 28, 2022

PREAMBLE

Whereas the Ohio Revised Code provides that the Controlling Committee of each county shall be a County Central Committee consisting of one member from each election precinct; and

Whereas the law further provides that each party Controlling Committee shall elect an Executive Committee, which shall have powers as may be granted to it by the party Controlling Committee; and

Whereas, it is the desire of the Democrats of Trumbull County, Ohio, that the Central and Executive Committees be structured in such a manner so that all Democrats may have a voice and a party in the business, organization and efficient operation of our Party;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Trumbull County Democratic Central Committee as follows:

NAME, PURPOSE AND MEMBERSHIP

Section 1.1 NAME: The name of this organization shall be the Trumbull County Democratic Party Central Committee.

Section 1.2 MEMBERSHIP: Membership shall be comprised of those individuals who have been duly appointed or elected to a four (4) year term pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 3517.03 as a Democratic precinct committeeperson from the precinct in which he/she lives. Members must support the Constitution and Laws of the United States of America, the Constitution and Laws of the State of Ohio, the Constitution and By-laws of the Democratic National Committee (DNC), the Constitution and By-Laws of the Ohio Democratic Party (ODP) and the Constitution and By-laws of the Trumbull County Democratic Party.

Section 1.3 PURPOSE: The purpose of this organization is to foster, encourage, and promote the policies, programs, and ideals of the Democratic Party at the national, state, and local levels. It is an additional purpose to engage and promote qualified individuals to seek public office in the Democratic Party at all levels.

Section 1.4 EXCLUSION FROM HOLDING APPOINTED OR ELECTED POSITIONS: Other than in non-partisan races, any individual/s who has prior to an endorsement meeting and subsequent to the last endorsement meeting, run as an Independent or Republican candidate for any office anywhere shall not be eligible for any appointed or elected positions within the central committee for two (2) years from the date of the election that the name appeared on the ballot as a candidate not labeled Democrat

Section 1.5 UNITY: Elected members of the Central and Executive Committee by seeking to run for the position have indicated a commitment to fulfill the role of a Democratic Party representative. Members of Executive Committee and Central committee, Democratic

candidates for office, Chartered Clubs, and elected Democratic officials shall support the principles of the Democratic Party. No members shall, in a general election, actively and publicly: in a partisan race, oppose the Democratic candidates. The Party Chair, after due notice to the member, and an opportunity for the member to be heard, shall determine if a violation has occurred, and if so, shall ask that individual to resign from any elected or appointed Party position, if the individual holds such position and may, suspend the member from Party activity. If the individual does not hold such a position, the Executive Committee, by a majority vote of the members as to whether a violation has occurred may censure the member.

Section 1.6 NONCONFORMITY: Nothing herein shall conflict with the Constitution of the United States of America, the Constitutions and Laws of the State of Ohio, the Constitution and By-laws of the Democratic National Committee, and the Constitution and By-laws of the Ohio Democratic Party. Any matter which conflicts with any of the aforesaid shall be of no force and effect. Each clause of this Constitution and By-laws shall be considered separately and the illegality of any one clause shall not affect any other clause.

OFFICERS, DUTIES AND SUCCESSION

Section 2.1 OFFICERS: There shall be four officers; namely Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer. The three (3) principle officers responsible for operations are namely Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary. The Vice Chairperson shall be of the opposite gender of the Chairperson. The elected Treasurer shall be qualified by education, experience or otherwise, to competently perform the election law duties of the Treasurer.

Section 2.2 DUTIES: Duties of the 3 principle officers and Treasurer shall be as follows:

- A. Chairperson: The Chairperson shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the organization and shall perform all functions normally performed by the Chairperson or President. He/she shall be empowered to establish committees, appoint committee chairpersons and committee members from time to time as required. He/she shall have the right and power to perform such other services as may be required or as set forth herein.
- B. First Vice Chairperson: The First Vice Chair shall perform the duties as assigned by the Chairperson and the request of the Central Committee. The First Vice Chairperson will perform the duties of the Chairperson in the case of the absence, death, disability, or resignation of the Chairperson.
- C. Secretary: The Secretary shall keep the records and roster of the Central and Executive Committee, the minutes of all proceedings of the organization and shall make proper record of the same which shall be attested by him/her and shall perform such other duties as may be directed by the Chair. He/She shall be responsible for preparing and filing of all non-financial reports as required by law.

Duties of Treasurer shall be as follows:

- D. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall receive and have in their charge all money and other receipts of this organization and shall disburse the monthly bill payments due upon verbal or written order of the Chairperson. The treasurer shall be responsible for preparing and filing any financial reports that may be required by law. He/she shall prepare and file with the Central Committee an annual financial report. The Treasurer

shall be bonded, at the expense of the Central Committee, by a reputable insurance carrier. The treasurer shall be a registered Democrat and reside in Trumbull County.

Duties of Parliamentarian, Recording Secretary and Sgt at Arms shall be as follows:

- E. Parliamentarian: The Parliamentarian shall be appointed by the Chairperson and serve at his/her discretion. He/She shall be a registered Democrat and reside in Trumbull County.
- F. Corresponding Secretary: A Corresponding Secretary may be appointed by the Chairperson and serve at his/her discretion. The corresponding secretary shall be a registered Democrat and reside in Trumbull County.
- G. Sergeant at Arms: A Sergeant at Arms may be appointed by the Chairperson and service at his/her discretion. The sergeant at arms shall be a registered Democrat and reside in Trumbull County.

Section 2.3 SUCCESSION: The order of succession of the duties, rights and responsibilities of the principal officers of this organization shall be the Chairperson and Vice Chair. Thereafter, any vacancies of the principal officers shall be filled for the unexpired term by the Chairperson.

Section 2.4 ELECTION OF PRINCIPLE OFFICERS:

Elections to Office will take place at the Reorganizational Meeting in the year of the gubernatorial primary . Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code, the Reorganizational Meeting will take place no earlier than 6 days and no later than 15 days following the certification of the official primary election results by the Trumbull County Board of Elections

To be eligible for election as Chairperson, Vice Chairperson or Secretary, the candidate must be a resident of Trumbull County and a registered Democrat pursuant to the State of Ohio and Ohio Democratic Party. Candidates may not simultaneously hold more than one Party office. Candidates may notify the Central Committee of interest in candidacy prior to the certification of the official primary election results or be nominated by a member of the Central Committee from the floor.

An individual may offer him/herself as a candidate for not more than one office.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 3.1 DISTRICTS: District Leaders shall be elected by the body and representative of the Democratic Party as a whole in accordance with DNC/ODP rules on gender equity and diverse.

Members shall serve for the term and can only be removed by majority vote if the member violate the rules or state law.

For organizational purposes, Trumbull County shall be divided into 15 districts as follows:

- District #1 Cortland A, C, D, F, G, H Bazetta B, C, D, F, G
- District #2 Howland A, B, E, H, J, L, N, R, S,
- District #3 Howland U, V, W, X, Y Vienna A, B, C
- District #4 Niles 1A, 1C, 1D, 2A, 2B, 2C

- District #5 Niles 2E, 3A, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4C, 4D
- District #6 Girard 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3A, 3D, 4A, 4C McDonald A, B, C
- District #7 Weathersfield A, B, C, D, E, G, J Hubbard Twp. A, B, D, F
- District #8 Hubbard 1A, 1B, 2B, 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B
- District #9 Warren 1A, 1B, 1E, 1G, 2C, 2F, 2G, 3D, 3G, 3J
- District #10 Warren 3K, 3L, 4A, 4D, 4F, 5D, 5E, 5F, 5G, 5K
- District #11 Warren 6B, 6D, 6G, 7A, 7C, 7D, Warren Twp. B, D, E, F Southing B, C, D
- District #12 Liberty A, B, C, D, E, G, J, L, N
- District #13 Lordstown A,B, C Newton Twp A, B, D Newton Falls 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A
Braceville B,C
- District #14 Bloomfield, Bristol A,C Farmington, Fowler A, C, Greene, Gustavus,
Hartford A, B Johnston A, B Kinsman A, C Mecca A, B Mespo A
Vernon A West Farmington
- District #15 Champion A, B, C, E, F, G, K Brookfield A, B, D, E, H, K, L

Section 3.2 DISTRICT MEMBERS: Each such district shall be entitled to be represented on the Executive Committee by two of its members. Each District will elect one male and one female where gender equity is possible, and one male and one female presents themselves as a candidate in the district representative of the Democratic Party as a whole in accordance with DNC/ODP rules on gender equity and diversity.

That member must be elected by an absolute majority of the number of precinct committee persons in the district in attendance.

District Leaders will be elected by members who are elected precinct members within the designated district. Voting shall be by voice, standing, or roll call vote.

In the event no quorum is present, or no majority is received, then the member from the district shall be appointed by the principal officers.

Section 3.3 AT-LARGE MEMBERS: In addition to the thirty (30) members of the Executive Committee elected from the district, said Executive Committee shall also consist of all principle officers of the Central Committee, which principle officers shall hold office correspondingly in the Executive Committee. In addition, said Committee shall further consist of forty (40) members At-Large to be appointed from the membership of the Central Committee by the three principal officers, representative of the Democratic Party as a whole in accordance with DNC/ODP rules on gender equity and diversity. Said members shall serve for the term and can only be removed by majority vote if violate the rules or state law. Official Committee Chairs may be appointed to the Executive Committee by the Chairman/Chairwoman and be representative of the Democratic Party as a whole in accordance with DNC/ODP rules on gender equity and diverse. Upon the event of the County Board of Elections dissolving or combining

precincts, such members currently serving in those precincts shall be appointed to the Executive Committee by the Chairman/Chairwoman until such term ends.

MEETING OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Section 4.1 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING: Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code section 3517.04, the organizational meeting shall take place no earlier than six (6) nor later than fifteen (15) days following the declaration of the results by the Board of Elections certifying the results of the election of the members of the Central Committee. The date, place and time of said meeting shall be designated by the retiring Chairperson. Notice of such meeting shall be sent to each member elect at least five (5) days prior to any such meeting.

Section 4.2 ORDER OF BUSINESS: The order of business of the organizational meeting shall be as follows:

1. Call to order by the retiring Chairperson or Secretary
2. Election of temporary Chairperson and Secretary.
3. Presentation of candidate/s for Chairperson including a short speech.
4. Presentation of candidate/s for First Vice Chairperson including a short speech.
5. Presentation of candidate/s for Secretary including short speech.
6. Presentation of candidate/s for Treasurer including short speech.
7. Election of the three (3) principal officers and Treasurer.
8. Presentation of the by-laws if updates are needed.
9. Election of Executive Committee members by district.
10. Presentation of financial report by the Treasurer.
11. Old business
12. New business

Section 4.3 OTHER MEETINGS: Other meetings of the Central Committee may be called by the Chairperson, by the other two principal officers or by twenty-five (25) members of the Central Committee by written petition to the Chairperson. Notice of such meeting shall be sent by first class mail at least five (5) days prior to such a meeting stating the date, place, time and nature of the business to be considered at such meeting.

Section 4.4 QUORUM: At least one-third (1/3) of the Central Committee (not including unfilled vacancies) are required at any meeting to lawfully conduct business of the Central Committee.

Section 4.5 PROXY VOTES: There shall be no proxies permitted for any vote of the committee either oral or in writing.

VOTING

Section 5. All voting must be open to the public and votes shall not be taken by secret ballot.

Section 5.2 OTHER VOTES: All other matters acted upon by the Central and Executive Committee shall be by voice, standing, or roll call vote at the discretion of the Chairperson.

Section 5.3 REQUIRED VOTE: A majority vote of those present and voting is required for approval of any matter before the Central or Executive Committee, except for the vote to amend these by-laws set forth in Section 8.1.

ENDORSEMENTS FOR PUBLIC OFFICE

Section 6.1 GENERAL POLICY: It is the general policy of this Committee to endorse deserving Democratic candidates for public office and to consider and vote upon the endorsement of public issues if desired by the Central Committee. The endorsement meeting shall be held not less than fifty (50) days prior to the date of the primary election in the even-numbered years. Endorsements will be confined to district and county-wide offices. Any individual/s, who has, prior to this endorsement meeting and subsequent to the last endorsement meeting, other than in non-partisan races, run as an Independent or Republican candidate for any office anywhere, shall not be eligible for endorsement two (2) years from the date of the election that the candidate's name appeared on the ballot as an Independent or Republican candidate.

ODP Determines Exception for 2022 Legislative District Races

Given the redistricting commission actions and uncertainty of district lines beyond the primary filing date. A DEMOCRAT may file as an Independent beyond the Primary filing date if NO Democrat has filed within the district without future endorsement eligibility penalty for the 2022 General Election only.

Section 6.2 PARTY ENDORSEMENT: To be considered for the party endorsement, a candidate must comply with the following rules in addition to those contained in Section 6.3:

- A. A Candidate must submit the following items to the corresponding secretary on or before 3:00 p.m. five (5) days prior to the endorsement meeting:
 - a. A Resume
 - b. A signed written request for the endorsement
- B. A candidate must present himself/herself for consideration in person before the Central Committee. The Chairperson, upon receiving sufficient advance notice has the authority to excuse the appearance of a candidate who unavoidably cannot be present.
- C. Endorsement vote shall be held in accordance with ODP/DNC requirements by voice, standing, or roll call vote at the discretion of the Chairperson.
- D. A candidate screening committee may be appointed by the Chairman/Chairwoman and a screening report will be presented to the body.
- E. No candidate shall be permitted to be endorsed or retain an existing endorsement as provided herein if that candidate maintains a candidacy in another race against a candidate endorsed by this body.

By the voting procedure as outlined in Section 5.1, the candidate must receive a simple majority (50% plus one) of those present and voting. To be endorsed, an issue must also receive a simple majority. When two or more candidates are seeking an endorsement and a simple majority (50% plus one) is not received on the first vote, a second vote will take place between the two candidates receiving the most votes. A simple majority (50% plus one) of votes cast must be received on the second vote to be endorsed. After that, no endorsement.

Section 6.3 Participation in shared campaign expenses by individual is voluntary. Endorsed candidates will be encouraged to participate in coordinated campaign events/activity. Each participating endorsed candidate will provide a proportionate share of planned campaign expenses to be paid to the Central Committee by the candidate's campaign committee.

VACANCIES

Section 7.1 CENTRAL COMMITTEE: In case of a vacancy caused by death, resignation, failure to elect or removal from the precinct from which a committeeperson was chosen, the Executive Committee shall fill the vacancy for the unexpired term by a majority voice vote.

Section 7.2 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: In case of any vacancy on the Executive Committee, the principal officers will fill the vacancy.

Section 7.3 PRINCIPAL OFFICERS: In the event of a vacancy in the office of the Chairperson, the First Vice Chairperson shall assume the duties of Chairperson. A vacancy in any other principal office may be filled by recommendation from the Chairperson from the ranks of the Central Committee and approved by a majority vote.

AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

Section 8.1 AMENDMENTS: These by-laws of the Trumbull County Democratic Central and Executive Committee may be amended only by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership in attendance at a meeting of the membership at a meeting duly called for this purpose, and only when the members have been given five (5) days advance written notice.

MEETING PROCEDURE

Section 9.1 ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER: Robert's Rules of Order shall prevail at all meetings in all circumstances not otherwise provided for in these Articles of Association and By-Laws.

COMMITTEES

Section 10.1 OFFICIAL STANDING COMMITTEES:

The Official Standing Committee Chair and Vice Chair shall be appointed by the Chairman/Chairwoman and serve at his/her discretion. Official Committee Chairs may be appointed to the Executive Committee . Committee Chairs must be residents of Trumbull County, registered Democrats and be representative of the Democratic Party as a whole in accordance with DNC/ODP rules on gender equity and diverse.

Official Committees

1. Bylaws Committee
2. Volunteer Outreach, GOTV and Voter Registration
3. Finance Committee
4. Candidate Sign and Visibility
5. Diversity and Inclusion and OBD Caucus Liaison
6. Ohio Legislative Liaison Committee
7. Business, Labor and Community Outreach
8. Democratic Affiliated Clubs Liaison
9. Ohio Young Dems Liaison Chair
10. Ohio Democratic Party Women's Caucus Liaison

The Chairman/Chairwoman may institute ad hoc/non-official committees.

The foregoing Constitution and By-Laws shall become effective immediately upon ratification.

Ratified June 28, 2022

-CERTIFICATION -

Handwritten signature of Mark Alberini in cursive script, highlighted with a yellow background.

Mark Alberini, Chairman

Handwritten signature of Karen Zehr in cursive script.

Karen Zehr, Secretary