

Bylaws of the Labor Standing Committee

Adopted 11/14/2018

Article 1: Name

The name of this committee shall be the Labor Standing Committee of the New Orleans Democratic Socialists of America, also known as “the Labor Standing Committee” abbreviated as LSC, and referred to in this document as “the committee.”

Article 2: Purpose

This committee was established by the membership of the New Orleans Democratic Socialists of America in a general meeting. The purpose of the committee is to:

Educate the working class in the concepts of class struggle by creating educational material and hosting educational events to advance labor consciousness and union activities.

Establish an agenda to incorporate trade unionist activities into the day-to day lives of members by discussing critical events in the world of organized labor, facilitating a solidarity network to provide support to the labor movement, and participating in the organization of recognition campaigns when needed

Organize leadership within the labor movement that will discuss strategy and tactics and expand labor power as well as provide a forum to bring socialists and unionists together to network activities and advance the interests of the working class.

With our vision and by following this process we will revitalize the labor movement and challenge the ruling class on all fronts. A better world is possible.

The committee will democratically develop its prioritization of these projects and other issues as they arise, and will work with the Local Council, other chapter committees, and the general membership to advance our political program and goals.

Article 3: Organization

Section I: Voting

Unless otherwise specified in these bylaws, the deliberative body of the committee shall be the members of the committee meeting, in whole or in part, at a standing or special meeting. Majority vote is defined as 50% + 1 of members *in attendance* unless otherwise noted. $\frac{2}{3}$ vote is defined as $\frac{2}{3}$ of members *in attendance* unless otherwise noted.

Section II: Meetings

The committee shall convene on a schedule established by a majority vote of the committee. The committee may schedule a special meeting on a topic as needed.

Section III: Quorums

Unless otherwise specified by the bylaws, quorum of the committee will be at least one co-chair with at least 4 other committee members. The quorum required for bylaw ratification and/or amendments, and officer elections and/or recalls, is 40% of the Active Membership Roll as defined in Article 4, Section II.

Section IV: Virtual Meetings

The committee may conduct meetings in person or through electronic communication such as a voice conference line. Votes in virtual (non-in- person) meetings will be handled by roll call voting.

Section V: Communications

Unless otherwise noted, all communications to the LSC committee and co-chairs should be directed to labor@dsaneworleans.org

Article 4: Membership

Section I: Members

All New Orleans DSA members in good standing are eligible to be members of the LSC.

Section II: Committee Active Membership Roll

The active membership roll shall be maintained by the LSC co-chairs. Inclusion in the active membership roll shall require attendance at the meeting where quorum requirements are invoked, or at least 1 of the prior 4 meetings of the LSC.

Article 5: Officers

Section I: Co-Chairs

The committee shall have two (2) Co-Chairs. The Co-Chairs shall preside over all meetings of the committee. The Co-Chairs are responsible for the general political direction and management of the committee. They will also interpret the bylaws and parliamentary law for the committee. Co-chair selection should prioritize leadership by people with historically marginalized identities whenever possible. Co-chairs may not hold more than two consecutive terms (one year, as stipulated in Article 5, Section IV) in the same position.

Section II: Committee Steward

The committee shall hold a vote to designate one co-chair to be Committee Steward. The Committee Steward shall fulfill the responsibilities of Stewards as outlined in the Bylaws of the New Orleans Democratic Socialists of America. In the event that the designated Committee Steward cannot attend a council meeting, an alternate co-chair may serve as steward in the meeting, provided that the alternate steward represents only the LSC at the council meeting, per Local bylaws.

Section III: Campaign Chairs

The committee may elect a Campaign chair for each new campaign taken on by the committee. The Campaign Chair is responsible for general campaign direction, delegating organizing responsibilities, and making funding requests to the committee. A Co-Chair may serve as a Campaign Chair. A Campaign Chair may only serve as Chair for one campaign at a time. Campaign Chair can be but is not limited to or guaranteed to member who formally proposed the project to the Committee.

Section IV: Elections

Elections for committee officers will be held in the first standing meeting of each September.

In the event of an officer vacancy, an election will be held at the next standing meeting which falls at least two weeks after the vacancy occurs. Nominations for officer election (whether for scheduled election or election due to vacancy) shall be made to the presiding Co -Chairs of the committee, in writing, at least one week before the standing meeting when the election will occur. Any member may nominate a member as candidate for any committee officer position. A member may nominate themselves.

Section V: Recalling Officers

The committee may recall an officer by (1) calling a special meeting on the question of recalling the officer with at least two weeks of advance notification to the members of the committee and (2) obtaining a 2/3 vote at the special meeting in favor of recall. A recalled officer may not serve as an officer for one full year.

A special meeting to recall an officer can be called by a co-chair or a simple majority of members of the committee.

Section VI: Co-Chair Disagreements

Disagreements between the Co-Chairs and/or Campaign Chairs that cannot be resolved by the Co-Chairs and/or Campaign Chairs shall be put in front of the committee at the soonest opportunity and will be resolved by a vote of the committee.

Article 6: Campaigns

Section 1: Campaign Proposal

New campaigns may be proposed at any standing meeting by any member in good standing of New Orleans DSA. The proposal shall be a written statement including, when possible: a description of the proposed campaign, the political landscape of the issue, how DSA can advance a unique socialist perspective, and the approximate budget of time and labor.

Proposals should be considered with the understanding that the campaigns could change significantly when being developed and are not considered binding documents when approved. When possible, campaign proposals must be submitted to the co-chairs at least 48 hours before a standing meeting. Member will present proposal to committee members and co-chairs will facilitate a discussion on the proposal.

Section 2: Campaign Approval

Based on committee discussion of a new proposal, co-chairs may move to either allow a membership vote on accepting the proposal, or to move the vote to the following meeting to give more time to discuss and develop the proposal. A $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of members present at a standing meeting is required to move forward with a campaign.

Section 3: Campaign Changes

The Campaign Chair is responsible for communicating any major changes in campaign direction to Co-Chairs. Co-Chairs may request a committee vote on these changes at their discretion, whether at a standing meeting or a special meeting.

Section 4: Project Dissolution

Any committee member may move to dissolve a campaign at any standing committee meeting or a special meeting if urgent. Campaign Dissolution requires a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote, including at least 1 Co-Chair vote.

Article 7: Funds

The management and distribution of the Labor Standing Committee funds shall be the responsibility of the Co-Chairs, in accordance with the bylaws of the Local. All spending shall be approved at standing committee meetings with a simple majority vote. Co-chairs shall develop more details regarding management of funds after all Co-chairs are elected.

Article 8: Amendments

Amendments to these bylaws made be made by a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote in a standing meeting.

Article 9: Rules of Order

Robert's Rules of Order shall be used for committee meetings, unless a decision is made by both co-chairs or by 50% + 1 of Committee meetings to amend the rules of order for a given meeting.