

North Carolina Democratic Party Proposed Amendment to the Plan of Organization

Short Title: Electing a vice-chair when no candidate of the opposite gender is available

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1.02 COMPOSITION OF PRECINCT COMMITTEE

Precinct Committee. In each precinct, there shall be a precinct committee consisting of at least five active Democrats who reside in the precinct when elected by the active Democrats of the precinct present at the annual precinct meeting held in odd-numbered years.

The composition of the precinct committee should bear a reasonable relationship to the make-up of the active Democrats of said precinct as to gender, age, race, ethnic background and, where practical, geography. All Democratic county and city elected officials and Democratic members of the North Carolina General Assembly residing in the precinct shall be ex-officio, non-voting members of the precinct committee.

Precinct Officers. The precinct committee shall have as officers a chair, a vice chair, and a secretary/treasurer and any others as the body might desire. The vice chair must be of the opposite gender of the chair and should, where possible, be of a race other than that of the chair. If, when electing a vice chair, no candidate of the opposite gender to the chair is willing to serve, precincts may elect a vice chair of the same gender as the chair. Precincts electing a vice chair in this manner must submit to the County Chair, in addition to their meeting report, a written notice stating no candidates of the opposite gender were willing to serve, and that notice must be signed by 2 other active Democrats in attendance at the precinct meeting. No officers of the precinct committee shall be from the same immediate family residing in the same household.

Term of Office. The terms of office of the members and officers of the precinct committee shall expire on the date set for the next succeeding precinct meeting held in an odd-numbered year or when their successors shall be elected or appointed, whichever shall occur first. Newly elected officers shall take office immediately upon their election.

Vacancy and Succession for Precinct Officers and Committee Members. Vacancies occurring among the officers or members of the precinct committee shall be filled within thirty (30) days following creation of the vacancy. The precinct chair shall call a meeting of the remaining members of the precinct committee to fill that vacancy and any other vacancies that might be caused by the action of such committee in filling the vacancy. If, for any reason, there should occur a vacancy in the chair of the precinct committee, the vice chair or the secretary/treasurer, in that order, shall preside and in the absence of any of the foregoing officers, any member of the precinct committee may preside.

Removals. Officers and members of the precinct committee may be removed in accordance with Section 10.00.

Submitted March 10, 2010, by Kevin Farmer, Chairman, Durham County Democratic Party

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