

Las Cruces TEA Party Bylaws

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Article 1

Name

The name of the organization shall be The Las Cruces TEA Party, hereinafter referred to as the LCTP.

Article 2

Affiliation

The LCTP is a sovereign body of local citizens with a shared purpose and philosophy. It may be affiliated with like-minded groups across the nation and may often work cooperatively with them for a common purpose.

Article 3

Mission

The LCTP is a non-partisan group dedicated to promoting the principles of limited government, fiscal responsibility and restraint, as well as individual freedoms and liberties guaranteed to the citizens of the United States by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The LCTP promotes active participation in the development of governmental policy in order to limit the tyranny that results from unrestrained legislation and taxation. The LCTP provides information, promotes self-education, involvement of the public at all levels, and provides a forum where American citizens have a chance to be heard.

Article 4

Membership

Section 1. All memberships will be valid from January 1st to December 31st of each calendar year.

Section 2. Voting members will pay annual dues.

Section 3. Members whose names appear on the Membership Roster and have paid their dues will be able to vote in elections requiring a written ballot.

Article 5

Officers of the Executive Board

Section 1. The Officers of the Executive Board shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and seven Standing Committee Chairs.

Section 2. All officers must be in good standing.

Section 3. Duties of the President are but not limited to:

- a. Preside at meeting of the LCTP.
- b. Make policy recommendations to the LCTP.
- c. Act as the administrative officer of the LCTP.
- d. The President shall vote only in the case of a tie.

Section 4. Duties of the Vice President are but not limited to:

- a. In the absence of the President, will assume all the duties of the President.
- b. Assume duties as assigned by the President.
- c. Maintain an inventory of all LCTP property and a list as to where it is stored.

Section 5. Duties of the Secretary are but not limited to:

- a. Be responsible for the recording of minutes at all general and Executive Board meetings.
- b. Submit minutes for approval at the appropriate meeting.

Section 6. Duties of the Treasurer are but not limited to:

- a. Maintain financial records according to current accounting standards and practices.
- b. Receive and disperse all funds for the organization.
- c. Present interim financial statements to the Executive Board as requested.
- d. Act as a designated signatory along with three other members of the Executive Committee for LCTP bank account transactions. Two out of four signatures are required on all checks.
- e. Submit records for internal audit at end of term.

Section 7. Duties of the Executive Board are to conduct and authorize the business of the organization.

Article 6

Committees

Section 1. There will be seven standing committees, the purposes of which are to provide for the smooth operation of the organization.

Section 2. The Standing Committee Chairs shall serve on the Executive Board.

Section 3. Rules for these committees may be altered as situations determine and listed as a standing rule.

Article 7

Election of the Officers of the Board

Section 1. Officers shall be elected by secret ballot annually at the January general meeting. Their term of office, as well as those elected during any special elections held during the year, shall end when new officers are installed at the end of the next January general meeting.

Section 2. Officers shall serve no more than two consecutive terms in the same office and may not hold more than one office at a time.

Section 3. A Nominating Committee, consisting of a chair and at least two members, shall be selected at the October meeting. At the December general meeting, the Committee shall submit to the membership a slate of one or more candidates for each office, including their qualifications. Nominations may be made from the floor prior to the election and must also include qualifications.

Section 4. In the event that no candidate receives a majority vote on the first ballot, the two candidates with the highest number of votes shall be voted on in a run-off ballot.

Section 5. The Executive Board will arrange a special election in the event a vacancy occurs during an officer's term of office.

Article 8

Meetings

Section 1. General meetings shall be open to all and held at least monthly. Additional meetings may be called by the President, and notice must be sent to the membership in a timely fashion.

Section 2. The Executive Board shall meet at least monthly. Additional meetings may be called by the President.

Article 9

Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. Rules contained in *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws.

Section 2. There shall be a Parliamentarian appointed by the President.

Section 3. Duties of the Parliamentarian are:

- a. Insure the proficient application of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* at general membership and Executive Board meetings.
- b. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President.
- c. The Parliamentarian does not vote on matters brought before the Executive Board.

Article 10

Property

Section 1. All records and property purchased or acquired by the LCTP in connection with the conduct of business shall be the property of the LCTP.

Section 2. Contracts, Loans, Deposits

- a. Contracts: The Executive Board may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of LCTP.
- b. Loans: No loans shall be contracted on behalf of the LCTP and no evidence of indebtedness shall be issued in its name.
- c. Deposits: All funds under control of the Executive Board shall be deposited to the credit of the Las Cruces TEA Party in such banks, trust companies, savings and loan institutions, or other depositories as the Executive Board may select.

Section 3. No officer, representative, or spokesperson shall have any financial liability for the LCTP except that each individual is responsible for the prompt transmittal of funds collected by the member to the Treasurer,

and for the accurate accounting as to funds and property in the member's custody and on behalf of the LCTP.

Section 4. In the event of dissolution of the organization, all assets shall be assigned to a Las Cruces charity. At no time shall any individual member or minority of members benefit from the assets of the organization.

Article 11

Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended or revised by a two-thirds vote of paid members present at a general meeting, provided written notice has been given at least three weeks in advance.

Article 12

Ratification

These Bylaws may be ratified by a two-thirds vote of those present at a special meeting. The Bylaws will be made available at least three weeks prior to the vote.