



BYLAWS OF THE ALBEMARLE COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE

Previous 2018 ByLaws retired on May 7, 2023

New ByLaws presented for Adoption June 24, 2023

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This plan sets forth the basic organization and code of operation for the Albemarle County Republican Committee, in the interest of facilitating and encouraging active participation by all persons of the Republican persuasion residing in Albemarle County. It shall be used, therefore, in a manner commensurate with the continued growth of the Albemarle County Republican Committee, and consistent with the nomination and election of the most qualified candidates to represent Albemarle County. Our party has great principles, principles that are far greater than the Republican Party. They are as big as all America itself. Our party will not grow unless it is a party of the open door, open to all people who share our principles, who want to work for the betterment of America and the betterment of the world. Nothing in these ByLaws of the Albemarle County Republican Committee, shall take precedence over any provision of restriction of the Republican Party of Virginia Plan of Organization.

ARTICLE 1 – NAME

The name of this organization shall be “Albemarle County Republican Committee”, hereinafter called “ACRC”.

ARTICLE 2 – ORGANIZATION

No action of the Albemarle County Republican Committee nor these ByLaws shall conflict with the Republican Party of Virginia Plan of Organization, as amended from time to time, and to the extent there shall be a conflict, the provisions of the Republican Party of Virginia shall prevail and the “Republican Party of Virginia Plan of Organization”

is incorporated as is fully set forth in these ByLaws. In the event any ByLaws conflict with the Republican Party of Virginia Plan of Organization, those provisions shall be null and void and the Republican Party of Virginia Plan of Organization will control.

ARTICLE 3 – OBJECTIVES

The purpose of ACRC is to promote and promulgate the principles of the Republican Party, to encourage qualified candidates to run for public office, to elect Republican candidates to public office, to assist generally the citizens composing the districts served by ACRC, and may assist elected Republican officials in the execution of their responsibilities by mutual agreement of both parties.

ARTICLE 4 – MEMBERSHIP

Section A: Qualifications. All Albemarle County legally qualified voters regardless of race, religion, color, national origin or sex, under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and who are in accord with the principles of the Republican Party, and who express in writing or in open meeting, if requested, their intent to support all of the Republican nominees for public office, while they are members, are eligible for membership on ACRC. ACRC shall require each potential member to submit a membership application form to the Treasurer along with an annual dues payment.

Section B: Composition.

1. *ACRC Chairman.*
2. *Precinct Membership.* There shall be not less than one member of ACRC from each voting precinct, if practicable, with the exact number of members for each precinct to be determined on the basis of the combined Republican votes cast in the last preceding Presidential and Gubernatorial elections according to the following formula: one Committee member for each two hundred fifty votes or major factor thereof (rounded up).
3. *At-Large Membership.* ACRC may elect additional members at-large, who shall not exceed in number thirty percent (30%) of the membership of ACRC.
4. *Associate Membership.* Non-residents of Albemarle County who are in accord with the principles of the Republican Party, and who express, in writing or in open meeting, if required, their intent to support all of the Republican nominees for public office, are eligible for Associate Membership in ACRC. Because this Membership applies to non-residents, an Associate Member shall not have any voting authority, nor serve as any Officer, nor Chair any Committee, nor shall they be counted when establishing a quorum.

5. *Vacancies.* Until the membership of ACRC reaches the maximum numbers as authorized in Section B, Paragraph 2 and 3 above, vacancies shall be deemed to exist and may be filled as provided in Section D, Paragraph 4 below.

Section C: Dues. Each member of ACRC shall be required to pay a reasonable annual dues, the amount of which shall be determined by a majority vote of those members who are present and voting at a duly called meeting. Dues are due March 31 and must be paid no later than the Mass Meeting in order to participate and vote in that meeting. Dues for Associate Members (Section B, Paragraph 4 above) shall be the same as resident member dues. Dues should be forwarded to the Treasurer. Payment for annual dues may be waived by approval of the executive committee for specific in-kind donation or scholarship.

Section D: Election.

1. *ACRC Chairman.* The Chairman shall be elected at an ACRC mass meeting, party canvass, convention or primary called for the purpose of electing delegates to the biennial district convention in the Fifth Congressional of Virginia and shall hold office for two years from his/her time of election, until a successor is selected, or unless sooner removed. Election will be determined by a majority vote of those present and determined qualified to vote by a Credentials Committee, appointed by the existing ACRC Chairman prior to the vote, and consisting of not less than two members and not more than three members who will then register those persons who offer to vote and count the ballots once the polls are closed. The members of the Credentials Committee shall remain inside the room in which voting is conducted during the period in which voting takes place and until the ballots are counted.
2. *Other Officers.* Other officers shall be elected from ACRC membership at the first duly called County Committee meeting after the election of the County Chairman and members of ACRC.
3. *Members.* The members of ACRC shall be elected at the county mass meeting, party canvass, convention or primary called for the purpose of electing delegates to the biennial district convention in the Fifth Congressional District of Virginia and shall hold office for two years from the time of their election, until successors are selected, or unless sooner removed.
4. *Vacancies.* Vacancies as determined in Section B, Paragraph 5 above, may be filled at any regular meeting of ACRC upon the completion of a current application, payment of dues, and election by a majority vote of ACRC. They shall hold office

until the next county mass meeting, party canvass, convention or primary called for the purpose of electing delegates to the biennial district convention in the Fifth Congressional District of Virginia or until successors are selected, unless removed sooner.

5. *Voting by Ballot.* Elections where there is more than one (1) candidate for office shall be conducted using paper ballots. Acclamation may be made when there is a single candidate.

Section E: Removal.

1. Any member of ACRC is deemed to have resigned his Committee position if he (a) makes a reportable contribution to and/or (b) allows his name to be publicly used by and/or (c) makes a written or other public statement in support of a candidate in opposition to a Republican nominee in a Virginia General or Special Election. Such member may be re-instated by a majority vote of the other members of ACRC.
2. Members may lose their status as voting members of ACRC if they fail to attend either in person or by proxy three (3) consecutive duly called meetings. Voting status shall not be removed without a majority vote of ACRC at a duly called meeting. Removal must be initiated by the Chairman.
3. Members shall automatically lose their status as voting members of ACRC if they fail to pay their dues. Voting status shall automatically be restored upon subsequent payment of said dues.
4. The Chairman and any other officer or member of ACRC may be removed from office for cause by a two-thirds vote of the membership of ACRC; provided, however, that such person shall be given thirty days' notice in writing that such removal will be sought and the grounds upon which such action is based. The notice must be signed by not less than one-third of the membership of ACRC. Such person shall be given reasonable opportunity to appear and respond to the allegations. Examples of cause include the following, but are not limited to them: Working to elect candidates in opposition to Republican candidates and publicly attacking Committee officers or members in lieu of using remedies prescribed in these bylaws.

Section F: Appeal. Any person having been removed from ACRC pursuant to the provisions of Section E, Paragraph 2 may appeal to the Executive Committee for reinstatement and such appeal may be granted for good and sufficient reason.

Section G: Vacancies.

1. In the event of the death, resignation, removal, or inability to act of the County Chairman, the Vice Chairman shall call an Executive Committee meeting within ten days. The Vice Chairman shall then call a special meeting of ACRC to be held within thirty days for the purpose of electing a new county chairman to fill the unexpired term.
2. Members may be elected to fill any vacancy at a duly called meeting of ACRC provided that notice of such existing vacancy shall be given with the call of the meeting.

ARTICLE 5 – MEETINGS

Section A: General. The Chairman shall convene the ACRC when required, but in no event less than once during each calendar quarter, with no more than four (4) months between each meeting, and shall preside at the meetings of ACRC. He shall be responsible for sending written notice of the call for an ACRC meeting to all members of ACRC, which shall include the agenda for the meeting. Such notice may be sent in writing, by email, or by posting the meeting notice on the ACRC website (albemarlegop.org).

Section B: Notice. Notices of the meetings of ACRC shall be given not less than one week prior to each meeting.

Section C: Proxy. A member of ACRC may be represented at any ACRC meeting by a proxy, subject to the following conditions:

1. No individual may cast more than one proxy vote at any meeting they attend.
2. Any person who acts as a proxy for another must meet the qualifications for membership in ACRC, as stated in Article 4 of these bylaws, and meet the requirement of Article 7 of the Republican Party of Virginia Plan of Organization.
3. All proxies shall be in writing, signed by the maker, substantially in the following form: I, (name of proxy) of (address) do hereby appoint (name of proxy) of (address) as my attorney, to vote as my proxy at a meeting of ACRC to be held on the ____ day of _____, 20____, or at any adjournment thereof, upon any question that has come before the meeting, with all the power I should possess if personally present.

Signature _____

Witness _____

Address _____

4. Any proxy may be withdrawn by the committee member giving it at any time prior to its exercise.

Section D: Quorum. A minimum of fifteen (15) percent of the voting members of ACRC shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE 6 – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section A: ACRC Chairman. The Chairman shall:

1. Be responsible for the general execution and implementation of the programs and policies of ACRC, commensurate with achieving the goals of the Republican Party of Virginia Plan of Organization.
2. Call mass meetings or conventions in accordance with the Republican Party of Virginia Plan of Organization and preside over the same until a temporary organization is affected.
3. Represent ACRC on the Republican Fifth District Committee.
4. Convene ACRC as stated in Article 5 section A and more frequently when the needs of ACRC so demand.
5. Appoint two qualified persons to make an annual audit of the books and financial records of ACRC at the end of the fiscal year, which persons shall report to ACRC.
6. Appoint standing committee and special committee members.

Section B: Vice-Chairman.

The Vice-Chairman shall:

1. Assist the Chairman in the execution and implementation of the programs and policies of ACRC.
2. Serve as temporary Chairman in the absence of the Chairman.

3. Coordinate committees, programs and special projects as assigned by the Chairman.
4. Organize all precincts in Albemarle County and work with Precinct Captains to see that they are properly trained, instructed and supplied.
5. In the event the Chairman's death, resignation, removal or inability to act, take action as required by Article 4, Section G.
6. Serve as temporary Chairman in the absence of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman.
7. Maintain a data base of Albemarle County Republicans who are potential ACRC members and who may be expected to vote for republican candidates. Provide database lists to Officers, Precinct Captains and Republican Candidates as necessary.
8. Coordinate the development and maintenance of the Albemarle County Republican Committee website (albemarlegop.org) and all associated social media platforms (e.g. Facebook, Instagram, etc.).

Section C: Secretary.

The Secretary shall:

1. Record and retain the minutes of all meetings of ACRC. Submit the meeting minutes to the Chairman for approval.
2. Keep an accurate list of attendance of all ACRC meetings.
3. Deliver all official records in their custody to their successor within ten days of the expiration or ending their term of office.
4. Responsible for such outgoing correspondence and mailings as may be directed by the Chairman, the Executive Committee or as required for any duly authorized meeting.
5. Repository for all incoming and outgoing correspondence.
6. Deliver all official records in their custody to their successor within ten days of the expiration or ending of their term of office.

Section D: Treasurer.

The Treasurer shall perform his duties as follows:

1. As a member of the Finance Committee, assist in the preparation of the annual budget for ACRC and present it to ACRC for approval prior to March 31 of the coming year.
2. Maintain a record system for all collections and disbursements with their supporting documentation for all ACRC financial transactions in accordance with the generally accepted accounting principles. Present a financial report to members at each ACRC meeting.
3. When directed by the Chairman or by a majority of the Executive Committee, the Treasurer will open the financial records to specified Committee members or to appropriate governmental authorities.
4. Receive membership applications, record dues payments, and deposit dues payments in the ACRC designated bank. Update the ACRC database with new member information.
5. Deliver all official records in their custody to their successor within ten days of the expiration or ending of their term of office.

Section E: Precinct Captains.

Precinct Captains shall:

1. Serve as a communication link between the Officers and ACRC members.
2. Recruit new ACRC members.
3. Organize the physical location of ACRC tents/tables at each polling place and recruit members to staff the polls at all times the polls are open.

ARTICLE 7 – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section A: Membership. The executive committee shall consist of the following members:

1. Chairman
2. Vice-Chairmen
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Magisterial District Chairs
6. Immediate past chairman (if still a member of ACRC)

Section B: Duties. The Executive Committee shall carry on the business of ACRC in conformity with the policies and procedures of the Republican Party of Virginia Plan of Organization. It shall have the general power to administer the affairs of ACRC between regular meetings of ACRC and shall report its actions to ACRC.

Section C: Quorum. A majority of the members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of committee.

Section D: Meetings. Meetings of the Executive Committee will be held upon the prior call of the Chairman or of two voting members of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 8 – COMMITTEES

Section A: Standing Committees. There may be the following Standing Committees, the members of which shall be appointed by the Chairman, with the approval of the majority of ACRC, unless otherwise provided:

1. Finance
2. Public Relations
3. Precinct Organization
4. Research and Issues
5. Nominating
6. Rules and Resolutions
7. Election Integrity

Section B: Ad Hoc Committees. There may be additional special committees as are deemed advisable by the Chairman or the Executive Committee. The Chairman shall be an ex-officio member of all such committees.

1. Candidate Seeking and Training

Section C: Standing Committee Organization and Duties

1. *Finance Committee.* The Finance Committee shall consist of the Finance Chairman and the Treasurer. They shall carry out the overall planning and supervision of the financial affairs ACRC. It shall plan, organize and supervise the raising of funds. It shall prepare an annual budget and a projection of expenses to be presented by the Treasurer at the annual meeting of ACRC. It shall perform such other duties as shall be assigned by the Chairman.
2. *Public Relations Committee.* The Public Relations Committee shall consist of a chairman and such other members as may be deemed advisable. This committee will plan and manage the public relations functions of ACRC and shall perform such other duties as assigned by the Chairman.
3. *Precinct Organization Committee.* The Precinct Organization Committee shall consist of the Precinct Captains. The committee is responsible for establishing and maintaining an organization for effective communication between individual voters and the leadership of the Republican Party of Virginia as well as a mechanism for accomplishing the objectives of the Republican Party.
4. *Research and Issues Committee.* The Research and Issues Committee shall consist of a chairman and such other members as deemed advisable. The committee shall conduct continuing research on current issues to include local, state and national. Information will be furnished to ACRC, to all Republican candidates, and files will be maintained. Other duties may be assigned by the County Chairman.
5. *Election Integrity Committee.* The Election Integrity Committee shall consist of a chairman and such other members as deemed advisable. The committee shall work to ensure the integrity of operations of elections in Albemarle County through recruitment and training of Election Officers, Poll Workers and Poll Watchers. Further definition of duties is posted on the ACRC website, albemarlegop.org, immediately following the ByLaws in the "About" tab.

Section D: Ad Hoc Committee Organization and Duties

1. *Candidate Seeking and Training Committee.* The Candidate Seeking and Training Committee shall actively seek out, encourage and train potentially qualified candidates for all public offices.

ARTICLE 9 – CONSTRUCTION

The use of nouns and pronouns within these bylaws shall be construed to denote either gender.

ARTICLE 10 – ENDORSEMENTS

Endorsements for Local, State and Federal Offices ACRC may endorse candidates for Local, State and Federal offices with a two-thirds majority vote of those present and voting in favor of such endorsement. It is understood that these candidates are not nominated by any political party but are running as Independents. Notice of all such endorsement votes must be included in the agenda sent with the call. If there is a candidate running as a Republican in a race, no other candidate can be endorsed for that race.

ARTICLE 11 – ELECTRONIC MEDIA

All Albemarle County Republican Committee websites, social media sites, and email are the sole property of ACRC. There should be at least three people who have access to the associated passwords, and at least one of these individuals must be an officer of the committee (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, or Treasurer).

ARTICLE 12 – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY AND PROCEDURES

The Republican Party of Virginia Plan of Organization, ACRC ByLaws, and Robert's Rules of Order, revised, shall govern all proceedings of all committees and conventions and mass meetings conducted by ACRC.

ARTICLE 13 – AMENDMENTS

These ByLaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of those ACRC members who are present and voting at a duly called meeting, provided a copy of such proposed amendment shall be mailed to the membership along with the official notice of such meeting.