

Bylaws of East Penn Democratic Club

Preamble

The East Penn Democratic Club is an organization comprised of democrats whom reside in the East Penn School District or within the State of Pennsylvania. We are interested in promoting democrats to local, state, and national offices. We desire to foster ways to promote democratic progressive ideas and principles with education and legislation. We desire to seek out or be sought out by potential candidates for office to be a resource for their candidacies.

Article I Title

This organization shall be known as the East Penn Democratic Club.

Article II Policy

Section 1 Development of the club

It is the policy of this organization to develop and be developed by democratic and progressive leaders through an open exchange of ideas and to educate the public on potential solutions to issues.

{Section 2 Refrain from pre-primary endorsement

It is the policy of this organization to refrain from making endorsements of pre-primary democratic candidacies. Resources shall be equal to each democratic pre-primary candidates. When a resource is requested by or offered to a pre-primary democratic candidate, the same resource must be offered to their opponents.} **Michael Beyer and Joyce Moore volunteered to rework this section**

Section 3 Endorsement of candidates and propositions

The club may endorse candidates post primary with a majority vote from its active members. The vote must be advertised on the newsletter, website and social media pages no less than 14 days before a meeting when the vote is called.

The club may endorse propositions on a ballot with the majority vote of its active members. The vote must be advertised in a newsletter, website and social media pages no less than 14 days before a meeting when the vote is called.

Section 4 Vote for resources other than monies given

It is the policy of this organization to vote on any resource other than monies requested by or offered to any candidate. The vote must contain the majority of the active members. The vote must be advertised in the newsletter and on the Facebook page no less than 14 days before a meeting when a vote is called.

Section 5 The newsletter, website and social media pages

The newsletter shall be sent out electronically to all members and posted website and social media pages no less than 14 days before a meeting. If a member does not have an email address a newsletter shall be mailed to their listed address.

The newsletter shall include a date, time, and place of the next meeting and or events.

The newsletter shall include upcoming meetings for local councils and boards.

The newsletter shall include any votes that will be called for the next meeting.

The newsletter shall include minutes from the previous meeting and will be appended to the end of the newsletter.

The newsletter will accept announcements pertaining to special events involving political and social issues that are compatible with the ideals of the Democratic Party.

All non-democratic announcements must have a sponsor of a member and a 2nd from one of the club's officers. Non-democratic announcement are subject to review and appeals can be made to the clubs officers. The goal for accepting non-democratic announcements is to provide a closer relationship with other community groups who support the democratic party and or issues apart of its platform.

Section 7 Club monies

It is the policy of this organization that there must be a majority vote by active members on any monies spent on candidates. The vote shall be advertised no less than 14 day before a meeting in the newsletter and on the Facebook page.

It is the policy of this organization to have approval from a board director on any monies that are over \$250, or if any monies are paid to a member of the officer's club.

Section 8 Voting

It is the policy of this organization that only the active members vote on propositions brought forth to the East Penn Democratic Club and the election of its officers. A vote is counted by the show of hands. A majority rules and is 50% plus 1 of the electorate. Active members must be present to have their votes counted.

A cor-um of 1/3 of it's active members must be in attendance to validate a vote.

Article III Membership

Section 1 Discrimination

The East Penn Democrat Club and its members shall not discriminate against or harass anyone for any reason including, but not limited, to: race, religion, nationality, disability, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, ancestry, economic status, social status, marital status, or citizenship. Discrimination or harassment will not be tolerated by this club.

Section 2 Open Membership

The East Penn Democratic Club shall maintain an open membership for all democrats who are residents of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. All members must provide contact information including name, email address, phone number, mailing address. Membership in the organization shall constitute permission to be contacted with periodic information pertaining to the club.

Section 3 Membership Categories

The membership of East Penn Democratic Club shall be divided into three categories: Active Members, Non Active Members, Honorary Members.

A) Active Members: Members that have paid dues, attend 1/3 of the most recent meetings. Active members have voting rights for any vote called upon.

B) Non-Active Members: Members that have unpaid dues or not attended 1/3 of most recent meetings. Non-active members do not have voting rights.

C) Honorary Members: May be conferred on any person who has rendered service of outstanding character in the advancement of the ideals and principals of the Democratic Party. Honorary Members do not have voting rights. Honorary members must have a majority of the active member vote that will be advertised by no less than 14 days before a meeting when a vote is called.

Section 4 Members in good standing

Members in good standing shall be defined as members who have paid dues, have attended 1/3 of the most recent meetings, and have not been formally disciplined in the previous 90 days.

Article IV Officers

Section 1 The officers club shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and an Officer at Large

Section 2 Election of Officers

The President shall announce the club seeking candidates for all offices by the first week in October.

Only Active members shall vote and are qualified to be elected officers.

The president shall appoint a nominating committee to put forth a list of all qualified candidates.

The committee shall publicize a list of names of all qualified candidates in the November newsletter.

The President will call for nominations at the December meeting.

The ballot will be prepared by the secretary and advertised in the December newsletter for a vote at the January meeting. A majority of the active members elect the officers for a 2 year term not to exceed 2 consecutive terms for the same office.

Section 3 Whenever vacancies arise in an officer position, the president will announce the vacancy and request nominations from the active members. The vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the term. A majority vote by the active members is needed to appoint a new officer.

Article V Duties of Officers

Section 1 President

The president shall preside over club meetings and be responsible for the overall direction of the club.

Shall organize speakers and events.

Shall carry out any special directives of the clubs officers.

Must sign checks over \$250

If for any reason the position becomes open, all materials related to East Penn Democratic Club shall be delivered to the Vice President with in 72 hours.

Section 2 Vice President

The vice president shall act to assist the president and club officers and shall perform the duties of the president when that officer is absent.

The vice president is in charge of the agenda to the meetings which shall be published electronically to all of its members and posted on website and social media pages no later than 48 hours before a meeting.

If for any reason the position becomes open, all materials related to East Penn Democratic Club shall be delivered to the President within 72 hours.

Section 3 Secretary

The Secretary shall take minutes in all meetings.

Shall include previous meeting's minutes at the end of the Newsletter for the next meeting.

Shall keep an updated membership list in the included categories in Article III.

Shall keep all documents, records, and correspondence of East Penn Democratic Club.

Shall be in charge of the publishing newsletter and sending it electronically, by mail (only when member does not have an email address), and posting it on the website and social pages.

Shall publish/post newsletter no less than 14 days before a meeting.

Shall produce materials for inspection by any active member request in an appropriate time frame.

If for any reason the position becomes open, all materials related to East Penn Democratic Club shall be delivered to the President or the Vice President within 72 hours.

Section 4 Treasurer

The treasurer shall establish and maintain an account in a financial institution approved by the majority of the active members.

Shall collect and record membership dues.

Shall deposit any funds collected from any source to the financial institution within a reasonable time frame.

Shall only disperse funds once an expenditure has been directed by the officers of the club and approved by a majority of the vote in the active members.

Shall report up to date information on the East Penn Democrat Club's finances at every general meeting or within an appropriate time once requested by any member.

Shall meet all financial reporting by all levels of government within the designated time given to do so.

May sign checks under \$250. The president and the treasurer must both sign checks over \$250.

Shall produce materials for inspection by any active member request in an appropriate time frame.

If for any reason the position becomes open, all materials related to East Penn Democratic Club shall be delivered to the President or the Vice President within 72 hours.

Board of Directors: Once active membership reaches 50 members a discussion should be had of whether a board of directors is warranted for East Penn Democratic Club at the next general meeting.

Article VI Meetings

Section 1 General Meetings

East Penn Democrats shall have a minimum of 7 general meetings each year. Monthly dinners or other special events may constitute a general meeting if so designated by the majority of active membership.

Article VII Dues

The club officers shall establish the amount of membership dues and the must be voted by the majority of the active members. There shall be no dues for students.

Article VIII Amendments

The bylaws may be amended by the majority of the active members and $\frac{3}{4}$ of the officers club. The amendment starts at the next consecutive meeting in which it was submitted. Upon approval of amendments, a copy needs to be submitted to the LVDC.