

Rec'd from
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@ D37 Presg, 6/24/08
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BYLAWS
DISTRICT 37 DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATION

Adopted by majority vote of District 37 Democratic Organization on January 12, 1988, Leonia, New Jersey.

ARTICLE I - The name is District 37 Democratic Organization. It may be referred to as "District 37".

ARTICLE II - AUTHORITY - The organization is established pursuant to authority granted in Article IV of the Bylaws of the Bergen County Democratic Committee (hereinafter, BCDC), amended as of June, 1977, and any amendments to those Bylaws. No portion of these Bylaws shall contravene any Bylaws of the National, New Jersey State, or Bergen County Democratic Organization.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP -

a. All Municipalities comprising Assembly District 37, which are: Bergenfield, Englewood, Fort Lee, Leonia, Teaneck, Hackensack, Bogota, Maywood, and Ridgefield Park.

b. If the constituent municipalities of the AD 37 are changed, any such change(s) shall result automatically in the inclusion or deletion of the subject municipalities and their representatives in District 37 without requiring amendment of these Bylaws.

c. Each person elected to the following positions are members during the term of their position:

1. Each member of the BCDC whose district is in AD 37.
2. The Democratic municipal chairperson and vice chairperson from each municipality in AD 37.

3. Each public official elected or appointed to any national, state, Bergen County, or municipal position within a municipality of AD 37, and who is a registered Democrat.

4. Each person elected to serve a Democratic Party organization as officer, committee chairperson, delegate, or state or national committee member for the national, State, Bergen County or municipal Democratic party organizations.

5. Officers of Democratic clubs and municipal committees within AD 37 as recognized by the regular Bergen County Democratic Organization; officers of the Bergen County Democratic Women's Club, BC Democratic Men's Club, BC Young Democrats, BC Democratic Club, and BC Mayors' Association who are registered Democrats.

E. Members are entitled to participate in all of the activities of the organization, except that the right to vote for chairperson and vice chairperson of this organization is restricted to those who are elected members of the BCDC, pursuant to Article IV, Sect. 1, Bylaws, BCDC.

ARTICLE IV - ACTIVITIES -

- a. All activities by Article IV, Bylaws, BCDC.
- b. Sponsor and conduct political meetings, rallies, fundraising, educational, and other activities for the advancement of political candidates of the Democratic party.
- c. Assist Democratic Candidates, Democratic Clubs, municipal committees and their members within AD 37.
- d. Maintain a bank account keep account in a bank located within District 37. Two signatures shall be required, those of the Chairman and Treasurer on all checks.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS -

a. General meetings open to full membership of District 37 shall be held not less than three times annually.

✓ 1. First meeting: the annual reorganization and election meeting shall be a General Meeting to be held on the last Tuesday in June in a centrally located location within District 37.

2. Subsequent General Meetings: second, between, September 1 and February 1, third, between, February 2 and May 1 of each year.

b. Candidates in Democratic party and public primary election contests shall be offered an opportunity to present themselves to the members at a general or special meeting.

c. Special meetings may be called from time to time at the discretion of the chairperson or may be called by the written request of twenty-five members representing a minimum of five towns within the district. The Chairman shall call the meeting within twenty-one days after a proper request is received.

ARTICLE VI - OFFICES -

a. Officers shall be elected at the annual reorganization and election meeting.

b. Officers shall be: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary.

c. Terms of office shall be one year.

d. Officers shall be residents of AD 37 during their terms of office. Officers need not be members of the BCDC. The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson shall not be members of the same sex, nor reside in the same municipality during their terms of office.

e. The officers shall fulfill their positions in customary fashion according to their titles and in accordance with rules of parliamentary procedure, as well as is outlined at Article III, Bylaws, BCDC. The Chairperson shall also serve as a member of the Executive Committee of the BCDC; the Vice Chairperson shall serve as a member of the Candidate Search Committee of the BCDC. The Treasurer shall report orally and in writing at each general membership meeting of the income and expenses, assets and liabilities, of District 37.

f. Vacancies in any elective office established in these Bylaws shall be filled by an election held under Article IX of these Bylaws, at the next succeeding meeting following the date of vacancy, time permitting. No election shall be conducted unless written notification is provided to all voting members that such election will be held in accordance with these Bylaws of such election.

g. The membership may declare the vacancy of any office at a general meeting upon the resignation, death, movement out of AD 37, incapacitating illness, or removal from office, in accordance with Article XI of these Bylaws.

h. Pursuant to Article IV, Sect. 1, Bylaws, BCDC, only elected members of the BCDC may vote for Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

ARTICLE VII - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE -

a. An Executive committee shall be formed composed of:

1. All elected officers of District 37.
2. The municipal Chairperson from each municipality in AD 37.
3. National, Bergen County, and State elected public officials belonging to the Democratic party who live or serve in AD 37.
4. Not more than three additional persons, selected by the chairperson, who are residents of AD 37, for terms of one year each.

5. Not more than three additional persons, who are residents of AD 37, who shall be elected at the annual reorganization meeting for terms of one year each.

b. The Executive Committee shall meet not less than three times annually. Meetings shall be open to the general membership. The Executive Committee is empowered to carry on the business of the organization, in accordance with and not in contravention of, policies established by the general membership and national, state, and county Democratic organizations. It may advocate and adopt positions and resolutions upon public and party issues, subject to the above. It shall report the substance of its activities to the general membership at every general meeting and otherwise as may be appropriate.

ARTICLE VIII - FINANCE -

No dues shall be assessed. Funds may be raised by voluntary contributions for Democratic Campaigns and for the functioning of the District 37 Organization.

ARTICLE IX - ELECTIONS -

a. Within seven days after the County Chairperson notifies the District 37 Chairperson of the date for the annual reorganization and election meeting, the Chairperson shall cause written notices to be mailed to all members of District 37, as determined in the last preceding primary election, containing the date, time, place, and purpose of such meeting; the identities of candidates for any District 37 office shall be disclosed in the same mailing, if known, declared or requested by any candidate.

b. At the election meeting candidates for the positions of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson are entitled to ten minutes for the presentation of their views; candidates for all other positions shall be entitled to five minutes. These time limits shall be subject to change by unanimous consent of the candidates for each position.

c. All elections shall be conducted separately for each position by secret ballot, unless there is only one nomination for a position. However, all candidates for executive committee shall be listed on a single ballot, one vote shall be held, and the three persons obtaining the highest vote totals will be elected.

d. Neither proxy voting nor absentee voting is permitted.

e. Voting before a vote by the general membership is not permitted.

f. The election meeting will commence promptly at the hour set. Votes will be registered after registration is completed. Speeches will be conducted as set forth above. Late arrivals will then be registered. Voting will then commence promptly.

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS -

a. These bylaws may be amended by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting at any meeting, on notice as provided below.

b. Proposed amendments to the bylaws shall be introduced at meetings of the general membership and voted on at subsequent meetings.

c. No vote shall be taken to amend these bylaws unless written notification describing the substance of any amendment is mailed, or otherwise sent, to the members not less than 14 days prior to the scheduled date of any such meeting.

ARTICLE XI - REMOVAL -

a. Any office or member of the Executive Committee may be removed from such position by vote of three-fourths of the members attending and for cause.

b. Cause for removal is limited to:

1. Failure to carry out the duties of the position, resulting in significant damage to the organization; or,

2. Active or public opposition to a Democratic party candidate for national, state or county office, but not municipal, in a general election; or,

3. Conviction of a crime which is indictable under state or federal law.

c. No vote upon removal shall be taken unless prior written notification is mailed to the subject person, certified mail RR requested, and all other members that a vote of removal shall be sought at a meeting to be held at a specific date, time and place, and specifying the grounds for seeking such removal, not less than twenty-one days prior to the date of such meeting.

d. Adequate opportunity shall be provided for defense, discussion and debate prior to the vote upon removal.

ARTICLE XII - QUORUM -

a. A quorum at any meeting of the general membership shall consist of twenty members

b. A quorum at any meeting at which an election is to be held shall by twenty members who are elected members of the BCDC.

c. A quorum at any meeting of the Executive Board shall consist of five members.

ARTICLE XIII - BY-LAWS -

The by-laws shall continue in force until and unless amended.

