# **BYLAWS**

# OF THE

# AMHERST REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE

# **ARTICLE I**

## A. Authority

The Amherst Republican Town Committee (hereinafter "ARTC") is organized under the authority of the National, New Hampshire State and Hillsborough County Republican Committees.

## B. Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Amherst Republican Town Committee shall be to enhance the well-being of our community, state, and nation through the formulation of and advocacy for, Republican principles, policies, positions, and candidates, both within our community and through our affiliation with Republican County, State, and National Party Committees. The ARTC endeavors to:

- Represent opinions and concerns of Amherst Republicans to State and National representatives and candidates as a means of promoting government policies;
- Formulate and provide grassroots input to State and National Party Platforms, and promote and advocate those platforms once they are formalized;
- Conduct fundraising activities to support local Republican candidates in general elections, and pay ARTC expenses;
- Offer local coordination and support to Republican candidates in general elections;
- Host Republican officials and candidates who visit Amherst;
- Recruit Republican candidates for state and local offices from among those who support the State Republican Party Platform;
- Maintain local Republican voter and membership lists;
- Oversee Republican Ballot Inspectors;
- Provide regular updates to Amherst Republicans on political issues and events;
- Encourage networking to promote strong contacts and volunteerism among town Republicans;
  and
- Keep Republican principles and policies before the local community through press releases, speaking opportunities, public forums, and promotion of ARTC activities.

The Official Bylaws of the Amherst Republican Town Committee P.O. Box 6125, Amherst, NH, 03031 USA

## **ARTICLE II**

### A. Composition

The Amherst Republican Town Committee shall be composed of a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, a Treasurer, a Secretary and such other members as shall meet the following criteria. In order to qualify for membership, a person must be a registered Republican, reside in the Town of Amherst, attend a meeting of the ARTC, and be recognized by the ARTC as a current member (hereinafter "member"). The ARTC shall maintain a list of all members in good standing.

#### B. Duties

The ARTC shall, in cooperation with the State and County Republican Committees, have the duty to manage the affairs of the Republican Party within the Town of Amherst, to direct the general policy and campaign activities of the Party organization, to perform all duties required of it by law or custom, and which may include, but are not limited to, those functions described in Article I of this document.

## C. Meetings

At least one Regular Meeting of the ARTC shall be held prior to February 1st of each year. If no meeting is held prior to that date, it shall be the duty of the Hillsborough County Committee Chairperson to establish a date and place for such a meeting. Other meetings may be called at the initiative of the ARTC Chairperson, or upon the written request of 25% of the ARTC membership. Notice of any meeting shall be provided to each member at least five days before the date of the meeting. In addition, for any meeting where election of officers is scheduled to take place, notice of the meeting and its purpose shall be published.

### ARTICLE III

### A. Officers

The officers shall consist of a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, a Treasurer, a Secretary and such other officers as the members may choose to identify (collectively known as the "Executive Committee"). The same person may hold the positions of Treasurer and Secretary. The Executive Committee has the authority to propose the amount for annual dues and present the amount to the majority of the Committee for their approval.

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#### 1. Chairperson

The Chairperson is the chief executive officer of the ARTC. As such, it is the responsibility of the Chairperson to ensure that the duties and activities of the ARTC, as defined in these bylaws, are accomplished. The Chairperson may provide an annual report of ARTC activities to the State Committee and appoint subcommittees as deemed appropriate, including nominating and auditing committees.

### 2. Vice Chairperson

The Vice Chairperson shall assist the Chairperson in the accomplishment of the duties and responsibilities identified in these bylaws, shall preside over meetings in the absence of the Chairperson, and may accomplish other tasks as requested by the Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson shall also be the membership chair.

#### 3. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall record the amount and source of all funds received by the ARTC, shall maintain proper books of account for all funds received and disbursed, and shall disburse funds only with consent of the majority of members in attendance or by the discretion of the full Executive Committee. The saved monies of the ARTC shall be kept in a checking account. There shall be an annual audit of the books. An audit shall take place whenever the office of Treasurer and/or Chairperson is transferred from one member to another or whenever requested by the Chairperson or by a majority vote by those members in attendance at a properly convened business meeting.

### 4. Secretary

The Secretary shall prepare minutes for all ARTC meetings and shall be the custodian of all permanent books and records of the ARTC and may accomplish other tasks as requested by the Chairperson.

### **B.** Elections

Officers shall be elected at a Regular Meeting on odd numbered years. Candidates for an officer position must be a ARTC member in good standing and be nominated by a ARTC member in good standing and have their nomination seconded by a ARTC member. In the event there are two or more candidates for a given office, a plurality of those present and voting shall decide an election. Each ARTC member shall have one vote.

### C. Vacancies

The Chairperson shall fill vacancies on a temporary basis within 30 days of occurrence. Such temporary officers shall serve until the next Regular Meeting, when the office shall be filled by election. Should a vacancy not be filled within 30 days of occurrence, the County or State Chairpersons shall have authority to fill the vacancy until the next Regular Meeting. The Chairperson may grant reasonable leaves of absences and appoint temporary replacements.

### D. Disqualification and Removal

No one may serve as an officer of the ARTC who openly and publicly supports another candidate in preference to a Republican in a partisan election or does not meet the criteria for membership in Article II, Section A. Officers may be removed from office by written petition of the majority of members to the Chair of the New Hampshire Republican State Committee. Upon three unexcused, consecutive absences from ARTC meetings, the majority of members in attendance may elect to remove the officer.

# E. Primary Neutrality

The ARTC shall maintain strict neutrality in all primary elections. This shall not prevent any member, with the exception of the Chairperson, from supporting a preferred candidate as an individual.

# **ARTICLE IV**

### A. Amendments

A member of the Town Committee may submit amendments to the bylaws at anytime to the ARTC officers. ARTC members in attendance will vote on the bylaw change at the first Regular Meeting of the year or at another Regular Meeting determined by the Chairperson.

Adopted by ARTC members in attendance on July 3, 2010 and are effective immediately.