

Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club
Bylaws

Approved June, 2017

As Amended May 13, 2021

History of Amendments to the Bylaws

<i>Amendment</i>	<i>Date Approved</i>
Amendment 1	4/26/18
Amendment 2	5/24/18
Amendment 3	2/28/19
Amendment 4	2/28/19
Amendment 5	2/28/19
Amendment 6	9/26/19
Amendment 7	9/26/19
Amendment 8	5/13/21

The full text of each amendment is in Appendix 1 of this document.

Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club

Bylaws

1. Purpose

- a. To work within the Democratic Party to advance progressive goals at the local, state, and federal level.
- b. To endorse and support progressive candidates for public office.
- c. To increase participation by progressives in the Democratic Party.
- d. To increase voter registration and turnout of progressives within the Democratic Party.
- e. To use progressive activism to ensure that the needs of the people in the community are heard by legislators and the media.
- f. To advance progressive causes by proposing and/or supporting legislation in the Maryland General Assembly and the Baltimore County Council.

2. Membership

- a. Membership in the Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club (BCPDC) is open to anyone in the Baltimore Metropolitan area who holds Democratic values.
- b. To become a member, individuals must attend at least one regular meeting and sign the roster.
- c. Anyone unable to attend the meetings in person, but wishing to participate online, may become an associate member. Associate members may participate in all club activities and discussions, but may not vote in elections.
- d. To be eligible to vote, members must have attended at least two of the previous four monthly meetings and, effective January 1, 2020, pay such annual dues as shall be set by the Board of Directors for each calendar year.

3. Committees

- a. There are to be four Standing Committees: Strategy, Fundraising, Outreach, and Policy. Duties of said committees may be changed by the Board of Directors. Committee duties are as follows:
 - i. Strategy Committee duties include but are not limited to:
 1. Seek out local talent to support in legislative races.
 2. Label contests of high value in which to become involved.
 3. Identify incumbents to be challenged.
 4. Identify legislation of interest to BCPDC.
 5. Create a viable strategic plan to achieve goals.
 - ii. Fundraising Committee duties include but are not limited to:
 1. Identify individuals and organizations in Greater Baltimore from whom to request donations.
 2. Develop fundraising strategy for BCPDC.

3. Maintain record of Fundraising Committee financial transactions including a balance sheet showing accounts payable and receivable.
 4. Begin and maintain process of obtaining appropriate tax certification.
- iii. Outreach Committee duties include but are not limited to:
 1. Engage with communities to better understand their concerns.
 2. Build connections with other Democratic/progressive groups in the region and state.
 3. Develop and coordinate outreach activities and encourage general membership participation.
 4. Compile and maintain community contact list.
 5. Develop and maintain digital outreach presence.
 - iv. Policy Committee duties include but are not limited to:
 1. Work with the Strategy Committee to prepare a BCPDC platform statement prior to each election cycle.
 2. Present the platform statement to the general membership for approval. If the platform is not approved by at least 55% of the voting members present, it will be returned to the Policy Committee for revision.
 3. Identify issues affecting the community and develop suggested positions.
 4. Review legislation introduced in the Maryland General Assembly (MGA) and Baltimore County Council and develop suggested alterations as necessary.
 5. Conduct research upon formal request by another committee, the Board, or the general membership.
- b. Each standing committee shall elect a Chair and Vice-Chair.
 - i. The Committee Chairs may create additional positions within each of their committees.
 - ii. Each created position within the committee is subject to election by the committee's members.
 - c. Duties of Committee Chairs may be changed by the Board of Directors. Duties of Committee Chairs are as follows:
 - i. Set committee meeting time, location, agenda and rules, and chair meetings.
 - ii. Present committee report at each general membership meeting.
 - iii. Review subcommittee reports to be included in the standing committee report.
 - iv. Oversee election process for chair/vice-chair positions for each subcommittee.

1. Organizational and structural rules of subcommittees shall be identical to the rules of their respective governing committee.
 2. Subcommittees may be created by order of Committee Chair, order of the Board of Directors, or petition by a simple majority of a committee's members.
- v. Serve as full member of the Board of Directors.
- d. Committee membership is open to all BCPDC members. No individual may serve on more than 3 committees or serve as Chair for more than one.
 - e. Committees may meet in person and/or work remotely using any widely-accessible technology. Committee decisions may be made by vote taken remotely, but all committee votes must be documented and given to the Club Secretary for recordkeeping.
4. Board of Directors and Officers
- a. The Board shall consist of 9 voting members: the Chairs of each standing committee, the Treasurer, Secretary, Vice-President, President, and immediate past President.
 - b. Candidates for public office and elected officials, with the exception of County or City Central Committee members, may not serve on the Board of Directors. County or City Central Committee members may not comprise more than $\frac{1}{3}$ of the Board.
 - c. Duties of the Board of Directors include but are not limited to:
 - i. Set the agenda for general meeting.
 - ii. Review of finances.
 - iii. Identify possible guest speakers.
 - iv. Review subjects for discussion at general membership meetings.
 - v. Assess overall direction and progress of the group.
 - vi. Address other relevant issues.
 - vii. Oversee judicial proceedings involving a BCPDC member.
 - d. President
 - i. The President sets the location of the general monthly meetings, in consultation with the Executive Committee. The location of the next meeting must be announced at the previous meeting, unless unusual circumstances require a late change of meeting location.
 - ii. Any meeting date or location changes must also be distributed to members via standard electronic methods at least 2 weeks prior to the original meeting date or the new meeting date, whichever is sooner.
 - iii. The President will set the agenda for the meeting. Anyone wishing to add an item to the agenda should contact the President no later than 1 week before the meeting (48 hours for emergency agenda items).
 - iv. The President will send a preliminary agenda to members via standard electronic means no later than 48 hours before the meeting.

- v. The President chairs any Board meetings and General Membership meetings.
- e. Vice-President:
 - i. The Vice-President will chair any meetings for which the President is absent.
 - ii. The Vice-President assists and advises the President.
 - iii. The Vice-President will temporarily assume the duties of the Secretary or Treasurer if those officers are not present at a meeting.
- f. Secretary:
 - i. The Secretary is responsible for recording minutes at any Board or General Membership meeting.
 - ii. The Secretary will distribute a list of action items from the meeting by standard electronic methods within one week after the meeting.
 - iii. The Secretary will distribute meeting minutes by standard electronic methods no later than 48 hours prior to the following meeting.
- g. Treasurer:
 - i. The Treasurer keeps the financial records of the Club and presents a Treasurer's report at every meeting.
 - ii. The Treasurer accepts and safeguards any donations to the Club.
 - iii. The Treasurer is responsible for filing any financial reports required by law.
 - iv. The Treasurer is a member of the Fundraising Committee.
- h. Members of the Board of Directors may be impeached following a petition approved by 55% of general members.
 - i. Impeachment proceedings must occur in full view of the general members at a special meeting.
 - ii. An Impeachment Panel must be assembled when impeachment proceedings are called. Such a panel shall consist of the Vice-Chairs of each standing committee in addition to four randomly selected general members.
 - iii. Upon completion of impeachment trial a vote shall be called of the general members, excluding those that served on the Impeachment Panel.
 - iv. Removal of an officer shall result only after a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority of the general members present vote to do so, as long as a quorum exists as defined in Section 7c.
- i. Line of Succession of group leadership

When a sudden vacancy or absence in an office position arises, the line of succession for group leadership is President, Vice-President, Strategy Chair, Policy Chair, Secretary, Outreach Chair, Treasurer, Fundraising Chair, immediate past President.
- j. Authorized Club Account Signatories

The following officers of the Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club are hereby authorized to sign checks and other financial instruments on behalf of the

club: the President, the Vice President or the Treasurer. Should a vacancy occur in any of those offices, the vacancy shall be filled pursuant to Bylaw 5 and the name of each succeeding Club officer shall be noted in the minutes of the club meeting at which the vacancy is filled.

5. Elections

- a. Executive Positions (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer)
 - i. All Executive positions must be filled by election from the general group members and follow the same format
 - ii. Election format shall be:
 1. Self-nomination or acceptance of nomination by another member
 - A. Members may be nominated for more than one position but only elected to one.
 - B. Members may not hold an Executive Board position and also be a committee Chair.
 - C. Any person running for a club Executive Position or nominating another person for a club Executive Position must meet the requirements for voting eligibility as defined in these bylaws.
 2. Nominees shall present their platform to the general group for consideration and questions
 3. When all nominees have presented, they must leave the immediate area for voting to commence.
 4. Each member shall be counted as one vote. No member's vote shall count more than another's.
 5. Members shall write the name of their selected candidate on paper ballots.
 6. Paper ballots shall be cast in a specified container to be counted once all votes have been cast.
 7. The winner of any elected position is the nominee who receives the votes of 55% or more of the voting members present, as long as a quorum exists as defined in section 7.c.
 - iii. In the event that no nominee receives the required number of votes, a revote shall immediately be called. Should lack of required votes for a specific candidate continue, the voting process shall proceed to the next open position. Upon completion of all of the elections for all *other* vacant positions, a third vote for the previously undecided position shall take place. Should all candidates fail to reach required vote threshold again, new elections for said position shall be held at the next general meeting. During the intervening time, the line of succession for officers shall be activated and followed. Previous nominees who failed to meet the required vote threshold three times may not participate in the new election for the same undecided position.
 - iv. Terms for elective executive positions shall be two years in length, starting with the next election of such officers.

- v. v. For purposes of establishing when the next elections shall be held, December 1, 2017 shall be used as the initial date of service for all current executive positions.
 - vi. vi. The first elections under the terms of the amended bylaw are to be held November 2019, with newly elected officers' two-year terms commencing December, 2019.
- b. **Committee Chair Positions**
- i. Committee Chair position vacancies must be filled by an election held by members of that specific committee. No Committee may be without a Chair for more than 30 days. After 30 days, the Vice Chair of said committee shall immediately become Committee Chair and call for the election of a new Committee Vice Chair.
 - ii. Format for election of Committee Chair and Vice Chair positions shall be:
 1. Self-nomination or acceptance of nomination by another member: Members may not hold an executive board position and also be a committee Chair.
 - A. Any person running for a committee chair position or nominating another person for a committee chair position must meet the requirements for voting eligibility as defined in these bylaws.
 2. Nominees shall present their platform to committee members for consideration and questions.
 3. When all nominees have presented, they must leave the immediate area for voting to commence.
 4. Each member shall be counted as one vote. No member's vote shall count more than another's.
 5. Members shall write the name of their selected candidate on paper ballots.
 6. Paper ballots shall be cast in a specified container to be counted once all votes have been cast.
 7. The winner of any Chair position is the nominee who receives 51% or more of the members' votes.
 8. Following the election of the Chair, election of a Vice Chair must immediately take place.

6. **Code of Conduct**

- a. The BCPDC will not discriminate against anyone on the basis of their race, religion, age, gender or gender identity, sexual orientation, place of origin, level of abilities or socio-economic status.
- b. Bullying or harassment of any type shall not be tolerated.
- c. Any potential conflict of interest should be reported to the Board of Directors. If the Board of Directors determines that a conflict of interest does exist, the Board will work with the member to achieve a solution.

- d. Members shall not share publicly another member's personal information, without that member's permission. This includes information on personal situations, health issues, family situations, and candidacies not yet publicly announced.

7. General Membership Meetings

- a. General Membership Meetings will be held the fourth Thursday of each month from 7-9pm.
- b. Meetings which fall on a holiday may be rescheduled if an alternate date is available, or cancelled.
- c. At least 25% of voting members as defined in section 2.d, or a minimum of 10 members, whichever is less, must be present for any vote or election. If the minimum number of members is not present at a meeting, any votes must be delayed until the following meeting.
- d. Special meetings may be convened by the Board of Directors with adequate notice given to all members.

8. Political Endorsements

- a. At the direction of the Board of Directors, the Strategy and Policy Committees shall cooperate to identify potential candidates for endorsement by the Club.
- b. The committees shall prepare a joint report on each potential endorsement, including:
 - i. The candidate's platform as compared to the Club's stated policy positions.
 - ii. The candidate's previous elected positions.
 - iii. The candidate's previous elections, whether won or lost, and the vote counts of those elections.
 - iv. The candidate's background and relevant experience.
 - v. The candidate's previous fundraising, if any.
- c. The committees will present the joint report on each potential endorsement at a general membership meeting, and distribute it to the members electronically prior to the meeting.
- d. Following the report, a vote of the general membership will be taken. Any candidate approved by at least 51% of the voting members present will be endorsed by the club, as long as a quorum exists as defined in Section 7c. Candidates or paid staff of candidates may not vote on the endorsement of that candidate.
- e. The Club may endorse candidates up to the number of positions available for that district or election.
- f. Endorsements may be withdrawn for malfeasance, or a change of the candidate's platform from the previously stated positions. Emergency withdrawal of endorsement may be decided by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, as long as said action is brought to the general membership's attention for approval vote at the next meeting.
- g. The Club may only endorse candidates running under the Democratic Party.
- h. The Club may choose not to endorse in any election.

- i. The Club may endorse during the primary.
- j. The Club may endorse primary opponents to Democratic incumbents, as long as such opponents are also Democrats.
- k. Any member may choose to personally support or oppose any candidate, whether endorsed by the Club or not, but members may not misrepresent their position as being the position of the Club.

9. Fiscal Year

The Fiscal Year of the Club is January 1 to December 31 of each year.

10. Amendments

- a. Amendments to the Bylaws must be submitted in writing for consideration to the Board of Directors. Proposed amendments must be sponsored by at least two additional members of the general group.
- b. Approval of a proposed amendment requires a 7-2 vote in favor.
- c. Once approved by the BoD, the proposed amendment is presented to the general members at the next general meeting for debate.
- d. Following debate, a vote must take place to accept or reject the proposed amendment.
- e. The proposed amendment shall be approved by a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority of the members present.
- f. Accepted amendments shall immediately be added to the BCPDCDC Bylaws by the BCPDCDC Secretary.

11. Dissolution

- a. The Club may be dissolved by a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of the Board of Directors.
- b. A dissolution vote may be taken via electronic means if the Board of Directors is unable to assemble a quorum.
- c. In the event of dissolution, any remaining funds in the treasury will be donated to progressive groups or causes, to be selected by vote of the Board of Directors at the time of dissolution.

12. Club Operations During Public Health or Safety Emergency

Upon 10 days advance notice, the Board may declare a public health or safety emergency that necessitates the temporary suspension of any provision of these Bylaws that govern member eligibility to vote or voting procedures for Board elections or candidate endorsements. The notice shall specify the reasons for the declaration, identify each Bylaw provision that the Board is proposing to suspend, and propose temporary alternative procedures to be used during the emergency. The temporary procedures shall go into effect 10 days after the date of the notice, unless a majority of the voting membership shall object by written communication to the Board, which objection shall state the reasons for any objection. Following such objections, the Board can modify or withdraw any proposed temporary procedure. Alternatively, the Board may finalize the temporary procedures without modification. If the Board chooses to finalize the temporary procedures, it must respond to any objections by stating its reasons for finalizing the temporary procedures

notwithstanding any objections. Any temporary procedures adopted hereto shall remain in effect for a period stated by the Board, not to exceed 12 months. The Board can extend the effective period for no more than an additional 6 month period, upon 30 days' notice to the membership.

Appendix 1

Bylaw Amendments in Order of Approval

Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club

Bylaw Amendment 1

Pursuant to Bylaw 10 of the Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club, the bylaws of the club are hereby amended to ADD

Under Section 4. Board of Directors, add the following.

j. Authorized Club Account Signatories

The following officers of the Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club are hereby authorized to sign checks and other financial instruments on behalf of the club: the President, the Vice President or the Treasurer. Should a vacancy occur in any of those offices, the vacancy shall be filled pursuant to Bylaw 5 and the name of each succeeding Club officer shall be noted in the minutes of the club meeting at which the vacancy is filled.

I, Cheryl Matthias, hereby attest that I am the secretary of the Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club and that the foregoing Bylaw Amendment 1 was duly adopted by vote of the club conducted pursuant to Bylaw 10 at the club meeting on April 26, 2018.



Cheryl Matthias, Secretary, Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club

Date: 4-26-18, 2018

Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club

Bylaw Amendment 2

Pursuant to Bylaw 10 of the Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club, the bylaws of the club are hereby amended to ADD:

Under Bylaw 5 (Elections), a. Executive Positions (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer), add the following:

- iv. Terms for elective executive positions shall be two years in length, starting with the next election of such officers.
- v. For purposes of establishing when the next elections shall be held, December 1, 2017 shall be used as the initial date of service for all current executive positions.
- vi. The first elections under the terms of the amended bylaw are to be held November 2019, with newly elected officers' two-year terms commencing December, 2019.

I, Cheryl Matthias, hereby attest that I am the secretary of the Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club and that the foregoing Bylaw Amendment 1 was duly adopted by vote of the club conducted pursuant to Bylaw 10 at the club meeting on May, 24, 2018.



Cheryl Matthias, Secretary, Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club

Date: May, 24, 2018.

Bylaw Amendment 3

Pursuant to Bylaw 10 of the Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club, Bylaw 3 of the club bylaws is hereby amended as follows:

3. Committees

- a. There are to be ~~five~~ four Standing Committees: Strategy, Fundraising, Outreach, ~~and~~ Policy ~~and Drafting~~. Duties of said committees may be changed by the Board of Directors. Committee duties are as follows:
- i. Strategy Committee duties include but are not limited to:
 1. Seek out local talent to support in legislative races.
 2. Label contests of high value in which to become involved.
 3. Identify incumbents to be challenged.
 4. Identify legislation of interest to BCPDC.
 5. Create a viable strategic plan to achieve goals.
 - ii. Fundraising Committee duties include but are not limited to:
 1. Identify individuals and organizations in Greater Baltimore from whom to request donations.
 2. Develop fundraising strategy for BCPDC.
 3. Maintain record of Fundraising Committee financial transactions including a balance sheet showing accounts payable and receivable.
 4. Begin and maintain process of obtaining appropriate tax certification.
 - iii. Outreach Committee duties include but are not limited to:
 1. Engage with communities to better understand their concerns.
 2. Build connections with other Democratic/progressive groups in the region and state.
 3. Develop and coordinate outreach activities and encourage general membership participation.
 4. Compile and maintain community contact list.
 5. Develop and maintain digital outreach presence.
 - iv. Policy Committee duties include but are not limited to:
 1. Work with the Strategy Committee to prepare a BCPDC platform statement prior to each election cycle.
 2. Present the platform statement to the general membership for approval. If the platform is not approved by at least 55% of the voting members present, it will be returned to the Policy Committee for revision.
 3. Identify issues affecting the community and develop suggested positions.
 4. Review legislation introduced in the Maryland General Assembly (MGA) and Baltimore County Council and develop suggested alterations as necessary.
 5. Conduct research upon formal request by another committee, the Board, or the general membership.
 - v. ~~Drafting Committee duties include but are not limited to:~~

- ~~1. Review, edit, and/or develop statements or position pieces from any standing or subcommittee prior to public release.~~
 - ~~2. Review documents prepared for internal use upon request from any standing or subcommittees.~~
- b. Each standing committee shall elect a Chair and Vice-Chair.
 - i. The Committee Chairs may create additional positions within each of their committees.
 - ii. Each created position within the committee is subject to election by the committee's members.
 - c. Duties of Committee Chairs may be changed by the Board of Directors. Duties of Committee Chairs are as follows:
 - i. Set committee meeting time, location, agenda and rules, and chair meetings.
 - ii. Present committee report at each general membership meeting.
 - iii. Review subcommittee reports to be included in the standing committee report.
 - iv. Oversee election process for chair/vice-chair positions for each subcommittee.
 1. Organizational and structural rules of subcommittees shall be identical to the rules of their respective governing committee.
 2. Subcommittees may be created by order of Committee Chair, order of the Board of Directors, or petition by a simple majority of a committee's members.
 - v. Serve as full member of the Board of Directors.
 - d. Committee membership is open to all BCPDC members. No individual may serve on more than 3 committees or serve as Chair for more than one.
 - e. Committees may meet in person and/or work remotely using any widely-accessible technology. Committee decisions may be made by vote taken remotely, but all committee votes must be documented and given to the Club Secretary for recordkeeping.

Note: New material indicated by [brackets]. Omitted material indicated by ~~strikeout~~.

I hereby attest that I am the secretary of the Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club and that the foregoing Bylaw Amendment 3 was duly adopted by vote of the club conducted pursuant to Bylaw 10 at the club meeting on February 28, 2019.



Secretary, Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club
Feb. 28, 2019

Bylaw Amendment 4

Pursuant to Bylaw 10 of the Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club, Bylaw 4 of the club bylaws is hereby amended as follows:

4. Board of Directors and Officers
 - f. The Board shall consist of 9 voting members: the Chairs of each standing committee, the Treasurer, Secretary, Vice-President[,], ~~and~~ President [and immediate past President].
 - g. Candidates for public office and elected officials, with the exception of County or City Central Committee members, may not serve on the Board of Directors. County or City Central Committee members may not comprise more than $\frac{1}{3}$ of the Board.
 - h. Duties of the Board of Directors include but are not limited to:
 - i. Set the agenda for general meeting.
 - ii. Review of finances.
 - iii. Identify possible guest speakers.
 - iv. Review subjects for discussion at general membership meetings.
 - v. Assess overall direction and progress of the group.
 - vi. Address other relevant issues.
 - vii. Oversee judicial proceedings involving a BCPDC member.
 - i. President
 - i. The President sets the location of the general monthly meetings, in consultation with the Executive Committee. The location of the next meeting must be announced at the previous meeting, unless unusual circumstances require a late change of meeting location.
 - ii. Any meeting date or location changes must also be distributed to members via standard electronic methods at least 2 weeks prior to the original meeting date or the new meeting date, whichever is sooner.
 - iii. The President will set the agenda for the meeting. Anyone wishing to add an item to the agenda should contact the President no later than 1 week before the meeting (48 hours for emergency agenda items).
 - iv. The President will send a preliminary agenda to members via standard electronic means no later than 48 hours before the meeting.
 - v. The President chairs any Board meetings and General Membership meetings.
 - j. Vice-President:
 - i. The Vice-President will chair any meetings for which the President is absent.
 - ii. The Vice-President assists and advises the President.
 - iii. The Vice-President will temporarily assume the duties of the Secretary or Treasurer if those officers are not present at a meeting.
 - k. Secretary:
 - i. The Secretary is responsible for recording minutes at any Board or General Membership meeting.
 - ii. The Secretary will distribute a list of action items from the meeting by standard electronic methods within one week after the meeting.
 - iii. The Secretary will distribute meeting minutes by standard electronic methods no later than 48 hours prior to the following meeting.
 - l. Treasurer:

- i. The Treasurer keeps the financial records of the Club and presents a Treasurer's report at every meeting.
 - ii. The Treasurer accepts and safeguards any donations to the Club.
 - iii. The Treasurer is responsible for filing any financial reports required by law.
 - iv. The Treasurer is a member of the Fundraising Committee.
- m. Members of the Board of Directors may be impeached following a petition approved by 55% of general members.
- i. Impeachment proceedings must occur in full view of the general members at a special meeting.
 - ii. An Impeachment Panel must be assembled when impeachment proceedings are called. Such a panel shall consist of the Vice-Chairs of each standing committee in addition to four randomly selected general members.
 - iii. Upon completion of impeachment trial a vote shall be called of the general members, excluding those that served on the Impeachment Panel.
 - iv. Removal of an officer shall result only after a 2/3 majority of the general members present vote to do so, as long as a quorum exists as defined in Section 7c.
- n. Line of Succession of group leadership
- When a sudden vacancy or absence in an office position arises, the line of succession for group leadership is President, Vice-President, Strategy Chair, Policy Chair, Secretary, Outreach Chair, Treasurer, Fundraising Chair, ~~Drafting Chair~~ [immediate past President].

Note: New material indicated by [brackets]. Omitted material indicated by ~~strikeout~~.

I hereby attest that I am the secretary of the Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club and that the foregoing Bylaw Amendment 4 was duly adopted by vote of the club conducted pursuant to Bylaw 10 at the club meeting on February 28, 2019.



Secretary, Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club
Feb. 28, 2019

Bylaw Amendment 5

Pursuant to Bylaw 10 of the Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club, Bylaw 10 of the club bylaws is hereby amended as follows:

10. Amendments

- o. Amendments to the Bylaws must be submitted in writing for consideration to the Board of Directors. Proposed amendments must be sponsored by at least two additional members of the general group.
- p. Approval of a proposed amendment requires a 7-2 vote in favor.
- q. Once approved by the BoD, the proposed amendment is presented to the general members at the next general meeting for debate.
- r. Following debate, a vote must take place to accept or reject the proposed amendment.
- s. The proposed amendment shall be approved by a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority of the [members] present.
- t. Accepted amendments shall immediately be added to the BCPDCDC Bylaws by the BCPDCDC Secretary.

Note: New material indicated by [brackets]. Omitted material indicated by ~~strikeout~~.

I hereby attest that I am the secretary of the Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club and that the foregoing Bylaw Amendment 5 was duly adopted by vote of the club conducted pursuant to Bylaw 10 at the club meeting on February 28, 2019.



Secretary, Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club
Feb. 28, 2019

Bylaw Amendment 6

Pursuant to Bylaw 10 of the Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club, Bylaw 5 (Election 3) of the club bylaws is hereby amended as follows:

5. Elections

- a. Executive Positions (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer)
 - i. All Executive positions must be filled by election from the general group members and follow the same format
 - ii. Election format shall be:
 - 1. Self-nomination or acceptance of nomination by another member
 - D. Members may be nominated for more than one position but only elected to one.
 - E. Members may not hold an Executive Board position and also be a committee Chair.
 - F. [Any person running for a club Executive Position or nominating another person for a club Executive Position must meet the requirements for voting eligibility as defined in these bylaws.]
 - 2. Nominees shall present their platform to the general group for consideration and questions
 - 3. When all nominees have presented, they must leave the immediate area for voting to commence.
 - 4. Each member shall be counted as one vote. No member's vote shall count more than another's.
 - 5. Members shall write the name of their selected candidate on paper ballots.
 - 6. Paper ballots shall be cast in a specified container to be counted once all votes have been cast.
 - 7. The winner of any elected position is the nominee who receives the votes of 55% or more of the voting members present, as long as a quorum exists as defined in section 7.c.
 - iii. In the event that no nominee receives the required number of votes, a revote shall immediately be called. Should lack of required votes for a specific candidate continue, the voting process shall proceed to the next open position. Upon completion of all of the elections for all *other* vacant positions, a third vote for the previously undecided position shall take place. Should all candidates fail to reach required vote threshold again, new elections for said position shall be held at the next general meeting. During the intervening time, the line of succession for officers shall be activated and followed. Previous nominees who failed to meet the required vote threshold three times may not participate in the new election for the same undecided position.
 - iv. Terms for elective executive positions shall be two years in length, starting with the next election of such officers.

- v. v. For purposes of establishing when the next elections shall be held, December 1, 2017 shall be used as the initial date of service for all current executive positions.
 - vi. vi. The first elections under the terms of the amended bylaw are to be held November 2019, with newly elected officers' two-year terms commencing December 2019.
- b. Committee Chair Positions
- i. Committee Chair position vacancies must be filled by an election held by members of that specific committee. No Committee may be without a Chair for more than 30 days. After 30 days, the Vice Chair of said committee shall immediately become Committee Chair and call for the election of a new Committee vice Chair.
 - ii. Format for election of Committee Chair and Vice Chair positions shall be:
 1. Self nomination or acceptance of nomination by another member. Members may not hold an executive board position and also be a committee Chair.
 - B. [Any person running for a committee chair position or nominating another person for a committee chair position must meet the requirements for voting eligibility as defined in these bylaws.]
 2. Nominees shall present their platform to committee members for consideration and questions.
 3. When all nominees have presented, they must leave the immediate area for voting to commence.
 4. Each member shall be counted as one vote. No member's vote shall count more than another's.
 5. Members shall write the name of their selected candidate on paper ballots.
 6. Paper ballots shall be cast in a specified container to be counted once all votes have been cast.
 7. The winner of any Chair position is the nominee who receives 51% or more of the members' votes.
 8. Following the election of the Chair, election of a Vice Chair must immediately take place.

Note: New material indicated by [brackets]. Omitted material indicated by ~~strikeout~~.

I hereby attest that I am the secretary of the Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club and that the foregoing Bylaw Amendment 6 was duly adopted by vote of the club conducted pursuant to Bylaw 10 at the club meeting on September 26, 2019.



Secretary, Baltimore County Democrats Club

Date: September 26, 2019

Bylaw Amendment 7

Pursuant to Bylaw 10 of the Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club, Bylaw 2 (Membership) of the club bylaws is hereby amended as follows:

1. Membership [and Dues]

- a. Membership in the Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club (BCPDC) is open to anyone in the Baltimore Metropolitan area who holds Democratic values.
- b. To become a member, individuals must attend at least one regular meeting and sign the roster.
- c. Anyone unable to attend the meetings in person, but wishing to participate online, may become an associate member. Associate members may participate in all club activities and discussions but may not vote in elections.
- d. To be eligible to vote, members must have attended at least two of the previous four monthly meetings [and, effective January 1, 2020, pay such annual dues as shall be set by the Board of Directors for each calendar year].
- e. ~~Dues are not required, but members are encouraged to contribute financially to support the club as their personal financial circumstances allow.~~

Note: New material indicated by [brackets]. Omitted material indicated by ~~strikeout~~.

I hereby attest that I am the secretary of the Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club and that the foregoing Bylaw Amendment 7 was duly adopted by vote of the club conducted pursuant to Bylaw 10 at the club meeting on September 26, 2019.



Secretary, Baltimore County Democrats Club

Date: September 26, 2019

Bylaw Amendment 8

Pursuant to Bylaw 10 of the Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club, Bylaw 2 (Membership) of the club bylaws is hereby amended by the addition of Bylaw Section 12 as follows:

12. Club Operations During Public Health or Safety Emergency

Upon 10 days advance notice, the Board may declare a public health or safety emergency that necessitates the temporary suspension of any provision of these Bylaws that govern member eligibility to vote or voting procedures for Board elections or candidate endorsements. The notice shall specify the reasons for the declaration, identify each Bylaw provision that the Board is proposing to suspend, and propose temporary alternative procedures to be used during the emergency. The temporary procedures shall go into effect 10 days after the date of the notice, unless a majority of the voting membership shall object by written communication to the Board, which objection shall state the reasons for any objection. Following such objections, the Board can modify or withdraw any proposed temporary procedure. Alternatively, the Board may finalize the temporary procedures without modification. If the Board chooses to finalize the temporary procedures, it must respond to any objections by stating its reasons for finalizing the temporary procedures notwithstanding any objections. Any temporary procedures adopted hereto shall remain in effect for a period stated by the Board, not to exceed 12 months. The Board can extend the effective period for no more than an additional 6 month period, upon 30 days' notice to the membership.

I hereby attest that I am the secretary of the Baltimore County Progressive Democrats Club and that the foregoing Bylaw Amendment 8 was duly adopted by vote of the club conducted pursuant to Bylaw 10 by on-line voting of eligible voters on May 13, 2021.



Secretary, Baltimore County Democrats Club

Date: May 13, 2021