

Bylaws of the Salem OR Local Chapter of Democratic Socialists of America

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Bylaws of the Salem OR Local Chapter of Democratic Socialists of America

Adopted 06.15.2019; approved by the NPC in the current form 7.22.2019.

Article I. Name.

The name of the Chapter shall be the Salem OR Local Chapter of Democratic Socialists of America (DSA). DSA is a not-for-profit corporation.

Article II. Purpose.

The Salem OR Local Chapter of Democratic Socialists of America is organized exclusively to promote social welfare. It seeks to facilitate the transition to a truly democratic and socialist society, one in which the means/resources of production are democratically and socially controlled.

DSA rejects capitalism, an economic order based on oppression, private profit, alienated labor, gross inequalities of wealth and power, discrimination based on race, gender, disability, or sexual orientation, and brutality and violence in defense of the status quo.

DSA envisions a humane social order based on popular control of resources, production, and economic planning, equitable distribution, gender and racial equity, and non-oppressive relationships.

Our conception of socialism is a profoundly democratic one. It is rooted in the belief that human beings should be free to develop to their fullest potential, that public policies should be determined not by wealth but by popular participation, and that individual liberties should be carefully safeguarded. It is committed to a freedom of speech that does not recoil from dissent, to a freedom to organize independent trade unions, women's groups, political parties, and other formations—recognizing these as essential bulwarks against the dangers of an intrusive state. It is committed to a freedom of or from religion that acknowledges the rights of those for whom spiritual concerns are central.

We are socialists because we are developing a concrete strategy for achieving that vision. In the present, we are building a visible socialist presence within the broad democratic Left. In the long run, we hope to build a majority movement capable of making democratic socialism a reality in the United States. Our strategy acknowledges the class structure of the U.S. society. This class structure means that there is a basic conflict of interest between those sectors with enormous economic power and the vast majority of the population.

Article III. Membership.

Section 1. Membership.

Members of the Salem OR Local Chapter of DSA will be those individuals who are in good standing with National DSA, who reside, study, and/or work in the geographical area represented by the zip codes set forth in Schedule I hereto (such area is referred to herein as “greater Salem”)

according to DSA's records. Individuals who are already members or become members of another Local Chapter of National DSA may not also be members of this Local Chapter. It will be the responsibility of members to approve policies and guidelines for the operation of the Local Chapter, to elect the Local Chapter's Steering Committee, to elect delegates to the national convention, to vote on matters related to local and national policy, to make recommendations on issues, policies, activities, and ongoing efforts pursuant to local or national political goals, and to contribute toward the Local Chapter's goals as described in Article II.

Section 2. Resignation and Expulsion.

Any member may resign from National DSA by submitting an email or letter of resignation to DSA's national office. Any member may resign from the Local Chapter and become an at-large member of National DSA by sending an email or letter of resignation to both the Communications Facilitator of the Local Chapter and DSA's national office. Furthermore, if a member in good standing is found to be consistently engaging in undemocratic, disruptive behavior not in the spirit of the "DSA Guidelines for Respectful Discussion" [[link](#)], or if they are found to have acted contrary to the Local Chapter's Purpose (as defined in Article II above), or if they are found to be under the discipline of any democratic centralist organization, the Local Chapter may vote to suspend or expel them from the Local Chapter.

In considering what it means to act in contravention of the Local Chapter's Purpose, the following acts, either by deliberate intent or by lack of reasonable judgement, may be considered as either additions to or special cases of the language in Article III, Section 2: bad-faith entryism as an individual or in affiliation with any organization, disruption of Local Chapter operations, dismantling of the democratic structures of the Local Chapter, or endangering the physical safety or information security (privacy) of a DSA member.

In order for such a finding to be made, another DSA member must formally prefer written charges against the member in question, including recommendation of suspension duration not to exceed six months if seeking a suspension, to the Local Chapter Steering Committee. The Steering Committee shall set the date of a Local Chapter meeting for deliberations on the charges. The member in question must receive a copy of the written charges and notice of the meeting a minimum of two (2) weeks before that meeting takes place, as well as an opportunity to speak before members prior to a determining vote. Suspension or expulsion of a member shall require a two-thirds vote at any Meeting. A suspended or expelled member may appeal to the National Political Committee of DSA.

Section 3. Voluntary Donations.

As mandated by the national Constitution and Bylaws, the Local Chapter may establish a Local Chapter pledge system of voluntary donations for its members. The payment or nonpayment of a Local Chapter donation may not deny membership, nor may it deny the privileges or powers of membership, to any DSA member in good standing, including voting or holding Local Chapter office. Members may not face retaliatory action for the nonpayment of donations or preferential treatment for paying local donations. Donations from members shall be kept anonymous to the greatest practical extent. Donations totaling under \$100 in a one-year period from nonmembers will be kept anonymous, but donations totaling over \$100 in a year

from nonmembers may be disclosed following a vote of the Local Chapter or the Steering Committee.

Section 4. Privacy concerns.

Care will be taken to protect the privacy of each member's contact information. The Communications Facilitator (see Article V, Section 4) is responsible for maintaining personal information provided by members. All collection of identifying information will be voluntary, and the personal information of any member will not be disclosed or displayed without the consent of that member. All attendees at meetings or at public actions will refrain from creating photo, audio, or video recordings of any member without that member's express consent.

Section 5. Disclosure.

Our meetings should be spaces where all are informed whether it is safe to discuss both ideas and sensitive personal information openly. At the beginning of any meeting of the general membership, Committee, working group, Steering Committee, or any other officially recognized group within the Local Chapter, all media affiliates serving in an official capacity, and elected or appointed local, state, or national officials in attendance will be asked to identify themselves so that they may be recognized by the group for their interest in the Democratic Socialists of America. Individuals from these stated groups in attendance who decline to identify themselves and are subsequently identified as such may be asked to leave the meeting.

Article IV. Local Chapter Meetings.

Section 1. General Meeting.

The Local Chapter will hold a minimum of one (1) General Meeting annually, at a date, time, and location agreed upon by the Steering Committee between ten and fourteen months since the prior General Meeting. At least fourteen (14) days before the General Meeting, all members of the Local Chapter will be sent notice of the meeting along with a proposed agenda. Notice may be sent by electronic means, but individuals who have not provided an email address or other means of electronic communication must be sent a paper copy or contacted by phone or text. The General Meeting will elect Local Chapter officers, receive reports of the activities of the Local Chapter, set the political direction and policies of the Local Chapter and its programming for the coming year, and may adopt an annual budget. The General Meeting shall be considered the "Annual Meeting" where local or state law may require such and may coincide with a Regular Meeting.

Section 2. Regular Meetings.

The Local Chapter will hold Regular Meetings at least six (6) times per year, the time and place of which shall be set in a schedule published and distributed by the Local Chapter Steering Committee. The Regular Meetings will set Local Chapter policy and work priorities and may include political discussion or education sessions. The Local Chapter Steering Committee will propose the agenda for Regular Meetings.

Section 3. Special Meetings.

The Local Chapter Steering Committee or five (5) percent of the membership may call a Special Meeting of the Local Chapter on at least seven (7) days' notice when an urgent and important matter requires deliberation. No matters other than those listed in the meeting notice may be brought to or raised from the floor at a Special Meeting.

Section 4. Quorum.

A quorum of ten percent (10%) of the members or fifty percent (50%) of the average attendance of the last three (3) Meetings, whichever is higher, (but not fewer than six persons) is required for General, Regular, or Special Meetings (each, when they meet quorum, is a Meeting) to transact business. Should a Meeting fail to meet quorum in two consecutive occasions, the Steering Committee shall be permitted to modify this formulation, subject to a majority vote of the members present at the next planned Regular Meeting, by reverting to a quorum of 10 percent (10%) but not fewer than six persons.

Section 5. Accessibility.

Physical meeting spaces should be chosen with accessibility in mind, e.g., proximity to public transit, free parking, and building accommodations. Members are encouraged to work together to help one another get safely to and from meetings. A member may request an accessibility accommodation by contacting a member of the Steering Committee at least four (4) days in advance of a Meeting, and the Steering Committee shall make a reasonable effort to fulfill the request. If the requesting member believes that a reasonable effort has not been made, they are encouraged to seek remediation through Local Chapter processes or through the Harassment and Grievance Policy.

Members may participate in Meetings by, or through the use of, any means of communication allowing all participants to simultaneously or sequentially communicate with one other, such as teleconference, video-conference, or other available technology. This includes voice votes and other electronic votes. Any participant in a Meeting by such means shall be deemed present in person at such meeting and shall count towards the quorum.

A Member in good standing (Proxy) who is present at a Meeting may hold up to two signed proxy cards from other non-present Members in good standing. The Proxy must vote in line with each non-present Member's directions as written on their proxy card. Any member who requests an accessibility accommodation and is not present at a Meeting shall not be counted toward the two proxy-vote limit. Despite being deemed present by attending electronically, non-physically present members may avail themselves of proxies for purposes of voting by secret ballot.

Section 6. Online Voting.

The Chapter shall maintain an Online Voting Procedure document that describes the use of a chosen online platform. The purpose of online voting shall be to supplement in-person voting for accessibility purposes, and to allow for decision-making between meetings. The Steering Committee may decide, or shall decide at the request of five (5) members making a proposal, to

hold an online vote on any issue except for candidate or ballot initiative endorsements. Members shall be eligible to vote so long as they are members in good standing as of the start of the online voting period following close of debate.

The Steering Committee shall announce all online votes to the membership by email and all other reasonable means (e.g. postal mail or phone for members who have not submitted an email address). There shall be a seven (7)-day period for debate following the announcement. At the close of debate, there shall be a seven (7)-day voting period during which any eligible member may vote. The Steering Committee may propose a shorter time-frame for discussion or voting, but if any member objects to the shortened time frame, it may not be shortened. No motions to call the question or extend debate will be allowed, and no amendments will be allowed. However, at any time after the start of debate, any eligible member may move to table the proposal with a simple majority online vote.

All voting thresholds (quorum and required majority) for a passing vote shall be the same as if the vote were held at an in-person meeting. Votes to abstain will count toward the quorum. A vote can become binding before the close of the 7-day voting period if the number of votes in favor or against has surpassed the threshold that would be required if all eligible votes were cast.

Section 7. Decision-Making Authority.

The membership, meeting in a General, Regular or Special Meeting, shall constitute the highest decision-making body of the Local Chapter. All decisions, policies, agendas, statements, and other items of business decided at these Meetings are binding over any other body of the Local Chapter. Meetings may overturn the decisions of prior Meetings, but no other body may.

Article V. Local Chapter Officers: Powers and Duties.

Section 1. Officers and Terms.

The officers of the Local Chapter will be Co-Chairs, Communications Facilitator, Treasurer and Committee Representatives. The term of office will be one year, and shall run from July 1 to June 30 or until their successors are elected. Officers are eligible for re-election for up to 3 consecutive terms unless no other candidate is nominated, in which case they may run for an additional term. After an election, an officer leaving their role shall mentor the incoming officer-elect in order to ensure a smooth transition and continuity in execution of the duties of the office.

Section 2. Vacancies.

In the event of a vacancy in any Local Chapter office, a special election for the remainder of the vacant member's term shall be triggered within thirty (30) days after the opening of the vacancy if regular elections are not to be held within sixty (60) days of the vacancy. Special elections may coincide with a Regular Meeting. During the interim period in which an office is vacant prior to a special election, the Steering Committee may temporarily delegate the duties of the office to one or more of the current officers of the Local Chapter. In the case of a vacancy created by recall, see Article XI, Section 4.

Section 3. Co-Chairs.

The Co-Chairs will preside over Local Chapter and Steering Committee meetings or will appoint a substitute to assume the powers and duties of the presiding officer as specified in *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*. The Co-Chairs will be the official public spokespersons for the Local Chapter and will facilitate such actions and policies as the Local Chapter's general welfare may demand.

The Co-Chairs will also be responsible for coordinating the day-to-day operations and political work of the Local Chapter's Branches and Committees.

The Co-Chairs will report to Local Chapter Regular Meetings on the business of the Steering Committee Meetings, at which time a copy of the minutes of those meetings will be available for inspection.

The Co-Chairs must not both identify as cisgender men.

Section 4. Communications Facilitator.

The Communications Facilitator will be responsible for answering all correspondence and queries of the Local Chapter; for maintaining and, to a reasonable extent, protecting the privacy of an up-to-date membership list of the Local Chapter; distributing copies of minutes and agendas to each Steering Committee member in a format agreed upon by the Steering Committee; and assuring that corporate records are maintained for legal status. They will ensure effective communication with National DSA, including the filing of any amendment to these bylaws. They will temporarily assume the responsibilities of the Co-Chair if neither Co-Chair is able to do so.

The Communications Facilitator will be responsible also for the taking of minutes of all Local Chapter and Steering Committee Meetings, the collection and maintenance of Committee charters, notes, and meeting minutes, and making copies available to members promptly. They shall have custody of these documents, and of the resolutions, reports and other official records of the Local Chapter, and shall transfer official records in good condition to their successor. Official records shall include the documents necessary for continued functioning of the Local Chapter, such as member lists, and all documentation necessary to provide, to the general membership, transparent accountability of Local Chapter actions and decisions to the greatest reasonable extent.

When *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, is used, the Communications Facilitator will have the same powers as a Secretary.

Section 5. Treasurer.

The Treasurer will be responsible for the funds and financial records of the Local Chapter. All funds collected by the Local Chapter will be turned over to the Treasurer, who shall deposit them in a bank account under the name of the Local Chapter. In cooperation with the Communications Facilitator, the Treasurer will be responsible for ensuring that membership dues are paid up-to-date. The Treasurer will chair a Finance Committee if one is established; will prepare the annual Local Chapter budget and deliver the Local Chapter financial report to the

General Meeting of the Local Chapter, as well as periodic progress reports as requested by the Steering Committee of the Local Chapter; and will provide basic information to National DSA related to the operations and finances of the Local Chapter.

Section 6. Committee Representatives.

Leadership in DSA is not restricted solely to individuals who have the ability to dedicate a large amount of time to organizing outside of meetings. Committee Representatives are full voting members of the Steering Committee who participate in Steering Committee decision-making, and are responsible for attending all relevant meetings and reading all relevant documents, but do not have additional responsibilities conferred by their role on the Steering Committee. Committee Representatives are tasked with representing the views of the Committee membership that nominated them (see Article VIII) as well as helping to advance the goals of the Local Chapter.

Section 7. Additional Duties.

The Local Chapter Steering Committee may assign additional temporary duties to an officer of the Local Chapter, so long as such assignments do not conflict with the designation of responsibilities outlined in these Bylaws.

Section 8. Diversity.

We strive to meet the following goals: that at least fifty percent (50%) of the Local Chapter officers be individuals who do not identify as cisgender men, and that at least fifty percent (50%) of the Local Chapter Officers be individuals who identify as people of color. If the elected officers of the Local Chapter do not meet these goals, members may nominate additional Committee Representatives to the Steering Committee, to be confirmed by the membership at the next Meeting or by online vote.

Article VI. Steering Committee.

Section 1. Composition.

The Local Chapter Steering Committee will be composed of the officers of the Local Chapter and the chair(s) of any Local Chapter Branches.

Section 2. Duties.

The Steering Committee shall administer the affairs of the Local Chapter and coordinate the implementation of the decisions of any Meetings, and shall prepare an agenda proposal for each Meeting. It shall have the power to receive reports of any Committee or Branch and advise thereon, to call Special Meetings of the Local Chapter, and to act on any matter that requires immediate and urgent action. The Steering Committee is the highest decision-making body of the Local Chapter between Meetings, and is subordinate to the general membership.

The Steering Committee shall have the responsibility to solicit the advice of the co-chairs of

a Committee, with seven (7) days' notice, before making a decision, when said Committee does not have a Representative on the Steering Committee, and when the mission statement or objectives of said Committee align with the issue being decided. A Committee may petition, with a majority vote of its members, for a referendum on a Steering Committee decision, in cases where the Steering Committee did not solicit advice as described above. This referendum vote may pass with a two-thirds (2/3) vote of a Meeting.

The Local Chapter Steering Committee will be responsible for establishing program activities for the Local Chapter, for proposing guidelines and policies that will subsequently be voted on by the Local Chapter's members, and for acting on the organization's behalf between Local Chapter meetings.

Section 3. Meetings.

The meetings of the Steering Committee will be held at such intervals as may be determined by a prior Steering Committee Meeting or by consultation between a majority of the members of the Steering Committee. All members of the Steering Committee must ordinarily be given four (4) days oral, written, or electronic notice of regular Steering Committee Meetings; a 24-hour notice may be given under special emergency circumstances. Notice requirements may be waived only by unanimous approval. Steering Committee Meetings may be held electronically by any means acceptable to all the members of the Steering Committee. Any member of the Local Chapter in good standing may observe meetings of the Steering Committee and the Steering Committee shall allow for a question and answer period and a comment period. However, the Steering Committee may hold executive sessions if sixty percent (60%) of its members vote to do so in order to discuss member discipline or security matters.

The Steering Committee may govern itself through any reasonable decision-making process, including development of meeting rules and norms or decisions by consensus, as long as this process does not conflict with the requirements described above. When there is a dispute over how decisions shall be made, *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, shall govern.

Section 4. Quorum.

A quorum of a simple majority, including at least three (3) officers, is required for the transaction of Steering Committee business.

Section 5. Advisory Committee.

Members of the Advisory Committee shall be chosen by the Steering Committee and are not required to be members of the Democratic Socialists of America, though explicit alignment with DSA principles and objectives is preferred. When inviting individuals to the Advisory Committee, the Steering Committee shall act so as to ensure fair representation of the diversity of the Salem area community with respect to class, race, gender, age, ability, and sexuality, as well as to ensure fair representation from progressive groups that are active in the Salem area.

Members of the Advisory Committee shall be available to consult with the Steering Committee and the officers of the organization. The Advisory Committee shall, however, have no decision-making authority.

Section 6. Board of Directors.

For the purposes of meeting the requirements of local and state incorporation laws, the Local Chapter shall have a “Board of Directors” consisting of members of the Steering Committee assigned for the purpose as logical and required by law. (For example, if the law requires a “Secretary” then the Local Chapter's Communications Facilitator is a logical fit.) Officers of the Steering Committee so appointed do not gain any new or additional powers or responsibilities except those strictly required by law.

Article VII. Branches.

Section 1. Definition.

A Branch is a subgroup of the Local Chapter formed to facilitate participation in the Local Chapter in a logistically convenient way. Branches may be defined by geography, membership in an institution, or language. It is expected that Branches be able to carry out as many of the pillar functions of the Local Chapter for their members as necessary for their logistical purposes. The chair of each Branch shall hold membership on the Local Chapter Steering Committee.

Young Democratic Socialists of America (YDSA) chapters within the geographic area of the Local Chapter may affiliate as a Branch of the Local Chapter, in which case the local YDSA chapter may send a representative to the Local Chapter Steering Committee.

Section 2. Formation.

Any group of at least five (5) Members of the Local Chapter, in good standing, may request to be recognized as a Branch. They must apply to the Steering Committee in writing. Their application must include the names of its members; a description of purposes, functions, and membership criteria, and any other information deemed necessary by the Steering Committee. A majority vote of the general membership at a Meeting shall be required to establish a Branch.

YDSA chapters need only show proof of being an officially recognized chapter of YDSA as part of a generic request to be recognized as a Branch of the Local Chapter, subject to approval by a majority vote of the general membership at a Meeting. Sections 3 and 4 below shall not be required of YDSA chapter-Branches.

Section 3. Structure, Membership, and Elections.

Each Branch shall have its own bylaws explicitly defining its purpose, functions, and membership criteria in detail. Such bylaws may establish the Branch's methods and structures as long as they do not violate these bylaws or National DSA constitution or bylaws. Each Branch shall be responsible for electing its leadership and Steering Committee representation. Every Local Chapter member may vote in only two Branch elections for Steering Committee representatives, although they may be a member of as many Branches as they wish. Branch leaders shall be responsible for scheduling and organizing meetings and actions of their Branch. In the event of a vacancy of a Branch leader or Steering Committee representative, the Branch may vote to elect new leadership or Steering Committee representation within thirty (30) days

after the opening of the vacancy. Each Branch shall maintain an official membership list.

Section 4. Dissolution.

A Branch may have its status revoked by a majority vote of the membership at a Meeting. A Branch may also choose to dissolve itself by means specified in its Branch Bylaws. In the event that a Branch chooses to split into several new Branches, each new Branch must apply for membership through the same method as creating any Branch, although the Steering Committee may choose to waive requirements for certain documentation if it is identical to the prior or parent Branch.

Article VIII. Committees.

Section 1. Committee Formation.

The Local Chapter may establish Committees to organize around specific functions for the chapter or external campaigns. Members who wish to form a Committee must submit a proposed written charter to the Steering Committee that includes a group name; a mission statement and objectives; a proposed budget that shall include any planned donation drives; a list of at least five prospective members signed or affirmed by those members; a statement of whether the proposed Committee is to be a standing Committee of indefinite duration or a temporary Committee to expire at a time certain or upon the occurrence of a specified event; a statement of whether membership in the Committee is to be open to all members in good standing or limited, and if membership is to be limited, the number of members the Committee shall have and the means by which members will be selected. A proposed Committee shall be chartered and created with the approval of a majority of the votes cast at a General, Regular, or Special Meeting. Charters for proposed Committees must be distributed to the membership by email or other electronic means at least two weeks prior to the meeting, and may not conflict with these Bylaws or with the charters of other active Committees.

Following the National DSA document “Four Pillars for Building a Strong Socialist Chapter,” it is suggested that the mission statement and objectives of any proposed Committee outline how it will function under one or more of the following categories: Campaign Work, Base Building, Political Education, and Social.

Section 2. Membership and Election of Committee Leadership.

Membership in a Committee shall be open to all Local Chapter members in good standing unless the Committee's charter limits membership, in which case the terms of the charter shall control. Committees shall maintain an official membership list. After the Committee is created, but by no later than the Committee's second meeting, the Committee shall hold elections for two (2) Committee Co-Chairs and, if the Committee chooses, one (1) Vice-Chair, using Ranked-Choice Voting. Terms shall be for either six months or one year at the Committee members' choosing, and incumbents may stand for reelection. At least one of the elected Co-Chairs must not self-identify as a cisgender man, unless the only candidates running are cisgender men (once elected, a Co-Chair will fill out their full term). In the event of a vacant Co-Chair position, the

Committee or working group shall elect a replacement Co-Chair to fill the remainder of the former Co-Chair's term.

The Committee shall nominate one of its members, who does not have to be one of the Committee's Co-Chairs, to serve as the Committee Representative to the Steering Committee. This nominee shall be confirmed by a majority vote at a Meeting of the Local Chapter.

Section 3. Duties and Responsibilities.

The members of a Committee are responsible for executing their respective body's strategy in fulfillment of its objectives. Co-Chairs and, if elected, the Vice-Chair are responsible for organizing their respective body's members, running meetings, acting as liaisons to the Steering Committee including providing timely recommendations on specific decisions when requested, and serving as the Committee's points of contact to the membership. Committees must keep official records of meeting dates, attendance, and meeting notes, which must be made available to the membership.

When a Committee's proposed activities relate to the mission of another Committee, the chair of that Committee shall be notified. Should a dispute arise between two or more Committees that cannot be resolved between them, it shall be resolved at a Meeting.

A Committee's activities shall be reviewed by the Steering Committee at its meetings, and meeting minutes and other Committee documentation, as well as all financial receipts and statements, shall be kept up to date with the Local Chapter's Communications Facilitator and Treasurer respectively. Committees shall report on their activities to the membership at the General Meeting or more frequently at Regular or Special Meetings as necessary.

Section 4. Modification and Dissolution.

Committees may be dissolved or may amend their charters, including changes to the Committee's budget, with the approval of a majority of the votes cast at an Annual, Regular, or Special Meeting. Notice of a proposed Committee dissolution or an amendment to a Committee's charter must be given to the membership by email or other electronic means at least at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

Additionally, Committees that are chartered as temporary Committees for a limited time or particular purpose shall dissolve automatically upon the expiration of the certain time or the occurrence of the particular event specified in their charter.

Upon dissolution, the member(s) maintaining custody of the Committee's records shall provide copies of those records to the Communications Facilitator.

Section 5. Subcommittees.

A Committee or Subcommittee may choose to delegate some portion of its mission statements or objectives to a Subcommittee. A Subcommittee so created must select its members, form a charter to be voted on by the Committee above it, elect officers, and coordinate with other Committees in accordance with Sections 1 through 3 (above). The creation, chartering, and modification of a Subcommittee shall require only the approval of the Committee creating it,

however all budgetary decisions requiring Local Chapter funds held by the Treasurer must be approved by a majority of the votes cast at an Annual, Regular, or Special Meeting.

The Co-Chairs of a Subcommittee shall serve as regular members of the Committee above them to coordinate the Committee and Subcommittees work, and shall provide to that Committee up to date records of their and all subsequent Subcommittee's minutes, actions, financial, and other necessary documentation.

Article IX. Caucuses.

Members of the Local Chapter who are members of Caucuses are free to declare themselves as such and may organize local sections of said Caucus along with other Local Chapter members. Any recognition of Caucuses by the Local Chapter or its Officers shall not be construed as conferring authority on the Caucus to officially act on behalf of the Local Chapter. Caucuses may dissolve themselves by notifying the Steering Committee.

Article X. Delegates and Nominees to National, Regional, and State Bodies.

Section 1. Election of Delegates.

Local Chapter delegates and alternates to the National Convention, as well as to any Regional or State organizations, will be elected by members in good standing of the Local Chapter of DSA. Elections for the National Convention delegation shall be held on the schedule announced by the national organization. Elections to Regional or State organizations will be held on the schedule announced by those organizations.

Section 2. National Committees.

In the event that a national committee is being formed and the National DSA asks local chapters for nominees to serve on that committee, the Local Chapter Steering Committee shall notify all members in good standing and request volunteers. The names of all those who volunteer shall be forwarded to the National DSA for consideration, or if a limited number of nominees are requested, an election shall be held.

Section 3. Method of Voting.

Following Article V, Section 5 of National DSA's Constitution, delegates to the National Convention must be elected by secret ballot. Following Article VI, Section 3, of National DSA's Bylaws, Local Chapters "may determine their own method of election of delegates to the Convention except that a petition from 10% of a Local's membership or a motion supported by 15% of those present and voting at the Local meeting which determines the method of election will require the use of the Hare system in that Local's election of delegates to the National Convention."

Article XI. Elections, Nominations and Recalls.

Section 1. Nominations Committee.

A three (3)-person Nominations Committee shall be established at least one (1) month prior to every election by vote of a Regular Meeting. It shall solicit and receive nominations for the positions to be elected.

Section 2. Nominations Process.

Nominations for Local Chapter officers and delegates to the National Convention shall be opened at least ten (10) days before an election. The call for nominations shall be announced to all Local Chapter members in good standing as soon as nominations are open. A member must receive at least two (2) nominations in order to run for office.

Section 3. Elections Process.

Elections shall be held in accordance with *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*. If only one member is nominated for an office, that member may be elected by acclamation.

Section 4. Recall.

Any elected official or Advisory Committee member may be recalled for malfeasance or failure to fulfill their duties or obligations. Members may petition the Steering Committee for the removal of an elected official or Advisory Committee member by collecting signatures of 5% of the membership or six (6) members, whichever is greater. Upon receipt of such a petition, the Steering Committee shall set a date for a Meeting for deliberations on the recall of the accused. Members of the Local Chapter must be given at least two (2) weeks' notice of any upcoming recall vote at a Meeting, and the accused must receive written documentation of the reasons for the recall request and notice of the recall vote least two (2) weeks in advance. The accused shall be given a chance to speak in their own defense at this Meeting. The recall passes with a majority vote.

To fill a vacancy created by a recall, Members may petition for a snap election of any elected position by having two-thirds (2/3) of those present at a Meeting vote in favor of a snap election, to be held at the time and place of the membership's discretion. The general membership must be given at least two weeks' notice of any upcoming snap election. Notice may be sent by electronic means, but individuals who have not provided an email address or other means of electronic communication must be sent a paper copy or contacted by phone or text.

Article XII. Amendments.

Proposed amendments to these Bylaws must be made by written resolution, endorsed by five (5) members of the Local Chapter, and submitted to the Steering Committee at least one (1) month in advance of a General or Regular Meeting. The Steering Committee shall take at most one (1) week to process the amendment and must then provide the Local Chapter membership written or electronic notice of the proposed amendments. The amendment must be approved by a

majority vote of two (2) consecutive (Regular or General) Local Chapter meetings.

Article XIII. Rules of the Local Chapter.

Section 1. Rules.

The Rules contained in *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, shall govern this Local Chapter in cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws. Consensus decision-making is desirable where feasible, but meetings must submit to *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, upon the request of a member.

Section 2. Action Out of Order.

Any action taken by an officer or member of the Local Chapter in contravention of these Bylaws is null and void.

Section 3. Harassment Policy.

The Local Chapter will follow the Harassment Policy of National DSA.

Article XIV. Dissolution.

In the event of the dissolution of this Local Chapter, all remaining funds and assets are to be released to National DSA. If both this Local Chapter and National DSA are being dissolved, then all remaining funds and assets are to be released to such other organizations that are organized exclusively for the promotion of social welfare and that will operate to further the common good and general welfare of the community included in this Local Chapter's stated boundaries.

Article XV. Prohibited Activity

Salem OR DSA shall not engage in activity prohibited by the IRS guidelines established for 501 (c) (4) organizations or similar rules or laws established by the state of Oregon. Nor shall the Local Chapter engage in any activity prohibited by resolutions adopted by DSA's National Convention or DSA's National Political Committee.

Certification

These bylaws were approved by a majority of the Local Chapter membership on June 15, 2019.

Signature of Communications Facilitator

Date

Printed Name of Communications Facilitator