



Ulster  
County  
Libertarian  
Party

**RULES AND REGULATIONS**  
**of the**  
**LIBERTARIAN PARTY ULSTER COUNTY**  
**COMMITTEE**  
**New York State**

The inaugural County Committee of the Ulster County Libertarian Party in New York State hereby adopts the following rules and regulations for the organization and government of the Ulster County Libertarian Party pursuant to NY Election Law §2-108 governing new party county committees.

**ARTICLE I**  
**PARTY ORGANIZATION**

- 1.1. **Organization:**  
*Until the primary elections of 2020,  
The organization of the UCLP shall consist of the existing membership defined by  
Libertarian Party of New York's rules; after which time*

**UCLP Membership:**

- a. **Enrolled Members:**  
Voters in Ulster County enrolled as Libertarian Party voters with the Board of Elections will be known as 'Enrolled Members.' Enrolled Members will be considered members in good standing as long as their NY Libertarian voter registration is valid.
- b. **Certified Members:**  
Membership of the UCLP is open to any individual who has a residence in Ulster County and submits a valid Membership Application and pays dues as determined by the Executive Committee, waivable if hardship is established. They will be known as 'Certified Members'.  
These members can consist of Enrolled Members, or any other person who is legally present in the U.S. and at least one of:  
[1] Not a registered voter in another party.  
[2] Not registered to vote.  
[3] Prohibited by law from registering to vote.

Certified Membership expires on the last day of the calendar month, one year after the established member's dues were last paid.

c. Credentialing:

Acceptable proofs of NY Libertarian voter registration are:

1. A verifiable identification document or other verifiable proof of identity, **AND** one or more of the following,
2. The current listing of that person in the NYS Board of Elections database indicating political party enrollment as Libertarian,
3. A NYS Board of Elections voter's card indicating party registration as Libertarian, which will be presumed valid, but can be subject to verification,
4. A signed statement, preferably notarized, that:
  - Is dated no later than October 1<sup>st</sup> of that current year,
  - Attests that the person has filed a valid NYS Voter Registration Form to the Ulster County Board of Elections indicating a party registration of Libertarian,
  - Indicates the date and method by which they filed it, and
  - Is accompanied with another valid original copy of the voter's registration form that has been signed by the voter (copy must have an original signature), indicates Libertarian Party enrollment/registration and dated appropriately,
  - Gives permission to the UCLP to file the copy in their behalf to the Ulster County Board of Elections as may be needed.
5. A valid UCLP membership identification card indicating Enrolled Membership, or an amalgamated Enrolled and Certified Membership, which will be presumed valid, but can be subject to verification.

d. Members in good standing of the UCLP have:

1. Equal internal party voting rights,
2. Eligibility and rights to hold positions on any UCLP committee, except that only Enrolled Members may hold positions on the County Committee,
3. Eligibility to hold other official positions of the UCLP and
4. Equal rights to be UCLP candidates for public office, subject to limitation only by state or county election law.

e. Certified Members who are not also Enrolled Members:

Credentialing:

- The member must provide a notarized statement attesting to the factual truth of one of the requirements listed in §1.1(b)[1 - 3] above.
- The member should provide documentation or other valid proof supporting the required prerequisites.
- The statements and documentation may be subject to verification.
- The Executive Committee may waive these proof requirements if it is satisfied that the member meets all the required eligibility criteria, and good cause is shown as to why supporting documentation or notarized statement cannot be provided.

New or Renewed Certified Membership:

If lapsed, certified membership must be renewed at least 14 days before participation in any convention, meeting, or committee meeting of the UCLP; if lapsed, a member will no longer be considered a UCLP Member.

New Certified Members must have been Certified at least 3 months prior to any attaining any voting rights.

These time rules may be waived by a quorum-met majority of members present on an individual circumstance basis.

1.2. Territory. The UCLP's area of operation will encompass the entire County of Ulster, in the State of New York.

1.3. Purpose of Organization. The purpose of the UCLP is to: vet, endorse and/or nominate, support and elect Libertarian ballot candidates to public office; engage in political action for the promotion of the principles and policies of the Libertarian Party; and to coordinate the activities of Libertarian Party members within Ulster County.

1.4. Principles and Policies. The underlying principles of the UCLP are:

- a. The Non-Aggression Principle, where no person or institution, public or private, has the right to initiate force or fraud against another
- b. The acceptance of different lifestyles, provided that no one unduly forces lifestyle choices upon others
- c. Recognizing that the only moral purpose of government is the preservation of individual rights and liberties.
- d. The voluntary exchange of goods and services essential for a free and prosperous society of diverse beliefs.
- e. The official, legal and societal recognition that every cognizant person [1] owns themselves and their property, [2] has the right of reciprocal voluntary free association with other persons, and [3] has a fundamental sovereign right to these privileges without infringement from any other entity, public or private.

The policies of the UCLP will be based upon those principles, and will promote public awareness in the benefit of applying these principles and polices for life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, in Ulster County, New York State, and the United States of America.

**ARTICLE II**  
**THE COUNTY COMMITTEE**

*Until a County Committee is elected by the enrolled voters of the Libertarian Party in 2020; in accordance with election law, the Interim County Committee (Art.§5,§9, LPNY Rules) and Executive Committee shall exercise all of the powers of the County Committee and Executive Committee as set forth herein and by applicable law. Thereafter:*

2.1. Membership. The County Committee shall be constituted, in each even numbered year, at the first primary election in such year. It shall consist of at least two (2) enrolled members from each of the 23 election districts within Ulster County where the Libertarian Party had any number of votes cast in the last Gubernatorial Election; three (3) members when 51-75 votes were cast, and four (4) members when more than seventy-six (76) votes were cast. If the boundaries of any election district have been changed, or a new election district created since the last Gubernatorial Election; Libertarian Party enrollment at the Board of Elections covering the district(s) shall be used in lieu of the last Gubernatorial Election vote. Each new election district shall be granted the right to elect two (2) County Committee members, and one additional member when the number of enrolled members exceeds the average number of enrolled Libertarian voters in the other election districts by multiples of fifty percent (50%), with a maximum of four (4) County Committee members. County Committee members shall serve until their successors are elected at the next biennial organizing meeting of the County Committee or until the death, resignation, disqualification, removal from office, or leaving the Election District, whichever shall first occur. No member shall be limited in the number of terms, nor consecutive terms in which they serve.

2.2 Vacancies on the County Committee: When a vacancy occurs on the County Committee, said vacancy will be filled by an election held by a vote of the enrolled members of the election district where the subject committee member's vacancy has occurred. The election will be conducted by an ad hoc committee of the remaining committee member(s) representing that election district. If such an election is not completed within 2 months, then the vacancy will be filled by the Executive Committee.

2.3. Authority and Power. The County Committee shall have general authority over the UCLP subject to the rules and regulations of UCLP, the rules and regulations of the Libertarian Party of New York, and state law. The primary role is to ensure/ratify that all UCLP conventions, committee meetings, and other activities conform to the rules and regulations and election law. Voting on ratification of party activities at County Committee meetings is restricted to the County Committee members; Executive Committee members who are also members of the County Committee can vote at County Committee meetings.

2.4. Meetings. County Committee meetings will be held the same day as UCLP conventions, and will convene immediately after the convention has closed to ratify that the actions effected at the Convention were consistent with these Rules.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **MEETINGS AND CONVENTIONS**

*(Starting in 2020, or as otherwise provided for by the law)*

##### **3.1. Conventions.**

The UCLP shall hold an Annual Convention within the first half of each year. The Annual Convention shall elect officers and may endorse candidates for public office, adopt or amend rules, and adopt policy resolutions. The annual convention is open to all Enrolled and Certified members of the UCLP.

### 3.2. Special Conventions and other Meetings.

Special Conventions may also be called at any time for any particular purpose by either

- a. The Executive Committee, or
- b. The County Committee, or
- c. Anyone who makes a written request to the Chairman or Secretary, which declares -
  1. Who is calling for the Special Convention and
  2. For what purpose, and
  3. Is signed, or by other verifiable affirmation, by twenty-five percent (25%) of the members in good standing of the UCLP.

Only subjects which directly relate to the purpose for which the Special Convention is called may be considered at any Special Convention.

#### Other types of meetings

Other meetings can be had, ad hoc and at the scheduled convenience of any committee or sub-committee

If such a meeting does not require votes from outside the committee or related committees, then notice can be provided by posting at least one calendar day in advance the intended meeting particulars at a member accessible location, e.g. internet webpage, social media page, phone call-in.

Meetings that require a collective vote of the UCLP membership, or a sub-class of the total membership, will have the same notice, attendance, voting rules and quorum requirements as Conventions or Special Conventions, as per §3.6, and may be held for more than one purpose; however if the meeting is for a sub-class of the total membership, the notice, attendance and quorum requirements will be made to and determined by the sub-class population of pertinent members that the meeting was related to.

Regular Executive Committee meetings will also be held as described in the rules at §5.6, et.seq.

### 3.3. Notice and Return Attendance Forms.

Written notice of Conventions, Special Conventions, or meetings requiring a vote of the membership shall be provided to all Enrolled and Certified UCLP members, or a pertinent sub-class of the UCLP membership, in good standing at least ten (10) days prior to any such scheduled date.

- a. Such notice shall include the
  1. Date, time and location of the Convention or meeting where the member may physically attend,
  2. Who or what entity is calling it, the agenda and its purpose, and
  3. Instruction/attendance forms for alternative participation, e.g., teleconferencing, absentee ballot voting, or proxy voting,

4. Information forms to return to the UCLP in order to attend via alternative participation will be included.

The notice shall state clearly that if the member chooses to not attend the meeting/Convention by one of the methods in §3.6(d)[1, 2, 3], then the member is choosing to assign his/her vote by proxy to the Executive Committee.

b. Absentee Ballot Voting

If the meeting or Convention will conduct one or more sessions of member voting, and the choices are known in advance for the respective vote(s), the notice for the meeting/Convention will contain a selection ballot for the member to provide his/her electoral choice(s) of the respective vote. The member may send his/her ballot to the Convention/meeting to have his/her vote counted without his/her physical or telepresence. Such absentee ballot choices will not be revealed until a full count of the respective vote is made.

Advocates for a given voting choice will be allowed to concurrently send their information along with the absentee ballot, at their expense and by compensating the UCLP for any reasonable additional noticing costs.

c. Proxy Voting Option

If an attendance minimum threshold is not met at a meeting or Convention, see §3.6 et. seq., a member will have an *a priori* option to assign his/her vote to another UCLP member who will be in attendance, as per §3.6(d)[1, 2, 3], or to the Executive Committee.

The notice will state clearly to the member that his/her proxy vote will not count at all if the attendance minimum (see §3.6), at the meeting/Convention has been achieved.

Subject to Rule §3.6(4), the assignee will have discretion to vote his/her own choice(s) at the particular election(s) held at the meeting/Convention, in behalf of the proxied member's vote.

To designate the proxy voter's assignee(s), the notice will contain write-in field(s) for each election expected at the meeting/Convention for the member to fill in, with [1] the assignee's name, [2] the UCLP membership number, and [3] which election s/he is authorized to make a proxy vote in, which can be all of them known or elections not yet known at the time of the notice.

d. Acceptable Methods of Notice:

Where a vote of the UCLP membership, or sub-class thereon, is required, direct notice to the pertinent members will be made, by methods including, but not limited to:

1. emailing,
2. texting,
3. faxing,
4. direct notice to member via social media service,
5. physical mail to the member(s)

6. other form of message transmission designed to reasonably reach the individual member.

In the event that direct notice to the member(s) has not been, or cannot be, effected for reasons beyond the Party's control, timely public notice in a local newspaper of record will be considered sufficient notification.

- e. Members unsure of their standing to attend must inquire to the Secretary whether they are in good standing at least 7 days prior to the meeting or convention, and the Secretary must respond within 3 days with the member's status and reason(s) thereof, and if the Secretary does not reply within 3 days, then the member can presume they have good standing; members who do not have good standing, can secure a waiver to attend nonetheless upon a showing of good cause, by sending/submitting a waiver request to the Executive Committee at least 4 days prior to the meeting or convention. If the Executive Committee grants the waiver, or does not reply within 3 days, the member is permitted to attend as a member in good standing.

### 3.4. Venue.

Conventions and meetings shall be held in Ulster County, and conducted by Executive Committee.

#### Exceptions:

In the case of cross county Libertarian Party business, the UCLP Subcommittee on Inter-county LP Alliances will coordinate and arrange for a joint Convention with other Libertarian County Parties, such as vetting, nominating, and electing candidates, including but not limited to:

- Determining the venue in cooperation with other LP County Parties/Organizations
- Selecting, nominating and supporting candidates for 19<sup>th</sup> Congressional district, or
- Selecting, nominating and supporting candidates for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District,
- Selection of representatives to the LPNY representing counties in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District,
- Other meetings or conventions needed for cross party cooperation

### 3.5. Voting entitlement and methods.

- a. Voting is open to all UCLP members in good standing who are in attendance at a Convention or meeting involving a collective member vote.
- b. Voting methods at Committee meetings, conventions and other UCLP meetings will be by either, in no particular order:
  1. Secret written ballot; unless provided for by a UCLP rule, a secret ballot will only be held upon good cause.
  2. Open written ballot,
  3. Roll-call,
  4. Show of hands, which will be individually counted upon request by 3 members,
  5. Verbal "Ayes" and "nays", which will be individually counted upon request by 3 members,

6. Any “non-vote” will be considered an abstention

The method will be agreed upon in advance of such vote by decision of the majority of the members present in person at the meeting.

In the event that the subject decision of a vote has more than two possibilities, Ranked Instant Runoff Voting will be effectuated by written ballot.

- c. Voting in elections of UCLP Officers when said election is contested, or the removal of a UCLP Officers or Committee member from office or position on a Committee, or a UCLP county party member, regardless of opposition, shall be by secret ballot. On any final removal action made by a committee vote, the person so affected can appeal for a veto of that decision via a majority vote of the full electorate of the UCLP party.
- d. Unless otherwise specified in these rules, a majority of the votes cast shall be sufficient to decide the outcome of any issue presented for a vote or of any election.
- e. Each UCLP member in good standing on December 1 of the prior year, to the date of the UCLP Conventions and other meetings shall be entitled to vote; this requirement can be waived by a vote of the majority.

3.6. Quorum and Attendance Thresholds:

For meetings and Conventions where a collective vote of the UCLP membership is needed:

- a. Fifteen percent (15%) or more of the members in good standing of the UCLP must be in attendance to commence or re-commence any Convention or other meeting of the UCLP that will have.
- b. A quorum shall consist of fifty percent (50%) or more of the voting members who are in attendance at the Convention or meeting, but not less than five (5) persons.
- c. No decision requiring a vote shall be made without a quorum; if a quorum is not present the meeting shall be tabled until either a quorum can be made present, or at a future date scheduled by those present. Appropriate notice of such an adjourned date shall be given to all members of the County Committee for a County Committee meeting, or all UCLP members in good standing for a party Convention, Special Convention or other meeting where a collective membership vote is needed.
- d. Attendance of a Member, is defined and will be counted by either being:
  - 1. Physically present at the convention or meeting,
  - 2. Present via realtime telepresence,
  - 3. Present via a member’s absentee ballot vote, where a comprehensive choice of voter options are known in advance to the voting member and sent to the meeting/convention,

4. Presence by proxy vote – which is subject to the following conditions:
  - i. Attendance by proxy will be counted toward the quorum only if the aggregate attendance by the methods [1, 2, 3] above result in less than a quorum.
  - ii. No proxy attendance or votes therefrom, will be recognized or counted if there is a quorum present by the methods [1, 2, 3] above.
  - iii. Proxy voters may assign their vote to any other UCLP member in good standing who is in attendance by methods [1, 2, 3], or to the Executive Committee as a voting entity in their stead; proxy vote assignment to the Executive Committee by a member will be accepted if the member chooses to not attend by methods [1, 2, 3] AND chooses to not send in a proxy vote form designating some other UCLP Member(s) who is in attendance, as their proxy.
  - iv. An attending voting UCLP member must be properly credentialed, including acceptable proof of assignment for any proxy vote they are representing.

3.7. Presiding Officer. The Executive Committee Chairman, or in that person's absence, the Vice Chairman, will preside at all meetings of UCLP, except for the organizing meeting of the County Committee, where the Chairman of the outgoing County Committee, or in his/her absence the Vice Chairman thereof, shall preside until the Chairman of a new County Committee is elected.

#### **ARTICLE IV** **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

4.1 Officers. The four base officers of the UCLP Executive Committee shall be the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. Prerequisite qualifications of such Officers are that they must be Certified members of the Ulster County Libertarian Party; officers need not be members of the County Committee.

The Chairman of any standing committee shall also be a member of the Executive Committee.

- a. The presiding Officer(s) of any committee may be referred to Chairman, Chairwoman, Chairperson or Chair; if another title is preferred by the presiding officer, then upon notice and motion, and upon a vote of the Committee, the presiding officer may be referred to by any other title not already taken within these rules.
- b. The Vice Chairman, if any, of a committee may be referred to Vice Chairman, Vice Chairwoman, Vice Chairperson or Vice Chair; if another title is preferred by the Vice Chairman, then upon notice and motion, and upon a vote of the Committee, the presiding officer may be referred to by any other title not already taken within these rules.
- c. Separate elections shall be held at the Annual Convention for each office above, in which those elected must receive a majority of the votes cast.

- d. Nominations for all offices shall be from the floor.
- e. Elections shall be made by the electorate in attendance by majority, or by Ranked Instant Run-off Voting if there are more than two nominees for the office.

4.2. Terms of Office. A prospective officer must be a member in good standing for a minimum of 90 days prior to election membership, unless this provision is suspended by a majority vote at an annual convention. No officer shall be limited in the number of terms nor consecutive terms in which they serve.

4.3. Vacancies of Party Office. In the event that a vacancy appears between Conventions, the Chairman shall appoint the candidate for that office from the person receiving the second highest number of votes at the previous convention, and if not available for the post, the third, et. seq. If no eligible runner-up from the previous election is available, the Chairman shall appoint the candidate at his/her discretion and choice.

4.4. Removal of Member from any Party Committee (NY election Law § 2-116).

A UCLP member or a member of a party committee, may be impeached or removed from such committee for disloyalty to the party, corruption in office, enrollment in another party or conduct reflecting discredit upon the Libertarian Party, or other good cause, by an impeachment motion;

Such motion can be initiated by member of the Executive Committee and made by confirmation by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Executive Committee, or made upon submission to the Chairman or Secretary of a petition to that effect and signed by at least one-quarter (1/4) of the members in good standing of the UCLP.

If the removal or impeachment is contested by the subject member:

- a. The Executive Committee shall then call upon the judicial sub-committee, which will adjudicate the matter via the Party court tribunal.
- b. Upon a conviction by the Party court tribunal, the member so convicted shall immediately be suspended from the subject committee. S/he shall thereafter have 30 days to file notice of appeal to the Executive Committee with the Secretary thereof. If such notice of appeal is not received by the Secretary within such thirty (30) day period, the member in question shall be immediately and automatically removed from office at the expiration thereof, and an interim committee member will be appointed pursuant to §4.3 until the resolution of the removed member is deemed final. If the removed member is reinstated, then the interim member will step down.
- c. Upon such appeal, the UCLP membership shall act as an appellate jury at the next general convention, or at a special convention. At this convention a presentation of all available testimony or other evidence may again be represented, either personally or by

counsel, licensed or otherwise, by the appellant, together with the arguments for overruling the decision of the party tribunal court.

The advocate for removal (generally the original movant or organizer of the original impeachment/removal motion/petition) of the member shall present evidence and arguments for sustaining the decision of the party tribunal court.

- d. Before or concurrent upon casting a vote, the UCLP member will certify that they have heard and understood the information they are being asked to base their vote upon.

## **ARTICLE V** **THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** **OFFICERS, DUTIES, & POWERS**

The Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of a base four officers, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, plus the chairmen of any standing committee(s).

The Executive Officers of the UCLP will be elected at the annual convention and constitute the Executive Committee. The members of the executive committee hold executive authority subject to the limitations contained in the UCLP Rules and Regulations, the rules of the LPNY, and applicable law.

5.1. Chairman. The Chairman of the UCLP County Committee shall have immediate authority in their responsibility for the operation of the Libertarian Party throughout the County. The Chairman shall be the chief spokesman of the Party in Ulster County, and represent the Party in that capacity in the UCLP's relations with the public, other parties, elected officials, candidates for public office, the Libertarian Party State Committee and its officers. The Chairman shall also perform the duties prescribed by these Rules and Regulations and those usually devolving upon the office of Chairman, and as provided by law. Unless otherwise stated the Chairman shall be an Ex-Officio member of all the standing or ad hoc committees.

5.2. Vice Chairman. The Vice Chairman shall assist the Chairman in the performance of the foregoing duties. The Vice Chairman will also be responsible for coordinating the internal activities of the UCLP, including but not limited to the activities and progress of all UCLP committees, UCLP candidates, and any other bodies operating in alliance with the UCLP or any of its candidates. In the absence or disability of the Chairman, all the powers and duties conferred upon the Chairman by law or by these Rules and Regulations shall, during such absence or disability devolve upon the Vice Chairman. In the event of a vacancy of the office of Chairman, the Vice Chairman shall assume the office of Chairman until the vacancy is filled as provided in Article III §3 these Rules and Regulations.

5.3. Secretary. The Secretary shall:

- a. Take roll-call and read the minutes from the previous conventions or other meetings;

- b. Keep the records and maintain the files and offices of the UCLP;
- c. Keep or cause to be kept, the minutes of all meetings of the Conventions, County Committee, Executive Committee and other committees;
- d. Notify pertinent UCLP members of meetings;
- e. Keep the vote count of all Conventions, County Committee, and Executive Committee meetings; be prepared to supply a copy of the minutes of any of the same upon request to any member of the UCLP Executive Committee;
- f. Keep track of, and make accessible to the Executive Committee members, all membership records, including contact, identifying and credentialing information.
- g. Perform such other duties as may from time to time be prescribed by the Executive Committee or the Executive Committee Chairman.

5.4. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall receive and have custody of all funds contributed, earned, raised or otherwise accruing to the UCLP, and shall submit statements of the Party's receipts, expenditures and financial position to the Conventions, County Committee meetings and Executive Committee, and shall file financial disclosures as may be required by law.

- a. All monies in the custody of the Treasurer will be deposited in a Bank operating in Ulster County no later than 15 days after receipt of such monies. The Treasurer is empowered to open a single checking account and a single savings account in the name of the UCLP.
- b. Only the Treasurer, in conjunction with another base member of the Executive Committee is empowered to withdraw funds from the Party's Bank accounts. Any check withdrawal order or other direction of instruction to any depository bank used by the UCLP shall require the signature of the Treasurer and the countersignature of another base executive committee officer.

5.5. Remuneration and Renumeration.

- a. All official posts are on a volunteer basis, with no emoluments offered, but officers can be reimbursed ad hoc for any pre-approved expenses, fees or bills due of the UCLP, or for professional services beyond party business provided or incurred in service to the UCLP.
- b. The Executive Committee shall not have the authority to lend money, expend any UCLP funds, or to engage in a material commercial transaction with any officer or nominated candidate of the UCLP, without approval in each case of a majority of the disinterested Executive Committee members, after full disclosure of all material facts pertaining to the transaction.  
In no case shall UCLP funds be used in support of any candidate for public office who has not been nominated for that office by the UCLP.

5.6. Regular Meetings of The Executive Committee:

- a. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a month, at a regularly and previously designated day of the month, e.g., first Tuesday of the month. The meetings shall be held in Ulster County. Each member of the Executive Committee shall be entitled to a single vote, except the Chairman, who shall only vote in case of a tie and in any vote requiring more than a simple majority. A quorum shall be considered present whenever a majority of the members of the Executive Committee, including the Chairman, are present.
- b. All meetings of the Executive Committee shall be open to observation by all members in good standing of the UCLP – However, the Executive Committee may make an on-record determination with good cause that certain deliberations be private so as to avoid any chilling effect on the free internal policy making or other activity of the party; the content of such private meetings will be made available to all members in good standing upon request, no later than 3 months after any such private meeting.
- c. Other or Special Meetings of the Executive Committee:  
Meetings may be called by [1] the Chairman, [2] the Executive Committee, or [3] by a written request submitted to the Chairman or Secretary signed by one-third (1/3) of the members of the Executive Committee. The Secretary shall notify each member of the Executive Committee of any meeting at least five (5) days in advance, unless exigent circumstances dictate otherwise, in which case notice will be made as soon as possible along with a description of the exigency.
- b. Open Community/Town Hall Libertarian Meetings  
At Executive Committee meetings, during or after party business has concluded, or when no business is held, the committee has the discretion of allowing the general public to observe, comment, and participate in informal interactions with the UCLP officers and members present. In such meetings, the “Talking Stick” method of communal communication may be used if more interactive formality is needed.

**ARTICLE VI**  
**OTHER COMMITTEES OF THE UCLP**

Ad Hoc Committees:

6.0.

- Judiciary
- Committee on Inter-County Libertarian Party Alliances
- Vetting Committee
- Other Ad Hoc Committee that may formed by the Executive Committee as may be needed to effect a particularized UCLP charter or project.

Standing Committees.

6.1. There shall be the following standing committees:

- County Committee,
- Executive Committee;
- Campaign and Finance Committee;
- Public Relations and Political Affairs Committee;
- Youth and Student Outreach Committee,
- Community Libertarian Ombudsman Committee.

6.2. Committee Chairmanships. The Chairman of each committee shall be elected at the annual convention. To qualify for such an appointment, a person must be a Certified member.

6.3 Vacancies of Committee Chairmanships. Any vacancy of the Chairmanship of any Standing Committee shall be filled by appointment of Executive Committee Chairman as hereinbefore provided on vacancies, §4.3.

6.4. Committee Membership. The non-chair members of each Standing Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee; however, no such committee shall have less than 3 members. If there are less than 3 persons available for a committee membership, that committee will be tabled until a minimum membership can be attained. This rule will be subjected to automatic revision and subject to approval of the annual convention and ratification by the County Committee when the Enrolled and/or Certified membership of the UCLP reaches one thousand members. Upon the occurrence of any vacancy in the Chairmanship of any committee the members thereof shall continue as members until removed or replaced by the duly appointed successor Chairman.

6.5. Duties of Standing Committees

a. Finance and Campaign Committee. It shall be the duty of the FAC Committee to conduct Fund Raising activities and drives for the support of the activities of the UCLP and campaigns of candidates for county wide public office or other village, town, and city offices within the

County for which the Executive Committee has authorized countywide financial support. The net proceeds, together with the full accounting of receipts and expenditures for each such fund-raising activity shall be turned over to the Treasurer.

The Treasurer shall be an Ex-Officio member of the FAC Committee.

The Chairman of the FAC Committee shall be the Campaign Coordinator of the UCLP.

The FAC Committee may, as guided by the needs of the Executive Committee, maintain a petty cash fund for which the Finance Committee Chairman shall be personally responsible.

It shall be the further charter of the FAC Committee to coordinate all campaigns for UCLP candidates within the county, to advise individual candidates and campaign managers so as to provide a smoothly coordinated campaign in each election; to coordinate the circulation of petitions; to organize all county political actions deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee.

b. Public Relations and Political Affairs Committee. It shall be the duty of the PRAPA Committee to develop and execute programs to publicize the Libertarian Party, its activities and candidates in all media of communications in Ulster County. To maintain and coordinate a speaker's Bureau and to sponsor, schedule, and carry out political or educational programs designed to further the ends and philosophy of the Party. The Chairman of the PRAPA Committee shall be the Public Relations director of the Ulster County Libertarian Party.

The Vice-Chairman shall be an Ex-Officio member of the PRAPA Committee.

It shall be the further duties of the PRAPA Committee to follow all state, local, national or international events which are of particular interest and importance to the party, keep a record of the legislative and political activities of all those public office holders responsible in whole or in part to the people of Ulster County, to perform such political research as may be assigned it by the County Chairman or Executive Committee, to maintain a political calendar and a calendar of events of importance or interest to the Party and to recommend appropriate individual Local Committee or county wide political action.

c. Youth and Student Outreach Committee. It shall be the duty of the YASO Committee to provide an effective education and advisory program for Libertarian youth and, in conjunction with the membership and Public relations committee, coordinate recruitment campaigns and support for Libertarian groups on college campuses within Ulster County. The Chairman of the YASO Committee shall be the Youth Coordinator of the Ulster County Libertarian Party.

The Vice-Chairman shall be an Ex-Officio member of the YASO Committee.

d. Community Libertarian Ombudsman Committee. The CLO Committee of the UCLP chartered with offering support services, information services, advice, and referral services to residents of Ulster County to assist in any person's difficulty or problems with local officials, government agencies, or NGOs that are infringing upon their libertarian rights. The CLO can also entertain, hear and offer mediation to resolve disputes between UCLP members if both members agree to such mediation.

If the CLO concludes that its efforts to resolve or assist with a resolution between any UCLP member and another legal entity or person are beyond its capabilities, the CLO can at its discretion refer the matter to the Judiciary Committee and/or a hearing for a more formalized resolution.

Where a problem exists between a UCLP member and public or semi-public entity, and where the CLO has determined that the entity is violating its own rules, State or U.S. law, or substantively violating libertarian governmental principles, the CLO in coordination/cooperation with the PRAPA, has the option to publish and publicize the circumstances, controversy, actions and facts of the case, and advocate for the position of the UCLP member.

### Ad Hoc Committees

Ad Hoc committees are formed by the Executive Committee on an as-needed basis.

A chairman will be appointed by the EC, who will then recommend members to the EC, upon which after a vote they will also be appointed.

The existence of an ad hoc committee will continue until all business the committee has been chartered for has been completed, at which point the committee will dissolve.

#### 6.6. Duties of the Named Ad Hoc Committees

- a. Judiciary Committee. It shall be the primary duty of the Judiciary Committee to resolve intra-party disputes. At regular hearings the tribunal will have jurisdiction to hear disputes regarding UCLP business, rules interpretation, membership disputes, UCLP interactions with the public, and other matters relating to UCLP administration. Such disputes can be between any of: UCLP members, UCLP Committees, residents of Ulster County.

A special hearing of the tribunal can be called by the Ombudsman Committee (CLO) via petition through EC to the Judiciary Committee Tribunal, or by any two or more disputing members of the UCLP who have first attempted and failed resolution using the mediation services of the CLO. In a special hearing, subject matter jurisdiction is not constrained to only intra-party disputes, but may entertain and decide upon any general matter relating to the dispute.

Upon receipt of a properly formed petition by any UCLP member seeking a regular hearing, or by the Ombudsman Committee seeking a special hearing, or a special hearing by UCLP members directly, after having had mediation by the Ombudsman Committee, the EC must form an instance of the Judiciary Committee with the charter to hear, decide and conclude the dispute.

The petition shall have a heading/caption that includes:

1. The name of the tribunal (The Ulster County Libertarian Party Judiciary Committee Tribunal, or UCLP/JC Tribunal),
2. Names/titles of litigants (Disputor, Disputee and/or Cross Disputor),
3. The dispute stated and
4. How it comes under jurisdiction to be heard by the tribunal
5. Case history, facts, evidence, argument and relief sought may be included in the petition, and the petition must signed, dated and notarized.

In the case of a special hearing between two or more litigants, all parties participating must voluntarily do so, and within the petition state their volition as such, and attest to abide by the tribunal's ruling, acknowledging its pendency and subject to appeal.

Upon these requirements being met, the Judiciary Committee shall be formed by the EC and assemble a Party tribunal consisting of three or five judges (preferably five), to hear and adjudicate the petitions' disputes; the Judicial Committee Chairman will be the administrative chief judge, and the Executive Committee Chairman will be an active Ex-officio Judicial Committee member and judge; the EC Chairman can also serve as the Judicial Committee chairman if so selected.

As soon as practicable, a scheduling notice will be made available to the parties, and within 30 days of a petition being filed, the tribunal will hold a court hearing, and accept argument and evidence, in support the respective parties.

The parties may appear *pro se*, or have an advocate of their choosing to argue their case.

The standards and legal premise of such hearings will be based upon the UCLP Rules where pertinent and at a regular hearing, and for disputes more general and in special hearings, Libertarian rules of law and individual rights, ownership and association will apply.

The evidentiary standard of proof shall be a preponderance of evidence.

If relevant, a standardized statement of Libertarian law pertinent to the petitions' dispute, should be prepared/available prior to the hearing to the litigants, and should be referred and adhered to as needed by all participants in the hearing to ensure consistency and due process, and as prior notice of legal standards to the litigants.

Any such Judiciary Committee generated legal materials shall be maintained and be consistent for all hearings therefore.

The court may suspend effectuation of the ruling pending appeal, on its discretion.

The findings, rulings and order of the Judicial Committee shall be published at a location accessible to all UCLP members, and will be considered public domain information that any person may distribute at will.

The proceedings of such hearings will be open to the public and may be recorded by the committee, disputants or any other person present at the hearing, and will be considered public domain information that any person may distribute at will — however to be considered public domain and not copyrighted, any such recording must not be substantively altered and the hearing particulars must be identified, e.g., name of court (UCLP Judiciary Committee Tribunal), location, proceeding, participants, date, dispute.

b. Committee on Inter-County Libertarian Party Alliances.

The purpose of the CICLPA is to engage in communication, coordination, cooperation and written/established formalization of activities, formal or informal, with neighboring County Libertarian Party organizations

The CICLPA organizes Special Conventions, or other methods, in coordination with other CLPOs, to nominate public office candidates or Libertarian party official candidates where the voting electoral district crosses county lines.

UCLP will determine its selection of such candidates based upon the majority vote of UCLP members that fall within those cross county electoral district areas, and will coordinate that selection with other County LPs by a fair and proportional method that represents the relative Libertarian vote of those electoral districts.

The CICLPA as needed is also formed for any other cross county LP cooperative activities, including any legal, political, social, recreational, or activist endeavors.

c. Vetting Committee.

1. The Vetting Committee is tasked with interviewing, researching, querying, challenging, and verifying aspirant candidates who seek to run on the Libertarian ballot line.
2. The Vetting committee must effect a contextually balanced assessment of ideology vs political practical concerns regarding a candidate's personal libertarian inclinations and public policy positions, as well as ferreting out any such candidate that does not meet an acceptable threshold of libertarian administrative philosophy and intention, or who may be misrepresenting their dedication to libertarian principles in order to achieve a ballot position.
3. For cross party aspirant candidates The standard to be met is not a libertarian purity test, but rather a practical political standard, where libertarian principles and policy would be more positively promoted and best represented by the candidate in comparison to either no representation of the Libertarian Party goals at all or as compared to other candidates campaigning for the office.
4. Libertarian party candidates, if vetting has been optionally or requisitely scheduled, are held to a higher standard of allegiance to and understanding of Libertarian political philosophy, dedication to promoting libertarian goals and expectation of performance as a government official in keeping with libertarian precepts and administrative goals, while still adhering to the duties of the office as required by law.
5. Upon a verifiable request from an aspirant candidate(s), and in accordance with these rules, see §8.1 et. seq., the Executive Committee shall form and call upon the Vetting Committee to engage and have discourse with the aspirant candidate, to determine whether the candidate meets a threshold of compatibility to libertarian standards as detailed above, and a reliable prospective expectation of official performance thereon if elected. A minimum of 8 people must make up the Vetting Committee, with a maximum of 16.

6. After such meeting and interaction with the aspirant candidate, and upon due deliberation and attentive consideration of the aspirant candidate's attributes and qualities, upon a majority vote, the Vetting Committee will make a recommendation for endorsement and nomination to the Executive Committee for that candidate.

A record of the committee members' votes will be kept, along with articulated reason or reasons that the member voted the way they did. Said record may be released to the aspirant candidate if the Vetting Committee feels it would be instructive to the candidate.

## **ARTICLE VII** **PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE**

7.1. "Robert's Rules of Order" In all cases not provided by these Rules and Regulations and by law, the parliamentary procedure for any UCLP meeting shall be "Robert's Rules of Order" insofar as such rules may be appropriately applied to instill equity in recognition and civil conduct in a meeting.

7.2. Rulings. The Chairman, or in the absence of the Chairman, the presiding officer of the meeting, shall make all rulings with respect to parliamentary procedure and interpretation of these, or any other Rules and Regulations, under which said meeting is operating. If a ruling by the Chairman or presiding officer is disputed the ruling of the Chairman may be overturned by a 3/4<sup>th</sup> vote on a motion to 'not supporting the ruling of the Chairman,' which motion shall be voted upon after motions sponsor and Chairman have addressed the rationals against and for the ruling for one minute.

7.3. Every election for officers will explicitly include the candidacy of "None of the Above" (NOTA).

- a. Ranked Instant run-off elections will be used, and any candidates whom NOTA had out-pollled are eliminated from the ballot.
- b. If NOTA out-polls all the candidates, then a new vote is called, and all out-pollled candidates are ineligible to run for the position(s) in question.

## **ARTICLE VIII** **CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE**

8.1 Selection of Candidates. Selection of public office candidates, approved by the Executive Committee for nomination by the Party, shall be made pursuant to the following Rules and Regulations.

8.2 Libertarian Party Candidates for public office within Ulster County must be UCLP members, and eligible by law to hold the sought for public office. If the Libertarian candidate is

part of a cross county election district office, see §8.1(e) below, then the candidate must be a member of the Libertarian Party in a county within the district in question. The candidate can choose to be vetted by the Vetting Committee.

8.3 Non-Libertarian Candidates seeking cross nomination from the UCLP must have:

1. No Libertarian Party candidate seeking nomination for the same office,
2. Been vetted by the Vetting Committee,
3. Be in agreement to certain campaign minimum standards regarding their LP affiliation, as will be established by the Executive Committee, and,
4. Paid a consideration fee equal to Certified Member dues, waivable if hardship is demonstrated.

8.4 If there is only one aspirant candidate for a particular office, nomination will be made at the discretion of the Executive Committee. If the candidate has been vetted by the Vetting Committee, the candidate will be presumed to be entitled to nomination, subject to a  $\frac{3}{4}$  veto of the Executive Committee.

If a candidate has not been vetted by the Vetting Committee, the Executive Committee reserves the right to decline nomination of a candidate only for good cause.

8.5 If there is more than one aspirant candidate for a particular office, each candidate shall be vetted by the Vetting Committee; the candidates will then be subject to a vote of the electorate residing in the election district where the office is located, who will choose the candidate that will be nominated by the UCLP.

8.6 Except in a case in which New York State Election Law (including but not limited to Sections 6-102, 6-104, or 6-106 of Election Law), shall require a different method of Party designation for nomination for public office –

Selection of candidate(s) for public offices whose election district spans through Ulster County and other counties, shall be made as described above, except that

1. The UCLP Executive Committee will direct the UCLP's Committee on Inter-County Libertarian Party Alliances to form joint rules with the respective inter-county Libertarian Party organization(s) in order to coordinate selection of such subject aspirant candidate, and
2. Via those joint rules, a Special Convention made up by the electorate body that is an aggregate of all UCLP members and all other LP voters in the other counties who reside within the geographical area that makes up the cross county electoral district.

## **ARTICLE IX** **AMENDMENTS**

9.1. Initiation. Proposed amendments to these Rules and Regulations may be initiated by [1] the Executive Committee or [2] by any member of the UCLP upon presentation to the Executive Committee of a petition containing the text of the proposed amendment and bearing the signatures or other verifiable assignment of not less than 25% of the membership. Such petition

must be filed with the Secretary of the Executive Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the next annual Convention.

9.2. Ratification. Amendments shall not become effective unless ratified by a two-thirds (2/3) majority at the annual convention. If voted upon and defeated, it may not be voted upon again unless properly initiated as hereinbefore provided. Upon ratification, the new amendment will become effective immediately.

9.3. Severence:

If any of these rules are found to be legally invalid by a court of proper jurisdiction, then the rest of the rules shall still be considered in effect.

Upon such a finding, the Committees will then address at the earliest practicable time, whatever defect may have been found, and make corrections to the Rule it so that it both complies with law and accomplishes the original intent as close to what the law would allow. Such changes will be subject to a vote as an Amendment at the next Convention.

Additionally, where a rule has been invalidated as above, other Amendment proposals regarding the subject rule will be accepted as per §9.1[2], except that instead of 25%, it will only require 10% of the membership to make a proposal for presentation and ratification at the next Convention.

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**Certification:**

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

These Rules and Regulations shall become effective immediately upon their approval by a majority vote at the organizing meeting of the Interim County Committee as defined by Article 9 of the Libertarian Party of New York State, and shall remain in full force and effect as enacted, or as amended as hereinbefore provided, unless new Rules and Regulations expressly revoking and superseding these Rules and Regulations are adopted by the first Convention following the duly elected County Committee in 2020

Approved by the majority vote of the Ulster County Committee of the Libertarian Party held in Ulster County at 1 p.m., the 21<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2019 at the Plaza Diner, 271 Main Street, New Paltz, NY 12561

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B. Gary Treistman  
Chairman

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Robert M. Cotton  
Secretary