

**BY-LAWS OF THE**  
**WASHINGTON COUNTY REPUBLICAN SOCIAL CLUB**

(As amended by the membership on Wed., Feb. 19, 2020.)

**Article I – NAME & PURPOSE**

The name of the organization shall be the WASHINGTON COUNTY REPUBLICAN SOCIAL CLUB. (Here in referred to as "WCRSC".)

The purpose of the WCRSC is to provide through social means an enduring fellowship among Republicans dedicated to the principles of Republicanism and the development of a better community.

**Article II – MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. The membership in the WCRSC is open to all persons who are registered as Republicans with a State Board of Elections.

Section 2. Membership dues shall be established by the WCRSC and may be changed at its discretion. Dues shall entitle each member to one vote on each matter brought to a vote before the membership. Dues shall be scheduled to coincide with the calendar year. Anyone joining on or after July 1, who has not been a member for the past 3 consecutive years, shall pay 50% of the yearly dues for the remainder of the year in which they join, and 100% of the dues thereafter.

Section 3. The calendar year of the WCRSC shall begin with the first day of January and end with the last day of December following.

**Article III – OFFICERS**

Section 1. The governance of the WCRSC shall be vested in the Officers who shall be subject to the will of the membership.

Section 2. The officers of the WCRSC shall be President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Officers shall be elected at annual General membership meetings (see Article VI). The offices of President and Treasurer and the offices of Vice President and Secretary will stand for elections in alternating years with the term of office being two years.

Section 3. The elected officers of the WCRSC will constitute the Executive Committee.

Section 4. The officers of the WCRSC will be members in good standing.

#### **Article IV – DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

Section 1. The President shall preside over all General Membership meetings. His/her duties shall include general supervision over all WCRSC activities, appointment of standing and special committees, appointment of a Parliamentarian to serve at meetings, and present an annual budget at the first meeting of the calendar year for approval by the membership. Furthermore, the WCRSC's Annual Budget should be promptly communicated to the whole membership by the Secretary. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee. The President, or presiding officer, shall not cast a vote at the General Membership meetings, except to break a tie vote.

Section 2. The Vice President shall preside and perform the duties of the President in his/her absence, and perform other duties as may be prescribed by the membership. The Vice President shall preside over all of WCRSC committees. The Vice President shall also preside and perform the duties of the Secretary, or the Treasurer in their absence, and perform other duties as may be prescribed by the membership.

Section 3. The Secretary shall keep current minutes of each General Membership Meeting and maintain a complete file of all official reports and correspondence which shall be open to the general membership. The Secretary shall make a copy of the minutes of all meetings available to the current membership promptly following the meetings, give the membership as much notice as possible if any changes are needed to the date and time of a monthly meeting, and when further expenses are approved by the membership then the President's Annual Budget must be updated and promptly communicated to the current membership.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall receive all dues, pay all bills and prepare a monthly report of finances. The Treasurer shall maintain current records of all receipts and disbursements and submit a statement on them at each General Membership Meeting. All checks must be co-signed by the Treasurer and the President or in his/her absence, the Vice President. However, bank debit cards will be issued to the Treasurer, President and Vice-President for convenience purchases of items necessary for activities pre-approved by the membership. The Treasurer's books shall be examined annually by an audit committee appointed by the President.

## **ARTICLE V – MEETINGS**

Section 1. General Membership meetings shall be held each month on the same time and date as established by the WCRSC. The WCRSC shall give the membership as much notice as possible if any changes are needed to the date and time of a monthly meeting. There shall be no less than six (6) general membership meetings per year.

There must be 15% of the membership in good standing present at a meeting to constitute a quorum for voting on the annual budget, amendments to the annual budget, or elections of officers. All attendees at Club meetings must check in as to their status as guest or member in good standing. The Secretary will report to the membership at each meeting whether or not a quorum exists.

Section 2. The Annual Meeting shall be held in November of each year for the election of officers, and the annual reports of officers and committee chairperson.

Section 3. If an officer misses three (3) consecutive meetings the Executive Committee shall review the circumstances and may consider the office vacant. If a vacancy occurs the Executive Committee shall make a recommendation to fill that office and seek approval from the membership.

Section 4. Proxy votes are not permitted at any meetings.

Section 5. Any member who has paid the current year dues shall be deemed in good standing. Members must be in good standing for 30 days prior to voting.

Section 6. The President shall announce before each meeting that only members in good standing shall be permitted to vote on Club business and that any guests or any members not yet in good standing shall please refrain from voting. All yea and nay votes must be tallied and recorded in the Secretary's Minutes.

## **ARTICLE VI – ELECTIONS**

Section 1. A nominating committee of no fewer than three (3) WCRSC members shall be appointed by the Vice President sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting. The committee shall nominate one member for each office. The nominating committee will vet its' recommended candidates to assure that they are registered Republicans and members in good standing. The committee will report its recommendations at the general membership meeting thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting. Nominations shall be requested from the floor thirty (30) days prior to the elections during the annual meeting. The nominating committee will vet all candidates from the floor to assure that they are registered Republicans and members in good standing. If the floor nominee is not in

attendance, prior formal written acceptance from the nominee must have been obtained.

Section 2. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes for each office shall be elected. Where only one candidate is on the ballot for an office, balloting may be by voice vote; otherwise, voting shall be by secret ballot.

Section 3. All nominees for the office of President must have been members in good standing for a period of not less than six (6) months prior to the election.

Section 4. Installation of officers

a. Every officer shall be installed as the first order of business at the first regular meeting following an election or appointment to office and shall assume the duties of that office immediately thereafter.

b. A Republican elected official shall administer the following oath to officers being installed:

"I, (name of the officer elect), do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States; that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the state of Maryland. I furthermore swear that I will, to the best of my ability, promote and advance the Republican position on issues in the best light possible. I furthermore swear that I will, to the best of my skill and judgment, diligently and faithfully, without partiality or prejudice, execute the office of (office), according to the By-Laws of this club."

Section 5. Installation of officers

## **ARTICLE VII – AUTHORITY TO BIND**

Section 1. No member of the WCRSC shall contract for, or incur, any expense without the approval of the Executive Committee.

Section 2. All requests for funds, of any nature, must be submitted in writing to the Executive Committee for review and recommendation prior to being placed on the monthly agenda and voted on by the membership.

Section 3. The Executive Committee may spend up to \$500 on expenditures having been approved by the membership through the adoption of an annual budget. Further expenses may be approved after full details and projected costs of the event are presented to and approved by the membership at a regularly scheduled meeting.

## **ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENTS**

The By-Laws of the WCRSC may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of members attending the Membership Meeting at which the amendment is being voted upon providing notice is given to each member at least thirty (30) days prior to that meeting.

## **ARTICLE IX – PARLIAMENTARY PROVISIONS**

Roberts Rules of Order (Current Edition) shall govern all proceedings except where inconsistent with these by-laws.

## **ARTICLE X – ENDORSEMENT OF CANDIDATES**

Section 1. A candidate for public office, whether local, state, or national may be endorsed or opposed by the WCRSC prior to the party primary upon approval of its membership where a quorum of 15% of the WCRSC's membership is in attendance.

Section 2. The WCRSC shall endorse only Republican candidates for public office.

## **ARTICLE XI – REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE**

No activity shall be undertaken by the WCRSC which shall act against the interest (or the by-laws and constitution) of the Republican Central Committee of Washington County, Maryland, in the performance of its legal authorized duties.

## **ARTICLE XII – DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB**

The WCRSC shall use its funds only to accomplish the objectives and purposes specified in these by-laws, and no part of said funds shall inure or be distributed to the members of the Club. On dissolution of the Club, any funds remaining shall be distributed as directed by the membership.