

**BY-LAWS
OF
BEDFORD DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE**

Article I – Name

The name of this organization shall be the Bedford Democratic Committee; hereinafter referred to as the Committee.

Article II – Purpose & Authority

Section 1 – The Committee is organized under the authority of, and in accordance with the Code of the State of Virginia and the Party Plan of the Democratic Party of the State of Virginia currently in effect. Nothing contained in these By-Laws is intended to conflict with either the Code of Virginia and/or the Party Plan. If any such conflict should occur between these By-Laws and the Code of Virginia and/or the Party Plan, the Code of Virginia or the Party Plan, as the case may be, shall have precedence.

Section 2 - To promote, stimulate and assist in the organization, activities and growth of the Democratic Party in the town of Bedford and Bedford County.

Section 3 – To collect and disburse fees, dues and assessments to satisfy the requirements of the local, district and state organizations.

Section 4 – To offer and support qualified candidates for public office on a local, state and national level.

Section 5 – To take all other appropriate actions consistent with a political party within the parameters of the plan of the Democratic Party of Virginia.

Article III – Membership

Section 1 - Membership on the Bedford Committee shall include persons signifying that they are registered to vote in the town of Bedford and Bedford County; that they are Democrats and believe in the principles of the Democratic Party.

Section 2 - The Committee shall consist of members, elected at mass meetings called for the purpose of reorganization of the Committee, pursuant to the Virginia Democratic Party Plan. Members shall be elected for a two year term.

Section 3 – Other members on the Committee shall be voted in at regular meetings or at a special meeting called by the Chair. Prospective new members may be nominated by any member in good standing of the Committee and shall be approved by a simple majority of those in attendance.

Section 4 - Each member elected at a reorganization meeting or voted in as a member shall pay a \$10.00 administrative fee and said \$10.00 fee shall be paid on a yearly basis thereafter.

Section 5 - Any member desiring to resign shall inform the Secretary in writing, who will notify the Committee at the next regular meeting.

Article IV – Officers

The Officers of the Committee shall consist of a Chairperson, or Co-Chairpersons, a Vice-Chairperson, a Secretary and a Treasurer, who shall serve a term of two years or until said officers shall be elected by the membership following the reorganization meeting in odd-numbered years. Reference in these by-laws to the Chairperson or Chair, shall apply to Co-Chairpersons.

Article V – Duties of Officers

IT SHALL BE THE DUTY OF THE CHAIRPERSON:

- A. To preside at all meetings and functions of the Committee**
- B. To see that the Virginia Democratic Party Plan and these By-Laws are properly enforced**
- C. To execute and administer the dictates of the Committee to the utmost extent possible**
- D. To appoint any Committees as become necessary**
- E. To recommend the appointment of officials to the Electoral Board as required by the Code of Virginia**
- F. To preside at mass meetings as required by the Virginia Democratic Party Plan**
- G. To attend functions of the Democratic Party**
- H. To oversee all functions of the Committee**

IT SHALL BE THE DUTY OF THE VICE CHAIRPERSON;

The Vice-Chairperson shall preside at meetings in the absence of the Chairperson, shall perform all duties delegated by the Chairperson, and have all authority of the Chairperson when the latter, for any cause, is unable to act. The Vice-Chairperson shall assume the position of the Chairperson should the position become vacant.

IT SHALL BE THE DUTY OF THE SECRETARY:

- A. To keep a correct record of all the proceedings of the Committee and other functions of the Democratic Party as appropriate**

B. To perform such other secretarial tasks as are necessary to maintain the Committee

IT SHALL BE THE DUTY OF THE TREASURER:

A. To keep and maintain accurate and correct accounting of all receipts and disbursements

B. To present a report of the financial conditions of the Committee at each regular meeting

C. To deposit and disburse funds

D. To assist in all other financial matters of the Committee as appropriate

Article VI – Meetings

Section 1 - The Bedford Committee shall have at least six meetings per year, with special meetings called by the Chair as needed.

Section 2 - Notice of all regular and special meetings shall be given to all Committee members. Notice by e-mail is sufficient for Committee members with an e-mail address.

Section 3 - A quorum shall consist of ten members of the Committee present.

Section 4 - All regular meetings of the Committee shall be public. The Committee may adjourn to closed executive session upon a majority vote of those Committee members present at any meeting.

Section 5 – The use of proxies is denied.

Section 6 – Committee members are responsible for keeping their contact information updated by notifying the Chair/Secretary of any change of mailing address, e-mail, home phone number, etc.

Article VII–Executive Committee

The officers of the Bedford Committee shall constitute an Executive Committee, who shall exercise general supervision, make recommendations to the Committee and perform such other duties as are specified in these by-laws.

Article VIII-Amendments

By-laws can be amended at any regular meeting of the Committee by a majority of members provided that the amendments have been submitted in writing to the Committee at the previous meeting or 21 days notice has been given.

Article IV-Parliamentary Authority

Robert’s Rules of Order shall govern in all cases in which they are applicable unless inconsistent with these by-laws and the Virginia Democratic Party Plan, in which instance the latter shall prevail.

Article V-Adoption

These by-laws are adopted by the Committee under the authority of the Party Plan of the Democratic Party of Virginia. These by-laws shall govern and control the actions and functions of the Democratic Party in the town of Bedford and Bedford County and shall remain in effect until amended or revoked by the Committee. To the extent that any of these by-laws shall be in conflict with the Party Plan of the Democratic Party of Virginia, the Party Plan shall control; and the portion of these by-laws that are in conflict shall be deemed void.