

**DAVIDSON COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**BYLAWS**

REVISED:

June 06, 1985 – January 25, 2005 – March 29, 2005 – April 25, 2006 - February 28, 2012 - January 27, 2015-November 14, 2017

**ARTICLE I**  
**NAME AND PURPOSE**

**SECTION 1: NAME:**

The name of this organization shall be the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee which shall be the governing body of the Davidson County Democratic Party. It may be referred to, from time to time in this document, as the Executive Committee.

**SECTION 2: PURPOSE:**

This organization shall, on the local level, promote the national, state and local interests, policies and programs of the Democratic National Committee and the Tennessee Democratic Party.

**SECTION 3: SUPPORT FOR CANDIDATES:**

The County party shall remain neutral in order to maintain party unity, and not support one Democrat over another in a Democratic primary. Party officers and executive committee members, on the other hand, as individuals, are encouraged to support Democratic candidates of their choice in a Democratic primary. Any other provision to the contrary notwithstanding, since each person must declare support for a candidate in order to participate in the national convention delegate-selection process, the party chair as well as others is allowed to choose a personal candidate.

**ARTICLE II**  
**MEMBERSHIP**

**SECTION 1: MEMBERSHIP:**

The Executive Committee shall be composed of one man and one woman elected from each of the 35 Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson County Councilmanic districts at the regular biennial Democratic Primary held in accordance with Section 1816 of the Metropolitan Charter and Private Act of the Tennessee State Legislature concerning such primary.

The Executive Committee may also appoint up to five At-Large committee members. Each At-Large committee member must reside within the Davidson County and must meet the same requirements as any duly elected district member.

**SECTION 2: RESIGNATIONS:**

The resignation of any officer or member shall be submitted in writing and shall take effect at the time specified therein. If no time is specified in the letter of resignation, it shall take effect upon receipt of said letter by the Chair or Secretary. If it is common knowledge that either an officer or a member has moved from his/her district within Davidson County, in particular, or from Davidson County, in general, the Secretary, upon direction from the Chair, will ascertain either by telephone, certified mail, electronic mail, and/or some such other procedure, if indeed the member or officer has moved and inform the Executive Committee so that a replacement may be elected or selected according to procedures outlined within this document.

**SECTION 3:**

**DUTIES:**

- A. A signed commitment form from each executive committee member in which he or she commits to do one of the following once a quarter.
  1. Give or raise money (no set amount).
  2. Recruit fellow neighborhood Democrats (identified in Votebuilder) to a DCDP breakfast or event.
  3. Participate in the planning of or volunteer at a DCDP event.
  4. Host a DCDP booth or event in your district. While participating in community events are important, if you do not have a table/booth and are not there specifically as DCDP, the event will not meet this standard.
  5. All DCDEC members are expected to attend all DCDP sponsored events or give notification that you cannot attend.
- B. The maintenance and tracking of committee members activities will be the responsibility of the respective regional vice chair. Members shall report activity set forth in Section A. quarterly to their respected regional vice chair.
- C. DCDP will host a mandatory training session for the entire DCDEC after the elections but before the election of officers. Training would include the structure of DCDP (bylaws, committee structure, annual events), grassroots/precinct organizing (this training would also include Votebuilder set up and training), fundraising and tools to assist executive committee members.
- D. This form must be sent to every candidate who has pulled papers and qualified to run for DCDEC, but before the withdrawal deadline. This ensures that each candidate knows the expectations before running for this office.
- E. These standards go into effect when the new DCDEC members take the oath of office in spring 2012 and all subsequent oath takers.
- F. Any individuals who come before the DCDEC for nomination and participation as an executive committee member will be given these standards and asked to sign the commitment form at the time of swearing in.

**SECTION 4:**

**VACANCIES:**

A vacancy shall be filled by nomination from the membership. Upon closing the nominations, the membership shall vote by a show of hands. The nominee receiving a majority vote of those present shall be elected to serve in the vacant position. Each nominee must reside within the Councilmanic district in which the vacancy exists and must meet the same requirements as any duly elected member.

Candidates to fill the vacancy must submit their intentions in writing to the Chair no later than 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting called to fill such vacancy.

**SECTION 5:**

**EXPULSION:**

The Executive Committee may vote to impose sanctions on, or expel a member on written notice to the membership that the issue will be acted upon, such notice to be given at the meeting prior to the meeting on which such action is voted. The member in question shall be given similar written notice, and an opportunity to be heard at the meeting where the expulsion is to be voted on. Three-fourths (3/4) of the membership present and voting must concur in any discretionary sanctions of expulsion. The grounds for sanctions or expulsion are explained in Article X of these bylaws.

**ARTICLE III**  
**OFFICERS**

**SECTION 1:** **OFFICERS:**

The elected officers of the Executive Committee shall be a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and five Regional Vice-Chairs, one from each of the five regions. All officers of the Committee (excluding the Regional Vice-Chairs) must be duly elected members.

**SECTION 2:** **ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

The Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected by a majority vote of the members present and qualified to vote at the second meeting called after each biennial Democratic primary as required under the Bylaws of this Executive Committee. Nominations can be made by any member who is present and qualified to vote. After nominations for each individual office have been received and recorded by the immediate past Secretary, the election for that office shall be conducted by a show of hands. The order of election shall be Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. The election of the Chair shall be conducted by the immediate past vice-chair (if not running for Chair). If the immediate past vice-chair is running for Chair, the next immediate past officer in order of succession shall conduct the Chair election. The newly elected Chair shall conduct the remaining Officer elections.

**SECTION 3:** **ELECTION OF REGIONAL VICE-CHAIRS:**

The election of the five Regional Vice-Chairs shall be conducted immediately following the election of the officers. One of the four officers, the Executive Director, or a past chair, shall conduct each Regional election. A Regional Vice-Chair must be a duly qualified member and must reside within the region. The boundaries of the regions of the Executive Committee shall be specified in the Bylaws. The Regional Vice-Chair shall be elected by a majority vote of the members from each individual region present and qualified to vote.

**SECTION 4:** **DUTIES OF OFFICERS:**

- A. **Chair:** The Chair shall call and preside over all meetings including the meeting of the officers, administer the oath to all new members, appoint committee chairs, and execute all duties generally accompanying the position as chief executive of any organization. The Chair shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. In addition, in cooperation with the Administrator of Elections of the Davidson County (TN) Election Commission, set the date for the primary/nominating election(s) of the Democratic Party of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville-Davidson County, TN, but excluding any and all elected positions of state and federal government.
- B. **Vice-Chair:** In the absence of the Chair or in the event of his/her death, inability, or refusal to act, the Vice-Chair shall perform the duties of the Chair. When so acting, the Vice-Chair shall have all the powers of, and be subject to all the restrictions upon, the Chair. The Vice-Chair shall perform such other duties as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the Chair or by the members of the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee.
- C. **Secretary:** The Secretary shall record and publish all minutes of each meeting and maintain such records in proper order. The Secretary shall sign all certified copies of acts of the Executive Committee. The Secretary shall call the membership roll where it is required. The Secretary shall notify the membership of all monthly or regularly scheduled meetings by letter or electronic mail or otherwise upon the direction of the Chair. The Secretary shall conduct the general correspondence of the Executive Committee that is not a function of other officers or committee chairs. The Secretary shall keep the Executive Committee's official membership roster. The Secretary shall perform such other duties as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the Chair, or by the members of the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee. In the absence of the Chair and/or the Vice-Chair, for whatever reason, the Secretary

shall perform the duties of the Chair. When so acting, the Secretary shall have all the powers of, and be subject to all the restrictions upon, the Chair.

- D. **Treasurer:** The Treasurer and/or designated appointee shall be responsible for the collection of all monies raised by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer and/or designated appointee shall deposit such monies in a financial institution within Davidson County, and shall keep an accurate accounting of all monies collected, deposited, and disbursed. The Treasurer shall submit a regular report of the Executive Committee's financial condition to the officers and the entire membership. A monthly recap of total revenue and outlays and ending balance will be presented by the Treasurer as part of the Financial Reporting (either online or electronic presentation) The report will be available to all members the day of the regularly scheduled monthly meeting via DCDP's virtual cloud storage site. Email notification will be sent, by the Treasurer, once the report is viewable. The Treasurer shall employ standard accounting methods. The Treasurer, and any other person authorized to sign checks, shall be bonded with a corporate surety bond. The Treasurer shall perform such other duties as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the Chair or by the members of the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair, or the Secretary for whatever reason, the Treasurer shall perform the duties of the Chair. When so acting, the Treasurer shall have all the powers of, and be subject to all the restrictions upon, the Chair.

The Executive Committee's financial records shall be audited by the Finance Committee not later than 45 days after a new Executive Committee takes office, and the findings of such audit shall be reported to the full Executive Committee.

- E. **Regional Vice-Chairs:** A Regional Vice-Chair shall keep the members of his/her region informed of the business of the Executive Committee and shall help coordinate the activities of the Democratic Party within his/her region. Each Regional Vice-Chair shall serve on the Officer's Committee and the Precinct Organization Committee.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

#### **SECTION 1: DETERMINATION:**

If the Executive Committee of the Davidson County Democratic Party determines that there is a need for an Executive Director, either full-time or part-time, and sufficient monies are available to provide a living wage, the position of Executive Director may be established.

#### **SECTION 2: SELECTION:**

Selection of an Executive Director shall be by the following process:

- A. A Search Committee, consisting of seven (07) members, shall be formed, as follows:
1. Each regional vice-chair shall appoint one member of his/her district;
  2. One member of the Executive Committee elected at-large by the Executive Committee;
  3. One member who may or may not be a current officer, appointed by the Chair.
- B. The committee shall elect one of its members to serve as chair;
- C. The Search Committee shall advertise said position in whatever fashion it determines but must include publication in at least one (01) Davidson County newspaper of general circulation;

- D. After interviewing candidates, the Search Committee, by at least a 2/3 vote (two-thirds), shall recommend a candidate to the Executive Committee.
- E. The Chair of the Executive Committee shall have the right to veto the Committee's recommendation.
- F. The candidate shall not be informed of his/her selection until the Chair has waived the right of veto.
- G. If the recommendation of the Search Committee is not unanimous, a minority report may be presented.
- H. Without debate, the Executive Committee shall vote for said candidate who must receive a majority vote from those members of the Executive Committee present and attending such a meeting to elect an Executive Director.

**SECTION 3: REQUIREMENTS:**

Requirements for the position of Executive Director include but are not limited to:

- A. Member of the Democratic Party.
- B. Must be a registered voter within Davidson County or shall establish residency in Davidson County within 90 days of his/her appointment as Executive Director.
- C. If eligible, must have voted in the various Democratic primaries for the past three (03) years either in Tennessee or elsewhere.
- D. A four (04) year degree from an accredited institution of higher learning and/or equivalent political/organizational experience.
- E. A current member of the Executive Committee may apply for the position of Executive Director. If elected, he/she shall resign his/her position on the Executive Committee immediately upon acceptance of the position as Executive Director.
- F. During his/her tenure as Executive Director, he/she may not be an elected member of the Executive Committee.

**SECTION 4: TERM OF OFFICE AND COMPENSATION:**

- A. The initial period of employment shall be one (01) year or the remainder of the Executive Committee's term, whichever is less.
- B. Upon recommendation of the current or new Chair, and with a majority vote of the current or newly elected Executive Committee, the current Executive Director may be offered additional terms of employment without establishing a new Search Committee.
- C. Compensation shall be determined by the Executive Committee.
- D. The Executive Director reports to and is supervised by the Chair of the Executive Committee.
- E. The Executive Director serves at the pleasure of the nine (09) elected officers of the Executive Committee. Upon recommendation of the Chair, the Executive Director may be removed from his/her position by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the nine elected officers of the Executive Committee.

**SECTION 5:** **RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- A. The Executive Director shall be a non-voting ex-officio member of all committees except the Search Committee. The Executive Director may attend Search Committee meetings if invited by its chair.
- B. The Executive Director shall attend all committee meetings, in particular the monthly meeting of the Executive Committee of Davidson County Democratic Party, and the officer's meeting.
- C. Provided there is more than one (01) candidate, the Executive Director shall not, under any circumstances, endorse, support, promote, or be involved with any candidate for public office during the primary campaign and primary election. To do such may be cause for immediate dismissal according to the procedure outlines above in Section 4E.

**SECTION 6:** **DUTIES:**

- A. The Executive Director shall carry on the day-to-day duties of an administrator, including but not limited to managing the headquarters' office(s), selecting any person(s) or service(s) as authorized by the Executive Committee and approved by the Chair, promoting the election of Democrats to public office, maintaining such records as may be assigned to him/her, and promoting fund-raising efforts and events.
- B. Perform those duties generally assigned to the chief executive officer of any association/organization.

**ARTICLE V**  
**REGIONS**

**SECTION 1:** **REGIONAL BOUNDARIES**

Immediately following the redistricting/redrawing of the Council Districts of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville-Davidson County, TN., the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee shall examine and shall apportion each of the 35 Council districts, **as necessary**, into five (05) coherent and contiguous regions, each comprised of seven (07) districts.

As of February 2012, Regions I through V, from which the five (05) regional vice-chairs shall be elected, shall be established by the Officers of the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee.

**ARTICLE VI**  
**MEETINGS**

**SECTION 1:** **REGULAR MEETING DATES:**

Regular meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held monthly unless otherwise approved by the Committee. Any notification of a meeting must include time and location.

**SECTION 2:** **SPECIAL MEETINGS:**

Special meetings may be called by the Chair provided seven (07) calendar day's notice is given to the Committee. If more than 60 days have passed since the last previous meeting, and if the Chair has not called a meeting, any three (03) members may call a meeting by notifying all members at least seven (07) days prior to such a meeting. Any notification of a meeting must include time and location.

**SECTION 3: EMERGENCY MEETINGS:**

In case of an emergency, a meeting may be called by the Chair with the concurrence of the majority of the Officer's Committee and provided a majority of the members of the Executive Committee are present at such a meeting. No business shall be transacted during an emergency meeting except that mentioned in the notice of such a meeting.

**SECTION 4: ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS:**

The Executive Committee shall reorganize and elect new officers at meetings called for this purpose within four (04) weeks after the certification of the results of the regular biennial Democratic Primary. The Chair of the prior Executive Committee shall call a meeting ("informational meeting") of all newly-elected members of the Executive Committee within ten (10) days following the certification of the election results for the purpose of orientation and education about the Executive Committee. Notice of such meeting shall be mailed or electronically mailed at least one (01) week prior to the meeting.

**(a) INFORMATIONAL MEETING:**

At the informational meeting, the immediate past Chair, or an elected official selected by the immediate past Chair, shall administer the oath of office to the duly-elected members. Following the oath, the Constitution and Bylaws shall be distributed; the purposes, offices and election procedures of the Executive Committee shall be explained and discussed; and the date and time of the next meeting to elect officers shall be set, after which there shall be no other business conducted and the meeting will adjourn.

**(b) MEETING TO ELECT OFFICERS:**

At the meeting following the informational meeting, the previous Chair shall preside until a new chairman is elected, after which the new chair will preside and conduct the remaining elections along with the immediate past Secretary, who shall count the votes. The immediate past Secretary may appoint counters to assist in the conduct of the election. The election shall be conducted in the manner set forth in the Constitution.

**ARTICLE VII  
STANDING COMMITTEES**

**SECTION 1: STANDING COMMITTEES:**

There shall be seven (07) standing committees of the Executive Committee consisting of a Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules Committee, Finance Committee, Officers' Committee, Precinct Organization Committee, Program & Events Committee, Technology Committee, and Communications Committee.

**SECTION 2: DUTIES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**(a) Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules:**

This Committee shall recommend changes to the Bylaws to the Executive Committee, as well as draft any changes in the Bylaws which are duly approved by the Executive Committee. This Committee shall also consider rules and procedures of operation for the Executive Committee and make recommendations to the Executive Committee

**(b) Finance:**

This Committee shall carry out the functions assigned to it in the Bylaws to assist the Treasurer in any matters relating to finance or fundraising in which the Treasurer may need or desire assistance and to plan for and involve the total membership in appropriate fundraising activities.

**(c) Precinct Organization:**

This Committee shall coordinate and shall supervise all activities of the Executive Committee with respect to grassroots organization, recruitment and training of

volunteers, “get-out-the vote” (GOTV) activities, voter registration and all other political organizational efforts on the precinct, district and regional levels.

(d) **Program & Events:**

This Committee shall plan educational and social programs at regular and special meetings of the Executive Committee, as well as the planning of programs for any other Democratic Party activities the Executive Committee may sponsor or co-sponsor.

(e) **Officers:**

This Committee shall be composed of the four (04) at-large officers and the five (05) regional vice-chairs. This Committee shall be chaired by the Chair of the Executive Committee and shall meet regularly for the purpose of planning agendas and discussing the implementation of Executive Committee decisions and projects.

(f) **Technology:**

This Committee shall develop policies and procedures and make recommendations for utilizing technology in the furtherance of the goals Executive Committee. This can include, but not be limited to website development, voter databases, other support technologies and training for Executive Committee members, as well as our volunteers in the use of these technologies.

(g) **Communications:**

This committee shall be responsible for all communications from the DCDP to the public. This shall include but not be limited to social media, print media and all other formats deemed appropriate by the committee and DCDP.

**SECTION 3: COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:**

The Chair shall appoint the chair and the members to serve on each of the standing committees, except for the Officer Committee. Unless indicated otherwise, every member will be appointed to serve on at least two (02) committees. Where possible, the Chair, in making appointments, shall honor the preferences of the members as to which committees they wish to serve. Committee chairs and assignments shall be announced no later than the next regular meeting following the election of officers. Standing committee chairs serve at the pleasure of the Chair of the Executive Committee.

**SECTION 4: SPECIAL COMMITTEES:**

The Chair of the Executive Committee may establish additional committees as deemed appropriate.

**ARTICLE VIII  
QUORUM**

**SECTION 1: QUORUM**

One-third (1/3) of the total number of current members of the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business at any meeting.

**ARTICLE IX  
PROXY VOTE & ELECTRONIC VOTE**

**SECTION 1: PROXY VOTE**

Absentee and proxy voting shall not be permitted in any format at any time for any purpose.

**ELECTRONIC VOTE**

Electronic voting is permissible as deemed necessary by the Chair of the Executive Committee.



**ARTICLE X**  
**SANCTIONS, EXPLUSIONS, AND ABSENCES**

**SECTION 1: SANCTIONS OR EXPULSION:**

A member of this Executive Committee shall forfeit **automatically** his/her membership in said Committee for the following reasons:

- (a) In the event he/she qualifies for political office as an Independent or representing any political party other than the Democratic Party and opposes a duly qualified Democratic nominee.
- (b) If he/she has a total of four (04) absences during a year or 2 (two) unexcused absences during the year.
- (c) If he/she is 60 days in arrears to DCDP.

If an executive committee member has not met any of the standards, as set forth in Article II, Section 3A., each quarter, there will be a motion to the executive committee by the respective regional vice chair for removal of the executive committee member for failure to meet the standards listed in Article II, Section 3A. The motion for expulsion for failure to fulfill the duties required under Article II, Section 3A shall be at the meeting in the month following each quarter end January, April, July, and November.

**SECTION 2: EXCUSED ABSENCES**

An absence is excused if notice is given to the Chair and/or the Secretary at least two (2) hours prior to the start of the meeting and the reason for the absence is one of the following:

- (a) Personal illness
- (b) Family illness or death
- (c) Business
- (d) Out-of-town

All other absences shall be considered unexcused.

**SECTION 3: DISCRETIONARY SANCTIONS OR EXPULSIONS:**

A member may be expelled at the discretion of the Executive Committee if a pattern of non-attendance is established, even if such absences are excused. Sanctions may be imposed against a member, or he/she may be expelled at the discretion of the Executive Committee, for demonstrating disloyalty to the Democratic party, either in the form of a public announcement of support for a candidate of another party in a pending election, or by working for or giving financial support to any such candidate running against a duly nominated candidate of the Democratic Party. The Executive Committee shall impose discretionary sanctions, or expel a member only in accordance with the manner set forth in Article II, Section 5, of the Bylaws of this Executive Committee.

**ARTICLE XI**  
**MEETING PROCEDURE**

**SECTION 1: CONDUCT OF BUSINESS AT MEETINGS**

The regular order of business shall be as follows:

1. Call to order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of minutes of previous meeting
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Elections
7. Report of Committees
8. Resolutions
9. Old Business
10. New Business
11. Announcements
12. Adjournment

**ARTICLE XII**  
**DEMOCRATIC GENERAL ELECTION NOMINEE VACANCIES**

**SECTION 1: NOMINEE VACANCIES:**

Prior to the General Election, whenever a Democratic nominee for any office dies, resigns, or becomes incapable of acting as such nominee, then the vacancy in such nomination thereby created shall be filled by selection by a majority vote of those present and voting at a duly called meeting of the Executive Committee for that purpose as stipulated under TCA 1-13-204, as amended, and the Executive Committee Bylaws. All candidates for the nominee vacancy must be given an opportunity to present their credentials.

**SECTION 2: PROCEDURES FOR FILLING NOMINEE VACANCIES**

The following procedures shall govern the filling of a nominee vacancy:

- (a) The Executive Committee shall meet no later than ten (10) days following the creation of the vacancy for the purpose of filling such vacancy. The meeting date shall be set by the Chair, taking into account the proximity of the meeting to the date of the election.
- (b) The membership of the Executive Committee and the general public shall be notified by the Chair as soon as possible following the vacancy as to the date, time and place of the meeting to select the new nominee. Depending on the proximity of the vacancy to Election Day, notification should include written notice if at all possible.
- (c) Candidates to fill the vacancy must submit their intentions in writing to the Chair no later than 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting called to fill such vacancy. Such notification must be signed by the candidate. The Chair will then contact the County Election Registrar to verify that each candidate meets the necessary requirements for the office sought.
- (d) Each candidate must be formally nominated by a member of the Executive Committee. A nominating speech may be given. Immediately following the nominating speech, the candidate may address the Executive Committee. The length of speeches shall be set by the Chair of the Executive Committee. The order of

nomination shall be based upon the alphabetical order of the last names of the candidates.

- (e) The election shall be conducted by a show of hands with each member standing to signify his/her vote. A majority of those present and qualified to vote is required for election. If there are more than two (02) candidates seeking to fill a vacancy, then the candidate with the lowest number of votes shall be dropped from each successive ballot, until finally one (01) candidate receives a majority vote. If it is the will of the majority of the Executive Committee, a five (05) minute recess may be granted between each ballot.

### **ARTICLE XIII** **PRIMARY BOARD**

**SECTION 1:** **PRIMARY BOARD:**

The five (05) members of the Davidson County Democratic Primary Board shall be elected by a majority of those present and voting in a duly called meeting for this purpose. The County Primary Board shall file a report of all findings and actions taken by the Board with the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall have the power to recommend to the Primary Board, officers and clerks to be used in the Democratic local elections.

### **ARTICLE XIV** **NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES**

**SECTION 1:** **NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES:**

Delegates to the National Democratic Convention shall be selected according to the mandates of the Democratic National Committee and Tennessee Democratic Party.

### **ARTICLE XV**

**SECTION 1:** **CONTRACTS AND EXPENDITURES**

No expenditures or bills shall be made or contracts entered into which purport to obligate the Executive Committee unless such expenditures or contracts as authorized by a majority vote of those present at a duly called meeting in which a quorum is present, except that expenditures for \$500.00 or less obligating the Executive Committee may be authorized by the Chair of the Executive Committee. All paid bills shall be retained by the Treasurer for a period of two (02) years.

### **ARTICLE XVI** **PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE**

**SECTION 1:** **RULES OF ORDER**

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (most recent edition), shall be the governing rules of the Executive Committee at all times except when in conflict with the articles and sections of these Bylaws.

**ARTICLE XVII**  
**SUSPENSION OF RULES**

**SECTION 1:** **RULES**

During a meeting of the Executive Committee, these Bylaws may be suspended by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present.

**ARTICLE XVIII**  
**AMENDMENTS**

**SECTION 1:** **AMENDMENTS**

These Bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed by two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting. An amendment must be presented first at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee or via online distribution to the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee, prior to the regularly scheduled meeting.

REVISED: November 14, 2017

Gary D. Bynum, Chair  
Jenny Charles, Secretary  
Alexander Bissell, Constitution, Bylaws and Rules Committee, Chair

## ***APPENDIX***

### **STATUTORY POWERS OF A COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

State statutes empower the county executive committees for a statewide political party to act in a number of different situations. Among the most important statutory powers of the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee are the following:

**1. Nominations For Davidson County Primary Board**

The Executive Committee is authorized to make nominations for the five (05) positions on the Davidson County Primary Board. The State Primary Board, which for our purposes is the Tennessee Democratic State Executive Committee, shall meet once every even-numbered year at the call of the Chair to appoint the members of the various county primary boards. The five (05) individuals are appointed to two (02) year terms.

The State Primary Board is directed to appoint the members to the county primary boards from lists prepared by the county executive committees. The members must be bona fide members of the Democratic Party. In the event the list submitted by the county executive committee is not divided fairly among the elements of the party, the State Primary Board is free to appoint two (02) of the five (05) members from outside the list.

**2. Nominations for Election Officials**

Each county primary board and each county executive committee may nominate to the county election commission persons for appointment as election officials. At each polling place, there should be one (01) officer of elections, three (03) judges, and one (01) operator per voting machine. However, the judges may also serve as machine operators. These positions, as a general rule, are to be equally divided between the statewide political parties.

The county election commission may refuse to appoint any nominee deemed unfit for the position. There is a residency requirement for certain of these positions.

**3. Filling Vacancies During Elections**

If a Democratic nominee for elective office dies, or withdraws for certain reasons, the party is called upon to fill the vacancy. For statewide offices, the vacancy is filled by the state executive committee. If the state office holder is to represent more than one (01) county, the party's chairs of its county executive committees in the affected counties are to be a committee to determine the method of filling the vacancy.

The Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee will be called upon to fill a vacancy when a nominee for a seat in the General Assembly is involved. The entire committee meets to select a new nominee. The new nominee for a General Assembly seat must be selected within ten (10) days of the day of vacancy. The Executive Committee will also be called upon to fill a vacancy when the nominee is seeking election to a countywide office.