

# **PORT CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN CLUB**

## **CONSTITUTION/BYLAWS**

### ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of the club shall be the Port Charlotte Republican Club, hereinafter referred to as the Club.

### ARTICLE II - OBJECT

The object of the Club shall be:

- a) To attract members into, and involve them in the Republican Party and subsequently provide them with a practical means of Republican Party participation, leadership training and political involvement, at all levels of government.
- b) To support the principles, objectives, and platform of the Republican Party and to help secure the election of all duly nominated Republican candidates in the General Election and registered Republicans in non-partisan elections.

### ARTICLE III - MEMBERS

Section 1: The Club shall recognize the following two classes of membership:

- a) Active - Any registered Republican voter, who resides within the boundaries of Charlotte County.
- b) Associate - Any other registered Republican voter who does not qualify for Active status.

Section 2: The annual dues shall be \$15.00 for Active and Associate members, payable to the Treasurer upon becoming a member, and then yearly on or before December 31.

### ARTICLE IV -OFFICERS

Section1: The officers of the Club shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Officers must be members of Active membership classification, in good standing with the Club. Officers shall be elected annually at the regular meeting of the Club during the month of December.

- a) Elections shall be conducted by the President, who will take nominations from

the floor. Elections win be for one office at a time.

- b) Voting in election shall be by secret ballot, unless a candidate is unopposed, whereas a voice vote may then be taken.

Section 2: The duties of the officers shall be as follows:

- a) The President shall preside over all meetings of the Club and its Executive Board and exercise general supervision over all activities of the Club. The President shall have the power to appoint all committee chairmen.
- b) The Vice President shall assist the President in supervising the activities of the Club, and preside at all meetings in the absence of the President
- c) The Secretary shall be the recording officer of the Club, including meetings of the Club and Executive Board, and shall keep a record of the minutes of all such meetings, making those minutes available to the general membership.
- d) The Treasurer shall collect all funds paid to the club or any of its committees, receipt therefore and deposit same in accounts designated by the Club. The Treasurer shall be responsible for making all expenditures authorized by the Club. The Treasurer shall give a report at each regular meeting of the Club regarding receipts, expenditures, and the financial status of the Club.

Section 3: All vacancies of offices shall be filled by majority vote at the next regular meeting of the Club after vacancy becomes known. In the event the office of President becomes vacant, the Vice President shall temporarily assume the office of President until a new President is elected at the next regular meeting.

## ARTICLE V -MEETINGS

Section 1: The regular meeting of the Club shall be held at the date, time and location specified, as determined by a majority vote of the Club. The Club shall hold a minimum of six regular meetings each year.

Section 2: The regular meeting held during the month of December shall be known as the Annual Meeting of the Club, and shall be for, but not limited to, the election of officers.

Section 3: Special meetings may be called by the President or by the Executive Board, or by written request of ten members of the Club. At least ten days' notice must be given and the purpose of the special meeting must be stated in the notice.

Section 4: Only members of Active classification shall be allowed to vote in meetings of the Club. Pursuant to the Republican Party of Florida Rules of Procedure, proxy voting shall not be allowed in any meeting of the club.

Section 5: Twenty percent of the Club's membership, classified as Active, shall constitute a quorum.

#### ARTICLE VI – EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1: The officers of the Club and all committee chairmen shall constitute the Executive Board. Only the officers of the Club shall be voting members of the Board.

Section 2: The Executive Board shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Club between regular meetings of the Club and fix the time and place for meetings of the Board. The Board shall be subject to the orders of the Club, and none of its acts shall conflict with action taken by the Club.

Section 3: Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President or upon written request of three members of the Board.

#### ARTICLE VII -COMMITTEES

Section 1: A Finance Committee composed of the Treasurer and two other members shall be appointed by the President promptly after each annual meeting. It shall be the duty of this committee to prepare a budget for the club.

Section 2: A Program and Projects Committee of members shall be appointed by the President promptly after the annual meeting, whose duty shall be to plan the programs and any special projects of the Club.

Section 3: An Auditing Committee of at least two members shall be appointed by the President at the annual meeting, whose duty it shall be to audit the Treasurer's account at the close of the fiscal year and to report at the next regular meeting following the annual meeting.

Section 4: Such other committees, standing or special, shall be appointed by the President as deemed necessary to carry on the work of the Club. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

#### ARTICLE VIII - ENDORSEMENTS & INTRA-PARTY DIFFERENCES

Pursuant to the Republican Party of Florida Rules of Procedure, no chartered club or organization using the name Republican shall participate in intra-party differences, nor shall it, as an organization, seek to influence the nomination or election of any Republican over another Republican unless the County Executive Committee has endorsed one Republican over another. Then, the Club may seek to influence the election of 'the candidate endorsed by the County Executive Committee. Chartered clubs shall not entertain motions to adopt platform positions on issues or endorse candidates except that they may entertain such motions to take the same position or

endorse the same candidate as the County Executive Committee has taken. Under no circumstances shall a chartered club invite a non-Republican to be a guest speaker at a club meeting or function without prior approval of the County Republican Executive Board. The Chairman of the Republican Party of Florida shall be the authority with respect to internal disputes referred by any Club or member of a Club chartered under this rule.

#### ARTICLE IX - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised" shall govern the Club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws, the Republican Party of Florida Constitution, the Republican Party of Florida Rule Procedure, and any special rules of order the Club may adopt.

#### ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Club by a two-thirds vote, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting.

Adopted on January 1, 2010

Revised on February 18, 2013

Revised on April 15, 2013

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William C. Abbatematteo, President

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Carole Pettee, Secretary