

BPC

BLACK POLITICAL CAUCUS OF CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I NAME

Section 1.1. Name of Organization. The name of the organization shall be the **BLACK POLITICAL CAUCUS OF CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG.**

ARTICLE II PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES

Section 2.1. Purposes and Principles of the Organization.

Acknowledging and recognizing that we do not live in a color-blind society, that vestiges of discrimination remain which result in inequality and unequal access, that there is an unacceptable level of apathy and complacency within the Black community---all of which have a negative impact on the Black community in particular and society in general; therefore, the purposes and principles of the organization shall be to vigorously: (1) serve as a representative body of and as a leadership body for the Black citizenry of the city of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County; (2) inform and educate the Black community on the importance of registering and voting and on political issues of importance to the Black community in particular and the community and state at large in general; (3) encourage its members and others to study the merits of issues and the character and platform of each candidate and to exercise the right of franchise by registering and voting in all city, county, state and national elections; (4) encourage formation of coalitions among and between members in the predominately Black precincts; (5) promote cohesiveness among block captains and precinct workers; (6) promote and enhance the power and welfare of the Black community in political, economical, educational, civic and cultural affairs; (7) promote cooperation with other public and private groups in improving political, educational, economic, civic, cultural, and religious conditions in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg community; (8) serve as a public forum for discussion of community, state and national affairs, and especially Black affairs; and (9) do those things within our power for the general improvement of the entire community in matters of education, economics, religion, social and civic welfare, and political activity.

ARTICLE III OFFICE

Section 3.1. The Principal Office. The principal office of the organization shall be located at such place as the Executive Committee may fix from time to time and approved by the general body.

ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

Section 4.1. Membership. Membership shall be of three types: Personal, , Life, and Honorary. (Amended 08/15/2010)

Section 4.2. Personal Membership shall be available to any Black African/African American of Black descent who is 18 years of age or older and as otherwise may be provided for in the bylaws. (Amended 08/15/2010)

Section 4.3. Honorary Membership shall be available to any African American of Black descent who is 18 years of age or older and as otherwise may be provided for in the bylaws.

Section 4.4. Life Membership shall be available to persons who qualify for Personal and Life Membership and to precincts, organizations, clubs and associations that qualify for Organizational Membership, and as otherwise may be provided for in the bylaws.

ARTICLE V OFFICERS

Section 5.1. Officers of the Organization. The officers of the organization shall consist of a Caucus Chairperson, First Vice Chairperson, Second Vice Chairperson, Third Vice Chairperson, Recording Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Parliamentarian, Historian and other officers as may be elected by the members of the organization. At no time shall any two offices be held simultaneously by the same person. (See Bylaws for job descriptions, Election and term of office, Vacancies, Compensation, Removal and Resignation).

ARTICLE VI MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

Section 6.1. Place of Meetings. All meetings of the organization shall be held within the city of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina at such place as fixed by the Executive Committee and designated in the notice of the meeting; Or, all meetings shall be held within the city of Charlotte, Mecklenburg

County, North Carolina at a place agreed upon by a majority of the members present and entitled to vote at a General, Substitute or Special meeting.

ARTICLE VII DUES

Section 7.1. Dues. All membership dues shall be established by the organization on the recommendation of the Executive Committee at such times and in such amounts as the organization deems to be adequate to operate and maintain the character, structure, integrity, goals and purposes of the Caucus.

ARTICLE VIII EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 8.1. General Powers. The business and affairs of the organization shall be managed under the direction of the Executive Committee.

Section 8.2. Meetings of Executive Committee. All meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held within the city of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

ARTICLE IX COMMITTEES

Section 9.1. Committees. There shall be the following standing committees: (1) Membership, (2) Budget and Finance, (3) Publicity, (4) Voter Registration and Get Out The Vote, (5) Legislative, (6) Economic Development, (7) Candidates, (8) Community Affairs, (9) Courtesy, (10) Education and (11) Political Action Committee. The Caucus Chairperson may establish special committees as the need arises.

ARTICLE X AMENDMENTS

Section 10.1. Amendments. Proposed amendments to this Constitution must be presented in writing at a General Meeting, read by the Recording Secretary at such meeting and shall be referred to a committee for study and a report to be given at the next General Meeting. Or, said committee report may be given at a subsequent General Meeting held within ninety (90) days from the date of said reading of the proposed amendment(s) by the Recording Secretary. If after the committee's report the initial proposal or a second proposal is made to so amend the Constitution, the proposed amendment(s) must again be read by the Recording Secretary, left on the table until the next General Meeting, when a vote on such amendment or amendments shall be taken. If two-thirds of the members who are present and entitled to vote at the General Meeting next following the meeting at which the committee gave its report, vote in favor of such amendment or amendments, this Constitution shall be so amended.

**ARTICLE XI
AUTHORITY IN DISPUTES**

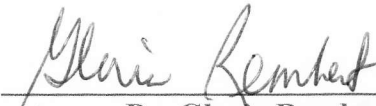
Section 11.1. Governance. The final authority in the settlement of disputes shall be Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

**ARTICLE XII
NOTICE AND READING
OF
THIS CONSTITUTION**


Section 12.1. Notice and Reading of This Constitution. Notice and reading of this Constitution shall be deemed to have taken place by making copies available to the members and a discussion of the Constitution at a General, Substitute or Special Meeting at least thirty days prior to being voted upon for adoption. Notice and reading of this Constitution occurred by distributing copies to the members and conducting full and open discussions of this Constitution with the members at the General Monthly Meeting for June, July and August 2010.

This Constitution was duly approved and adopted by a two-thirds vote of the members present and entitled to vote at the General Meeting duly held on the 15th day of August 2010.

By the authority vested in the undersigned, this Document is duly signed on this the 15th day of AUGUST, 2010.



Dr. Gloria Rembert
Caucus Chairperson



Cynthia Wallace
Recording Secretary

BPC

BLACK POLITICAL CAUCUS OF CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1.1. General Powers. The business and affairs of the organization shall be managed under the direction of the Executive Committee.

Section 1.2. Number and Qualifications. The number of members constituting the Executive Committee shall be twenty-two (22): (A) the eleven (11) elected officers (Caucus Chairperson, First Vice Chairperson, Second Vice Chairperson, Third Vice Chairperson, Recording Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Parliamentarian and Historian), and (B) the eleven (11) Chairpersons of the standing committees (Voter Registration and Get-Out-The-Vote, Candidates, Legislative, Budget and Finance, Courtesy, Economic Development, Publicity, Membership, Education, Community Affairs and the Political Action Committee).

Section 1.3. Caucus Chairperson Emeritus. All past Caucus Chairpersons who are in good standing are hereby deemed eligible to serve Ex-Officio on the Executive Committee. They are allowed to attend and participate in all discussions of the Executive Committee, but are without vote in the Executive Committee.

Section 1.4. Election and Term for Officers. (See Article IV, Section 4.1. and 4.2).

Section 1.5. Appointment of Standing Committees Chairpersons. (See Article V, Section 5.2).

Section 1.6. Term of Executive Committee Members. The term of each Executive Committee Member is two (2) years or the remainder of an unexpired term or until his or her successor is elected or appointed.

Section 1.7. Presiding Officer of Executive Committee. The Chairperson of the Caucus shall be the presiding officer of the Executive Committee and shall perform such other duties as may be directed by the Executive Committee.

In the absence of the Caucus Chairperson or in the event of the Caucus Chairperson's inability or refusal to act or serve, the First Vice Chairperson shall preside. In the absence of the Caucus Chairperson and the First Vice Chairperson or their inability or refusal to act or serve, the Second Vice Chairperson shall preside. In the absence of the Caucus Chairperson, the First and Second Vice Chairpersons or their inability or refusal to act or serve, the Third Vice Chairperson shall preside. In the event of the absence or inability or refusal of the Caucus Chairperson, the First, Second and Third Vice Chairpersons to act or serve, the Executive committee, by majority vote of the Executive Committee members who are present and entitled to vote, shall select an Executive Committee member to preside. (See Article V, Section 5.14).

The term "absence" when used anywhere in these Bylaws shall mean: "not physically present or the inability or refusal to act or serve, or when the chair has been relinquished."

Section 1.8. Vacancies in any Elected Office. (See Article IV, Section 4.4 for Elected Officers and Article V, Section 5.2 for vacancy of any Chairperson of a Standing Committee and any committee member).

Section 1.9. Chairperson of Executive Committee. The Caucus Chairperson shall serve as Chair of the Executive Committee. The Caucus Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee and perform such other duties as may be directed by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE II MEETINGS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 2.1. General Meetings of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall meet prior to each General Monthly Meeting of the Caucus at a time and place within the city of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, designated by the Caucus Chairperson and subject to the majority vote of the Executive Committee; or, as designated by the First, Second, or Third Vice Chairperson, when presiding under the circumstances and pursuant to the line of progression set forth in ARTICLE I, Section 1.7, and subject to the majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Section 2.2. Special Meetings. Special Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by or at the request of the Caucus Chairperson or the First, Second, and Third Vice Chairperson when presiding in the line of progression

and under the circumstances set forth in Article I, Section 1.7 or by a majority of the Executive Committee Members.

Section 2.3. Notice of Meetings. General Meetings of the Executive Committee may be held without notice. The person or persons calling a Special Meeting of the Executive Committee shall give or cause to be given notice thereof by any usual means of communication. Such notice shall give the date, time, place and the purpose for which the meeting is called. The Executive Committee may adjourn any duly convened Special Executive Committee meeting to a later time without further notice.

Section 2.4. Waiver of Notice. Any Executive Committee member may waive notice of any meeting before or after the meeting. Any Executive Committee member who attends or participates in a meeting, waives any required notice of the meeting except under the following circumstances: The Executive Committee member, at the beginning of the meeting, or promptly upon arriving, (1) objects to the meeting being held or to the transacting of business at the meeting, and (2) the member does not thereafter vote for or assent to any action taken at the meeting.

Section 2.5. Quorum. A third of the Executive Committee members shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2.6. Manner of Acting. The majority vote of the Executive Committee members present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Executive Committee.

Section 2.7. Action Taken Outside of General or Special Meeting. Any action within the authority of the Executive Committee may be taken without advance notice if all the members of the Executive Committee act upon the matter.

Section 2.8. Failure to attend Executive Committee Meetings. Any Executive Committee member who misses three consecutive regular scheduled Executive Committee meetings, or who fails to attend at least three-fourths of the regular scheduled Executive Committee meetings in a calendar year shall be deemed to have resigned from the Executive Committee. This resignation applies to any office and committee assignment he or she holds relative to being an Executive Committee member. However, if the absences of an officer are due to the illness of the member or a member of his or her family, or if the absences are non-illness related, but are deemed to be excused absences as determined in the sole discretion of the Executive Committee, then the non attendance shall not be deemed an automatic resignation. However, the officer may be removed from office pursuant to the provisions under Article IV, Section 4.5. If the absences of any Chairperson of a standing committee are due to the illness of the member or a member of his or her family, or if the absences are non-illness related, but are deemed to be excused absences as determined in the sole discretion of the Executive

Committee, then the non attendance shall not be deemed an automatic resignation. However, a committee chairperson may be removed by the Caucus Chairperson pursuant to the provisions under Article V, Section 5.2 and Article VII, Section 7.2.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP & DUES

Section 3.1. Membership. Membership shall be of three types: Personal, Life, and Honorary. (Amended 08/15/2010)

Section 3.2. Personal Membership. This Membership is available to any Black African/African American of Black descent who is 18 years of age or older, who is a resident of Mecklenburg County, who subscribes to the purposes and principles of the Caucus, and who pays the annual dues or becomes a Life Member. Personal Members who are in good standing may vote, hold office, serve on committees and exercise all other rights and privileges granted a member of this membership type. (Amended 08/15/2010)

Section 3.3. Honorary Membership. Upon recommendation to and approval by the Executive Committee, this Membership is available to any African American of Black descent who is a non resident of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, who subscribes to the purposes and principles of the Caucus and who pays the annual dues. Honorary members who are in good standing may attend and participate in General, Substitute and Special meetings, but are not allowed to vote, hold office or serve on committees.

Section 3.4. Life Membership. This Membership is available to the Personal and Honorary Members, and to precincts, organizations, clubs and associations who/that subscribe to the purposes and principles of the Caucus and purchase a Life Membership by the payment of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500), payable in one lump sum or in installments over a three – year period. (Amended 05/18/08.) Annual dues paid by Personal and Honorary Members and by groups described above in this section, during the three years of purchasing a Life Membership, are to be credited toward the Life Membership. Only individual Life Members (Personal and Honorary) who are residents of Mecklenburg County and in good standing are entitled to all rights and privileges granted Personal Members.

Section 3.5. Annual Membership Dues. Annual dues are payable January 1 of each calendar year and cover the period January 1 through December 31 of that year, except that no new memberships or membership renewals will be accepted during the period five days prior to election of Caucus officers or endorsements of candidates for public office. Dues are not prorated and no person

can participate in the business of the Caucus without a paid membership. (Amended 08/15/2010)

ARTICLE IV ELECTIONS & TERM OF OFFICERS

Section 4.1. Elections. The Caucus Chairperson shall appoint a Nominating Committee in or before October of each even number year and shall designate the Chairperson of such committee. Any member of the Caucus having a nominee for any office may submit the name(s), for consideration by the Nominating Committee, to any member of the Nominating Committee prior to the January General meeting. The Nominating Committee shall meet and at the January General meeting submit its slate of names, one name for each office, to be voted upon for officers. Any name not appearing on the Nominating Committee's slate may be submitted at the January meeting as a nomination from the floor. At the General Meeting in February, the members shall elect the officers of the organization from the slate of names submitted by the Nominating Committee and any nomination(s) from the floor, if there be any. (Amended 08/15/2010)

Section 4.2. Term of Office. Each elected officer shall serve two years or until his or her resignation, removal, disqualification, or his or her successor shall have been elected and installed. Newly elected officers shall assume office after their installation immediately following the election. There shall be no limit on the number of terms officers may serve. (Amended 08/15/2010)

Section 4.3. Compensation for Officers. There shall be no compensation for serving as an Officer, Chairperson or in any other capacity of the organization.

Section 4.4. Vacancies. In case of a vacancy in any elected office, said vacancy shall be filled by the majority vote of the members who are present and entitled to vote, at a General, Substitute or Special Meeting, on the nominee, if there be one, of the Executive Committee and on any nomination(s) from the floor, if there be any. Said vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term within sixty days after the office becomes vacant.

Pending the filling of the vacancy of the Caucus Chairperson pursuant to the above paragraph, the First Vice Chairperson shall serve as acting Caucus Chairperson; in the event the First Vice Chairperson is unable or refuses to serve as acting Caucus Chairperson, The Second Vice Chairperson shall serve as acting Caucus Chairperson; in the event the Second Vice Chairperson is unable or refuses to serve as acting Caucus Chairperson, the Third Vice Chairperson shall serve as acting Caucus Chairperson. In the event the First, Second and Third Vice Chairpersons are unable or refuse to serve as acting Caucus Chairperson, the Executive Committee, by majority vote of Executive Committee Members who are

present and eligible to vote, shall appoint an acting Caucus Chairperson pending the filling of the vacancy. (Also see Section 5.14 of Article V).

Section 4.5. Removal of an Officer. Any Officer may be removed with or without cause. The Caucus Chairperson may be removed by vote of “a majority of the entire membership.” “A majority of the entire membership” is a majority of the total number of the Personal and Life members who are members of the voting body (members in good standing) at the time of the vote. Any other officer may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the members who are present and entitled to vote at a General, Substitute or Special Meeting. If an officer is removed, the seat is thereby vacant and shall be filled pursuant to the provisions provided under Section 4.4 of this Article.

Section 4.6. Resignation. Any Officer or Chairperson may resign at any time by communicating his or her resignation orally before the general body at a General, Substitute or Special Meeting, or in a written communication to the Secretary (written communication is preferred). A resignation is effective when communicated unless it specifies a later effective date. A resignation does not otherwise affect a member’s membership with the organization.

ARTICLE V OFFICERS & DUTIES

Section 5.1. Caucus Chairperson. The Caucus Chairperson shall be the principal executive officer of the organization subject to the control of the Executive Committee, and shall in general supervise and manage the business and affairs of the organization. The Caucus Chairperson shall, when present, preside at all meetings of the membership and all meetings of the Executive Committee. The Caucus Chairperson may temporarily relinquish the chair at a meeting under special circumstances or proceedings. The Caucus Chairperson shall act as liaison with the Publicity Chairperson, plan and consult with elected officials, represent the Black Political Caucus at all official meetings, appoint a Nominating Committee as required, and serve ex-officio on all committees EXCEPT the Nominating Committee. (Also see Section 5.14 of this Article).

Section 5.2. Caucus Chairperson’s Authority to Appoint and Remove Committee Members. The Caucus Chairperson appoints all members to Standing Committees and Ad hoc committees, including the chairperson of each committee. Each person appointed to a Standing Committee is appointed for a term of two years or for the remainder of an unexpired term or until his or her successor is appointed. Appointments to Standing Committees are subject to the approval of the majority vote of the members who are present and entitled to vote at a General, Substitute or Special Meeting. All Committee members serve at the pleasure of the Caucus Chairperson. However, the Caucus Chairperson may not remove a Standing Committee member except with the vote of approval by two-thirds of the

members who are present and entitled to vote at a General, Substitute or Special Meeting. Appointment of Ad hoc Committees and Ad hoc Committee members as well as the removal of Ad hoc Committee members rest at the sole discretion of the Caucus Chairperson for the duration of the committee.

Section 5.3. Signing of Instruments. Unless the bylaws or the Executive Committee has delegated the signing of an instrument to some other officer, the Caucus Chairperson along with the Recording Secretary shall sign any instrument the Executive Committee has authorized. In general, the Caucus Chairperson shall perform all duties incident to the office of Caucus Chairperson and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Executive Committee.

Section 5.4. First Vice Chairperson. The First Vice Chairperson shall be responsible for coordinating the Voter Registration and Get-Out The Vote, Candidates, and Legislative Committees. In the absence of the Caucus Chairperson or in the event of the Caucus Chairperson's inability or refusal to act or serve, the First Vice Chairperson shall perform the duties of the Caucus Chairperson. When so acting, the First Vice Chairperson, unless otherwise expressly limited by these bylaws, shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the Caucus Chairperson.

Section 5.5. Second Vice Chairperson. The Second Vice Chairperson shall be responsible for coordinating the Budget and Finance, Courtesy, Economic Development Committee, and Political Action Committee. In the absence of the Caucus Chairperson and the absence of the First Vice Chairperson or in the event of their inability or refusal to act or serve, the Second Vice Chairperson shall perform the duties of the Caucus Chairperson. When so acting, unless otherwise expressly limited by these bylaws, the Second Vice Chairperson shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the Caucus Chairperson.

Section 5.6. Third Vice Chairperson. The Third Vice Chairperson shall be responsible for coordinating the Publicity, Membership, Community Affairs, and Education Committees; shall keep an updated list of the membership and shall give updated membership lists to the Secretary and the Standing Committees Chairpersons at the appropriate intervals. In the absence of the Caucus Chairperson, the First and Second Vice Chairpersons, or in the event of their inability or refusal to act or serve, the Third Vice Chairperson shall perform the duties of the Caucus Chairperson. When so acting, unless otherwise expressly limited by these bylaws, the Third Vice Chairperson shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the Caucus Chairperson.

Section 5.7. The Recording Secretary. The Recording Secretary shall record and keep the minutes of the meetings of the membership and the Executive Committee, distribute these minutes to Executive Committee members for use at the Executive Committee meetings, keep updated lists of all committees and their

duties, maintain all legal documents relevant to the operation of the Caucus, authenticate the records of the Caucus, certify the incumbency of any officer of the organization; and perform all other duties incident to the office of Recording Secretary and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Executive Committee or by the Caucus Chairperson.

Section 5.8. Assistant Secretary. In the absence of the Recording Secretary or in the event of the Recording Secretary's inability or refusal to act or serve, the Assistant Secretary shall perform the duties of the Recording Secretary, and when so acting shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the Recording Secretary. The Assistant Secretary shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Recording Secretary, the Caucus Chairperson or the Executive Committee.

Section 5.9. Corresponding Secretary. The Corresponding Secretary shall be in charge of the Courtesy Committee, shall send out all correspondence relative to the Caucus, receive and read all pertinent correspondence at the Executive Committee and General Monthly Meetings; perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Recording Secretary, the Executive Committee or the Caucus Chairperson.

Section 5.10. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be in charge of and responsible for all "general" funds of the organization. The Treasurer shall receive from the Financial Secretary all "general" funds collected by the Financial Secretary due and payable to the organization from any source; and the Treasurer shall deposit all such "general" funds in the name of the organization in a general account in such depositories as shall be selected in accordance with the provisions of **Article IX, Section 9.3.** The Treasurer shall maintain accounting records consistent with acceptable general accounting principles, give monthly written financial reports to the Executive Committee for use at the Executive Committee meetings, give monthly *written* financial reports *to the membership* at the General Monthly meetings. **prepare or cause to be prepared annual financial statements of the organization, work with the Financial Secretary in fund raisers; and in general perform all of the duties incident to the office of Treasurer and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Caucus Chairperson or by the Executive Committee. (Amended 05/18/08.)**

Section 5.11. Financial Secretary. The Financial Secretary shall receive and give receipts for monies due and payable to the organization from any source, keeping separate and apart "general" funds collected and received from PAC funds collected and received. The Financial Secretary shall turn all "general" funds collected over to the Treasurer of the General Body and shall turn all PAC funds collected over to the Treasurer of the Political Action Committee. The Financial Secretary shall work with the Treasurer of both the General body and the Treasurer of the Political Action Committee, the Chairperson of the Budget Committee and shall help in preparing financial reports. In the absence of the

Treasurer of the General Body, or in the event of said Treasurer's inability or refusal to act, the Financial Secretary shall perform the duties of the Treasurer of the General Body, and when so acting shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the Treasurer. The Financial Secretary shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Treasurer of the General Body, the Treasurer of the Political Action Committee, the Caucus Chairperson and the Executive Committee.

Section 5.11. (a). Treasurer of the Political Action Committee. The Treasurer of the Political Action Committee shall be in charge of and responsible for all PAC funds of the organization. The Treasurer of the Political Action Committee shall receive from the Financial Secretary all PAC funds collected by the Financial Secretary due and payable to the organization; and the Treasurer of the Political Action committee shall deposit all such funds in a PAC account in the name of the organization in such depositories as shall be selected in accordance with the provisions of **Article IX, Section 9.3** The Treasurer shall maintain accounting records consistent with acceptable general accounting principles, give monthly written financial reports to the Executive Committee for use at the Executive Committee meetings, give monthly *written* financial reports *to the membership* at the General Monthly meetings, prepare or cause to be prepared annual financial statements of the PAC account activities, work with the Financial Secretary in fund raisers; and in general perform all of the duties incident to the office of Treasurer of the Political Action Committee and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Caucus Chairperson or by the Executive Committee that are not inconsistent with State law and the rules and regulations of the State Board of Elections. (*Amended 05/18/08.*)

Section 5.12. Historian. The Historian shall collect, disseminate and maintain historical records and memorials of the Caucus.

Section 5.13. Parliamentarian. The Parliamentarian shall keep the meetings of the General body and Executive Committee moving in an orderly method and according to the Robert's Rules of Order, Newly revised.

Section 5.14. In the Absence of the Chairperson or Temporary Relinquishment of the Chair. In the absence of the Chairperson or at such times as the Chairperson relinquishes the Chair for limited purposes, neither the First, Second, or Third Vice Chairpersons or any person presiding as Chairperson assumes any of the appointing or removal power and authority of the Chairperson without the express vote of a majority of the members present and entitled to vote at a Regular, Substitute or Special meeting.

Section 5.15. State Board of Elections-Classes Regarding Political Action Committees. Each elected officer shall attend at least one class offered by the State Board of Elections pertaining to the functions, operations, duties and responsibilities of a Political Action Committee. If there is a required fee to attend

such class, and/or if the class is offered outside the county of Mecklenburg, the Caucus shall cover the expense for the officers attending to the extent recommended by the Executive Committee and approved by the general body.

Section 5.16. Oath of Office. Each elected officer shall take an Oath of Office in the form as may be approved by the general body.

ARTICLE VI MEETINGS OF MEMBERS & VOTING

Section 6.1. General Monthly Meetings. The General Monthly meeting of the organization shall be held on the third (3rd) Sunday of each month for the purpose of transacting such business as may be properly brought before the body.

Section 6.2. February General Monthly Meeting. The General Monthly meeting held in February of each even number year shall be for the purpose of electing and installing officers of the organization and for the transaction of such other business as may be properly brought before the body. If the General Monthly meeting fixed for electing officers is not held in the month of February, such meeting shall be held at the next scheduled General Monthly meeting. (Amended 08/15/2010)

Section 6.3. Notice of General Monthly Meetings. Notice of the General Monthly meetings shall be by the usual means of print media communication and/or by telephone, giving no less than one day notice.

Section 6.4. Substitute and Notice of Substitute General Monthly Meeting. Notice of a Substitute General Monthly meeting shall be the same as provided in Section 6.3. of this Article.

Section 6.5. Special Meetings. Special Meetings of the membership may be called by the Caucus Chairperson and shall be called by the Caucus Chairperson on request of five members of the Executive Committee or on request of ten Personal or Life Members who are in good standing.

Section 6.6. Notice of Special Meetings. Written notice stating the date, time, place and a description of the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called shall be by mail to each member in good standing of the Personal and Life Membership categories. The notice shall be given not less than five (5) days before the date of the meeting. Notice is deemed effective and delivered when deposited in

the United States mail, correctly addressed to the member at the member's address as it appears on the current record of members of the organization, with postage thereon prepaid.

Section 6.7. Adjournment of Meeting. When a meeting is adjourned to a different date, time or place, notice need not be given of the new date, time or place if the new date, time or place is announced at the meeting before adjournment. However, if a new date has been previously set for an adjourned Monthly or General Substitute Meeting, notice of the adjourned General or Substitute Meeting must be given as provided in Sections 6.3 and 6.4 of this Article; if a new date has been previously set for an adjourned Special Meeting, notice of the adjourned Special Meeting must be given as provided in Section 6.6 of this Article.

Section 6.8. Waiver of Notice. A member waives objection to lack of notice or defective notice of the meeting, unless the member at the beginning of the meeting objects to the holding of the meeting or the transacting of business at the meeting. A member also waives objection to consideration of a particular matter at the meeting that is not within the purpose or purposes described in the meeting notice, unless the member objects to considering the matter before it is voted upon.

Section 6.9. Quorum. ~~Section 6.9. Quorum.~~ ~~One-fourth~~ *Twenty-five* (25) of the Personal and/or Life Members who are residents of Mecklenburg County, present at a meeting and in good standing, shall constitute a quorum. *Once a quorum is established, business may continue to be conducted until adjournment even if the number twenty-five (25) is diminished prior to the adjournment.* In the absence of a quorum at the opening of a General, Substitute or Special Meeting, the meeting may be adjourned from time to time by the vote of a majority of the votes cast on a motion to adjourn, and subject to the provision provided under Section 6.7 of this Article. At an adjourned meeting, any business may be transacted that might have been transacted at the original meeting if a quorum exists with respect to the matter proposed. *(Amended August 21, 2005).*

Section 6.10. Member in Good Standing. A Personal, Life or Honorary Member who is current in the payment of his or her dues and not otherwise barred or suspended from the Caucus is a Member in good standing and is entitled to all rights and privileges granted such a member by these bylaws.

Section 6.11. Entire Membership for Purpose of Voting. For purposes of determining *a majority of the entire membership* with respect to voting, *a majority of the entire membership* is a majority of the total number of the Personal and Life Members who are in good standing and entitled to vote under these bylaws at the time of the vote.

Section 6.12. Method of Voting. Voting on matters presented to the membership shall be by secret ballot, open ballot or voice vote. However, voting on the election of the Caucus Chairperson shall be by secret ballot only.

Section 6.13. Voting – Personal Membership. Every member of the Personal Membership type who is present at a meeting and in good standing is entitled to vote and be counted on matters presented to the membership for vote.

Section 6.14. Voting – Honorary Membership. In that this membership is available only to non residents of Mecklenburg County, Honorary Members are not entitled to vote, hold office, or serve on committees. However, an Honorary Member is otherwise allowed to attend and participate in discussions at any General, Substitute and Special meetings as any Personal Member in good standing.

If an Honorary member purchases a Life Membership and thereafter becomes a resident of Mecklenburg County, the Honorary Membership converts automatically into a Personal Membership and the member attains all the rights and privileges of a Personal Member in good standing.

Section 6.16. Voting – Life Membership. Life Memberships are available only to Personal and Honorary Members and those entities set forth in Article III, Section 3.3. Unless otherwise expressly limited by these bylaws, Life Members are entitled to all rights and privileges granted Personal Members in good standing. (See Article III, Sections 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, and 3.5).

Section 6.18. Vote Tellers. The Caucus Chairperson or the presiding chair of the meeting may appoint one or more vote Tellers who shall execute their duties impartially.

Section 6.19. Voting. Persons who have been dues-paid members of the Caucus within the two (2) years* immediately prior to the payment of their current dues shall be deemed to be in good standing as defined in Article VI, Section 6.10. They are eligible to vote and participate in all other Caucus activities immediately following payment of said dues.

Individuals who have not been dues-paid members within the two (2) years* immediately prior to the payment of their current dues shall be eligible to vote for Caucus officers or endorsement of candidates for public office ninety (90) days after payment of said dues. However said members may vote in other matters before the Caucus after 30 days and may participate in all other Caucus activities immediately.

* For purposes of this section two years shall mean 24 months from the date of the last membership payment.

These limitations are in addition to all other voting limitations set forth within these Bylaws.
(Amended 08/15/2010)

ARTICLE VII APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES

Section 7.1. Appointments. The Caucus Chairperson shall appoint the members to serve on each Standing Committee, including Chairperson of each committee. These committee appointments are subject to the approval of the Caucus. Each committee member serves at the pleasure of the Caucus Chairperson and is appointed to serve for a term of two years, or for the remainder of an unexpired term or until a successor is appointed pursuant to the provisions of Article V, Section 5.2.

Section 7.2. Removal of Standing Committee Chairperson. Any Standing Committee Chairperson may be removed with or without cause by the Caucus Chairperson subject to the approval of the body by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and entitled to vote at a General, Substitute or Special Meeting. If a Standing Committee Chairperson is removed, the Caucus Chairperson may appoint a replacement at the same meeting, subject to the approval of the body. If any Standing Committee Chairperson's seat otherwise becomes vacant, the Caucus Chairperson shall fill the vacancy by appointment, subject to the approval of the body. (See Article V, Section 5.2.).

Section 7.3. Appointment and Removal of Ad Hoc Committee Members. The Caucus Chairperson has the sole discretion in appointing or removing Ad Hoc Committees, their Chairpersons and committee members pursuant to the provisions of Article V, Section 5.2.

Section 7.4. Resignation. Any committee member may resign at any time by communicating his or her resignation orally before the general body at a General, Substitute or Special Meeting, or in a written communication to the Secretary or to the Chairperson of the respective committee (written communication is preferred). A resignation is effective when communicated unless it specifies a later effective date. A resignation does not otherwise affect a member's membership with the organization.

Section 7.5. Compensation. There shall be no compensation for serving as a member of any committee or in any other capacity.

Section 7.6. Failure to attend Standing Committee Meetings. Any committee member who misses three consecutive committee meetings shall be deemed to have resigned from the committee. However, if the absences are due to the illness of the member or a member of his or her family, or if the absences are

non-illness related, but are deemed to be excused absences as determined in the sole discretion of the Executive Committee, then the non attendance shall not be deemed an automatic resignation. However, the committee member may be removed from the committee by the Caucus Chairperson pursuant to the provisions under Section 5.2 of Article V.

Section 7.8. State Board of Elections-Classes Regarding Political Action Committees. The committee chairperson of each Standing Committee shall attend at least one class offered by the State Board of Elections pertaining to the functions, operations, duties and responsibilities of a Political Action Committee. If there is a required fee to attend such class, and/or if the class is offered outside the county of Mecklenburg, the Caucus shall cover the expense for the committee chairpersons attending to the extent recommended by the Executive Committee and approved by the general body.

Section 7.9. Oath of Office. Each chairperson of a Standing Committee shall take an Oath of Office in the form as may be approved by the general body.

ARTICLE VIII STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 8.1. Names of Committees.

- Voter Registration and Get-Out-The Vote.**
- Candidates.**
- Legislative.**
- Budget and Finance.**
- Courtesy.**
- Economic Development.**
- Publicity.**
- Membership.**
- Community Affairs.**
- Education**
- Political Action committee**

Section 8.2. Structure of Standing Committees. The Caucus Chairperson appoints the Chairperson and members to the committees. Except for the Political Action committee, each committee may set up its own structure such as Vice Chairperson, Secretary, etc. However, the Political Action Committee shall consist of no less than three (3) members, one of which shall serve as Secretary and one as Treasurer.

Section 8.3. Duties of Standing Committees. The duties of the Standing Committees are as approved and adopted by the General Body and set forth in records and documents maintained by the Recording Secretary.

ARTICLE IX CONTRACTS, CHECKS AND DEPOSITS

Section 9.1. Contracts. The Executive Committee may authorize any officers to enter into contracts not exceeding \$1,000 each without prior approval of the General Body.

Section 9.2. Checks and Drafts. All checks, drafts or other orders for the payment of money, issued in the name of the organization, shall be signed by such officers of the organization and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by the Executive Committee.

Section 9.3. Deposits. All funds of the organization not otherwise employed shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the organization in such depositories as may be selected by or under the authority of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE X DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Section 10.1. Misconduct. Any member, for just cause, may be barred, suspended or expelled from the Caucus. Any member of the organization who knowingly commits an act which reflects discredit or disrepute upon the organization, or who willfully refuses to comply with the Bylaws adopted by the organization shall be subject to being barred, suspended or expelled from the organization by a two-thirds vote of the members who are present and entitled to vote at a General, Substitute or Special Meeting.

ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS

Section 11.1. Amendments. Proposed amendments to these Bylaws must be presented in writing at a General Meeting, read by the Recording Secretary at such meeting and shall be referred to a committee for study and a report to be given at the next General Meeting. Or, said committee report may be given at a subsequent General Meeting held within ninety (90) days from the date of said reading of the proposed amendment(s) by the Recording Secretary. If after the committee's report at the next General Meeting, the initial proposal or a second proposal is made to so amend the Bylaws, the proposed amendment(s) must again be read by the Recording Secretary, left on the table until the next General Meeting, when a vote on such amendment(s) shall be taken. If two-thirds of the members who are present and entitled to vote at the General Meeting next following the

meeting at which the committee gave its report, vote in favor of such amendment or amendments, these Bylaws shall be so amended.

ARTICLE XII DEFINITIONS

Absence.....	Article I	Section 1.7.
Business Membership.....	Article III	Section 3.6.
Dues Paid In Timely Fashion....	Article III	Section 3.9.
Entire Membership.....	Article IV	Sections 4.5.
	Article VI	Section 6.11.
Honorary Membership.....	Article III	Section 3.4.
Life Membership.....	Article III	Section 3.5.
Member In Good Standing.....	Article VI	Section 6.10.
Organizational Membership....	Article III	Section 3.3.
Personal Membership.....	Article III	Section 3.2.

ARTICLE XIII REPEAL OF CURRENT BYLAWS AND

ADJUSTMENT IN TERM OF OFFICE

Section 13.1. Repeal and Term Adjustment. By adoption of these Bylaws, the existing Bylaws are hereby repealed in every respect with the following provisos:

If these Bylaws are adopted prior to the scheduled election of officers in May 2004, under the existing Bylaws, then the officers shall be elected in 2004 to a term of office to expire when the new officers are elected and take office in 2006 under **ARTICLE IV, SECTIONS 4.1 and 4.2**; the election for Caucus Chairperson shall be by secret ballot;

If these Bylaws are adopted after the election of officers in May 2004, under the existing Bylaws, then the term of office for those elected in 2004 is hereby **modified and amended** to expire when the new officers are elected and take office in 2006 under **ARTICLE IV, SECTIONS 4.1 and 4.2**.

ARTICLE XIV ADJUSTMENT IN PAYMENT OF DUES

Section 14.1. Adjustment in Payment of Dues. Dues paid for membership covering the period May 2004 through May 2005, are extended to cover said membership through December 2005. Thereafter, all membership dues

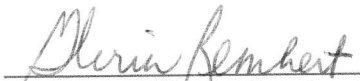
are due and payable at or before the regular meeting for January 2006, and at a like time each year thereafter.

**ARTICLE XV
NOTICE AND READING
OF
THESE BYLAWS**

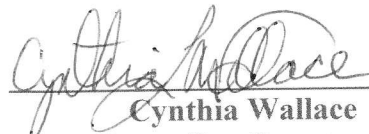
Section 15.1. Notice and Reading of These Bylaws. Notice and reading of these Bylaws shall be deemed to have taken place by making copies available to the members and a discussion of these Bylaws at a General, Substitute or Special Meeting held at least thirty days prior to being voted upon for adoption. Notice and reading of these Bylaws occurred by distributing copies to the members and conducting full and open discussions of these Bylaws with the members at the General Monthly Meeting for June, July and August 2010.

These Bylaws were duly approved and adopted by a two-thirds vote of the members present and entitled to vote at the General Monthly Meeting duly held on the 15th day of August 2010.

By the authority vested in the undersigned, this Document is duly executed on this the 15th day of August, 2010.



Dr. Gloria Rembert
Caucus Chairperson



Cynthia Wallace
Recording Secretary

