

BYLAWS

Name

The name of the club shall be the Mid-Cities Democrats.

Mission Statement

"The mission of the Mid-Cities Democrats is to be an effective group of Democratic and independent voters in Northeast Tarrant County, dedicated toward educating voters and to encourage Democratic Party ideals, as well as working for the election of candidates who support those ideals."

Mid-Cities Democrats Goals (in Acronym format)

"ACT NOW"

- A** – Actively expand membership
- C** – Chair our precincts
- T** – Touch base with our membership

- N** – Nurture democracy
- O** – Outreach to our community
- W** – Win elections

Summary of Purpose

- Fill all precinct chairs in our area and work to provide training and technical support for our precinct chairpersons.
- Educate voters by addressing issues.
- Encourage Democrats to participate and be informed.
- Recruit Democratic candidates in Northeast Tarrant County and work to provide them with resources and tools to help win elections.
- Actively cooperate with TCDP and other Democratic groups and clubs in Tarrant County, sharing resources and collaborating on projects to advance our collective goals.
- Increase our visibility and the visibility of our candidates in Northeast Tarrant County.

Membership

Membership in Mid-Cities Democrats shall be open to anyone who is interested in working for the betterment of the Democratic Party and to elect independent, progressive minded candidates. A membership application must be completed and submitted to the membership committee for consideration.

Meetings

The club as a whole shall meet once a month, on the fourth Thursday of the month, unless altered by the Executive Committee, at a place and time to be determined. The Executive Committee shall hold meetings monthly at a place and time to be determined by the President of the Club in which club business would be conducted outside of normal Mid-Cities gatherings. Benefits to membership include, but are not limited to, discounts to various club fundraisers and events, discounts on club

merchandise, investment in the club's mission and goals, and the right to vote on club business.

Dues

Each member shall pay dues of \$20.00 per year at any point during the calendar year to be recognized as a member of the Mid-Cities Democrats. A new membership drive begins in January of each calendar year. A member must have paid his/her yearly dues to be considered in good standing and a voting member. Membership dues for high school and college students shall be waived, and such students shall be considered members in good standing and voting members. Membership dues may also be waived for people in special circumstances, at the discretion of the Executive Board and/or Membership committee.

Officers

The officers of the Mid-Cities Democrats shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary/historian, treasurer, and fundraising coordinator. These officers shall serve for a term of one year.

The duties of the President shall be to preside over club meetings and Executive Committee meetings, to appoint committee members and to represent the club at meetings of other organizations. The President has the discretion to expand the duties of elected officers as needed to maintain operation of the club. The President shall not make decisions of an Executive nature without the advice and consent of voting members of the Executive Committee.

The duties of the vice-president shall be to act as president in the absence of the president, act as chair of the membership committee, be in charge of communications (content of newsletters and website), media relations, assist the other officers in all ways possible, and to carryout decisions made at an executive committee level.

The duties of the secretary/historian shall be to take minutes of each meeting and to report those minutes to the club at each meeting, and to record and document club activities.

The duties of the treasurer shall be to maintain the financial records, maintain lawful PAC standing with the Texas Ethics Commission, and to present a treasurer's report at each meeting.

The duties of the fundraising coordinator shall be to explore and implement ways and means to raise money for club activities and to support candidates, should any particular candidates be supported by the club. The fundraising coordinator will call for special committees, as needed, for special events.

Elections

Election of officers shall be held yearly, at the January meeting of the club. To be considered for nomination one must be a paid member of the Mid-Cities Democrats in good standing, and their name must be submitted by another paid member of the club in good standing. Nominations are taken at the meeting of the eleventh month of each calendar year. Nominations remain open through the eleventh and twelfth month of each calendar year. Members in good standing retain the right to vote on nominated officers.

Revised September 2009

Order of Business

The order of business for club meetings shall be, but not limited to:

A call to order

Acknowledgement of guests, candidates, and elected officials

Presentation of financial report by the treasurer

Presentation of minutes from the previous months' meeting by the secretary

Any old business

Any new business

Committee reports

City Group reports

Conducting of Business

In order for business to be conducted a quorum must be established. To establish a quorum, and for business to be conducted, a minimum of 10% of paid members to the club must be present and in good standing.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall have the power to act on club business between regularly scheduled meetings of the club. Executive Committee meeting attendance is by invitation only and subject to the discretion of the President and Vice President of the club.

The five elected officers of the club shall be voting members of the Executive Committee.

In addition, the Executive Committee shall appoint a Webmaster, Volunteer Coordinator and a Parliamentarian/Sergeant-at-Arms as At-Large non-voting members of the Executive Committee. These are positions for which the person should have certain qualifications, therefore, they should be appointed by the Executive committee, not elected. These non-voting appointments of the Executive Committee serve in an advisory capacity.

In addition to the voting members of the Executive Committee and the At-Large non-voting members of the Executive Committee, each City Group shall appoint one representative as a non-voting member of the Executive Committee to serve in an advisory capacity.

The Executive Committee has the power to commit up to \$250 of club money raised toward any initiative the committee believes appropriate and within the guidelines of our club mission and/or fulfillment of our club goals. For initiatives beyond the threshold of \$250 the initiative must be first voted on and approved by the Executive Committee of the club. Upon approval by the Executive Committee, the membership of the club must hear and approve the expenditure at the next available opportunity to establish a quorum of members present to conduct business.

Committees

The following committees shall be established as standing committees:

- Membership – to track and work to increase membership, welcome new people to the club, and to prepare new member packets.
- Candidate Identification, Resource Development, and Support – to find quality candidates in our area, and to identify ways and means to support these candidates.
- Technology – to research tools to benefit precinct chairs, and to train precinct chairs and members on how to better organize Democratic voters.
- Community Outreach – to work on filling precinct chair vacancies, interface with TCDP and other Democratic clubs and groups, research community events and activities in which we may want to participate, and track articles and letter-to-the-editor in newspapers.

Amendments

These bylaws may be amended. Amendments to the club bylaws are submitted for review to the Executive Committee and voted on by Committee members present. Amendments approved by the Executive Committee are put forward for consideration by club members at the next available opportunity. For amendments to be considered by the membership a quorum must be established. Amendments are read by a designated Executive Committee member and discussion remains open at the discretion of the President of the club. For amendments to pass a majority of members present, and in good standing, must approve.