

The Dallas County Green Party

I Name The name of this organization is the Dallas County Green Party, and is the Dallas County affiliate of the Green Party of Texas.

II Purpose The purpose of the Dallas County Green Party (the “Party”) is to build membership in the Green Party within Dallas County, endorse candidates for elected office, and act in conjunction with like-minded groups and individuals throughout the county and state.

III Membership Membership is open to any individual who is in general agreement with the ten key values of the Green Party, as expressed by the Green Party of Texas. The ten key values text is attached as Exhibit “A” and incorporated herein.

IV Structure and Meetings

A. All decision-making power rests in the membership, which shall meet at least quarterly in a General Membership Meeting. As its last order of business, attendees at each General Membership Meeting shall elect a Facilitator for the next General Membership meeting, who will guide discussion to complete the agenda and goals of the next meeting. The Facilitator elected shall be considered a full member of the Steering Committee until the next General Membership Meeting. The Dallas County Green Party will strive to achieve consensus on all decisions. If consensus is not immediately reached, there will be an opportunity for all views to be fully expressed and explored. If consensus is still not achieved, a democratic non-secret vote will take place. It will require a vote of 2/3 of those voting to act on any proposal. Any member is invited to participate in all discussion, but only those who have attended at least one prior meeting are entitled to vote.

B. The following officers of the Dallas County Green Party shall be elected every year by the membership:

1. two Co-chairs, each of whom must be a registered voter and resident of Dallas County, Texas.
2. Treasurer, who must be at least 21 years of age.
3. Secretary

One Co-chair, the Treasurer, and the Secretary will be elected by the membership at a General Membership Meeting in May of each year. One co-chair will be elected by the membership at a General Membership Meeting in November of each year. The term of each office shall be one year.

C. The Steering Committee shall consist of the two Co-chairs, the Treasurer, the Secretary, and the Facilitator elected at the last General Membership Meeting.

D. The Steering Committee is empowered to act on behalf of the organization between General Membership Meetings. This includes the expenditure of funds. However, the Steering Committee is not empowered to place the Dallas County Green Party in debt, nor to act contrary to any express decisions or policies of the General Membership. The Steering Committee shall act only when a majority of

Steering Committee members are present. The Steering Committee will make all decisions according to the procedure for decisions of the General Membership, as described in detail in IV(A) above.

E. The Steering Committee shall meet monthly, and additionally when called by a Co-chair, as necessary. The Steering Committee shall set the agenda for each General Membership Meeting. Steering Committee meetings shall be publicized, and every member is invited and encouraged to attend as a non-voting participant.

F. A Co-chair may recommend the formation of Standing Committees or Working Groups. The creation of any such Standing Committee or Working Group must be approved by the membership at a General Membership Meeting. Each such group will elect its own Coordinator.

G. Any vacancy in an office of the Dallas County Green Party may be filled by nomination and majority vote at any General Membership Meeting. The roles of Treasurer and Secretary may be filled by a Co-chair if the position is vacant or the Treasurer or Secretary is not able or willing to perform the duties required. A General Membership Meeting may be called by any two members in the event both Co-chair positions become vacant.

V. Duties of Officers

A. Co-chair The Co-chair shall have the general executive authority for the Dallas County Green Party, but may not obligate the Party for any debt. The Co-chair may create an office of Media Director and appoint a member to such office. The Co-chair shall designate one or more members as “administrator” of any website maintained by the Party. The Co-chair shall be responsible for accepting applications from all candidates for county offices and complying with the applicable requirements of the Texas Election Code (chapters 32, 87, 127, 174, 181). The Co-chair shall send electronic notices of any meeting to the members at least 3 days prior to the meeting date.

B. Treasurer The Treasurer shall maintain the bank depository account of the Party, deposit all contributions into said account, make all disbursements from said account, and present a report of all transactions of the said account at each General Membership Meeting and upon the request of any officer.

C. Secretary The Secretary shall prepare the minutes of each General Membership Meeting and each meeting of the Steering Committee. The minutes shall report each action of the Party and be circulated to the members for comment and revision. The Secretary shall maintain an Agenda for future General Membership Meetings and shall place items on said Agenda at the request of any member.

D. Media Director The Media Director shall manage publicity and promotion of the Party, but all advertisements, notices, and promotional materials shall be presented to the Steering Committee and be approved prior to distribution.

V Amendments These By-laws may be amended by a 3/4 vote of those in attendance at any General Membership Meeting. Proposed Amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary and included in the Agenda for such meeting.

VI Conventions

A. The number of delegates for the county convention selected at the precinct convention shall be not less than one and additional delegates to the county convention may be selected at the precinct convention by nomination and vote of the precinct convention participants. (added Feb 27, 2016)

Exhibit “A”

Green Party Ten Key Values

Ecological Wisdom

We recognize that the Earth sustains all life processes. Green ecology moves beyond environmentalism by understanding the common roots of the abuse of nature, the abuse of animals, and the abuse of people. Whatever we do to the web of life, we do to ourselves.

Social Justice

We want to replace the worldwide system of poverty and injustice with a world free of all oppression based on class, sex, race, citizenship, age, or sexual orientation.

Grassroots Democracy

We believe in direct participation by all people in the environmental, political, and economic decisions that affect their lives.

Nonviolence

We reject violence as a way of settling disputes -- it is shortsighted, morally wrong, and ultimately self-defeating. We work to create a world where war is obsolete.

Decentralization

Power and responsibility must be restored to local communities within an overall framework of ecologically sound and socially just values and lifestyles.

Community-based Economics

We seek a new economics based upon the natural limits of the Earth which meets the basic needs of everyone on the planet under democratic, localized community control.

Feminist Values

The Green movement is profoundly inspired by feminist values. The ethics of cooperation and understanding must replace the values of domination and control over others.

Respect for Diversity

We honor the biological diversity of the Earth and the cultural, racial, sexual and spiritual diversity of the Earth's people. We aim to reclaim this country's finest ideals: popular democracy, the dignity of the individual, and liberty and justice for all.

Personal and Global Responsibility

We are committed to global sustainability and international justice through political solidarity. We strive to create personal lifestyles based upon sufficiency and living lightly.

Future Focus

Like the Iroquois, we seek a society where the interests of the seventh generation yet to come are considered equal to the interests of the present generation. We must reclaim the future for ourselves and for our children.