



Portage County Young Democrats

**Executive Committee Meeting
February 23, 2022**

I. Call To Order: 8:00 PM

II. Roll Call:

Castle: Present
Clevenger-Morris: Present
Errera: Present
Narzisi: Present

III. Special Orders

A. Emergency Updates to the Standing Rules

MOTION: Enter Executive Session.

MOVED: Castle

SECOND: Errera

MOTION: 4-0-0

MOTION: Exit Executive Session.

MOVED: Errera

SECOND: Castle

MOTION: 4-0-0

MOTION: To approve the following resolution.

WHEREAS: The Portage County Young Democrats, through their affiliations with the Ohio Young Democrats, the Young Democrats of America, and Democratic National Committee, stand as an official affiliated organization of the Ohio Democratic Party; AND

WHEREAS: The governing documents of the Ohio Democratic Party supercede the governing documents of Portage County Young Democrats, including sections pertaining to the endorsement of candidates by the State Executive Committee; AND

WHEREAS: The governing documents of the Portage County Young Democrats must

align with the governing documents of the Ohio Democratic Party in order to maintain their charter status with the Ohio Young Democrats; THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Executive Committee of the Portage County Young Democrats does hereby approve the following language to Section 6.0 of the Standing Rules of this organization, approved as an emergency, to replace any/all existing text in that section.

6.0 Endorsements

In each election year, the President must form the Campaigns Committee for the purpose of evaluating and recommending candidates, issues and referendums for endorsement to the Executive Committee.

- I. The Campaigns Committee will only consider candidates, issues and referendums that will appear on the ballot in Portage County, and who have completed an endorsement questionnaire.
- II. Candidates endorsed by the Ohio Democratic Party will automatically be considered the endorsed Democratic candidate.

Only those candidates, issues and referendums that have received the endorsement of the Portage County Young Democrats, or the Ohio Democratic Party, will be eligible for coordinated actions on behalf of the organization.

- I. In the instance of candidates, issues and referendums falling outside of Portage County (Ex. Special Elections, Runoffs, etc.), the Executive Committee may vote to consider active support/involvement. Such actions would require a simple majority vote of the Executive Committee.

No Elected or Appointed Officer will, directly or indirectly, use their title or position within this organization to actively support a non-endorsed candidate, issue or referendum.

6.01 Campaign Committee

The President shall name no less than two (2) and no more than four (4) Voting Members to the Campaign Committee for the purpose of reviewing and recommending candidates, issues or referendums for endorsement and/or non-endorsement.

- I. Additional Voting, Regular and/or Honorary Members may be included in, and assigned tasks for, the Campaign Committee as needed by the President. These individuals will not have a vote on the Committee.

6.02 Endorsement Process

Endorsements for candidates, issues and/or referendums will be considered no later than thirty (30) days prior to a scheduled election.

The Campaign Committee will draft, approve and launch an endorsement questionnaire electronically no less than twenty-one (21) days prior to a scheduled Endorsement Meeting of the Voting Members.

- I. Candidates, issues and/or referendums seeking the endorsement of the Portage County Young Democrats will be given fourteen (14) days to complete and submit a candidate questionnaire for consideration.
- II. Following the close of the endorsement questionnaire, submissions will be made available online to all members of the Portage County Young Democrats for review.
- III. The Campaigns Committee will approve recommendations for candidates, issues and/or referendum endorsements to the Executive Committee no later than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the Endorsement Meeting.

6.03 Considering Endorsements

The Executive Committee will meet to consider the recommendations of the Campaign Committee two (2) hours prior to the scheduled membership Endorsement Meeting.

- I. The Executive Committee will consider the endorsement of candidates, issues and/or referendums on an individual basis.
- II. A simple majority vote of the Elected Officers present is required to advance a candidate, issue and/or referendum for consideration for endorsement by the Voting Membership.

6.04 Confirming Endorsements

Upon the receipt of endorsement recommendations from the Executive Committee, Voting Members will be given the opportunity to confirm or deny the endorsement of candidates, issues and/or referendums

In order to receive the endorsement of the Portage County Young Democrats, a candidate,

issue and/or referendum must receive an affirmative vote of sixty (60) percent of the Voting Members present, or have been endorsed by the Ohio Democratic Party.

- I. In the event an individual candidate, issue or referendum recommended by the Executive Committee does not meet the required vote threshold to receive the endorsement of the Portage County Young Democrats, a member may make a motion to nominate another candidate for endorsement from the floor.
- II. In the case of considering non-recommended candidates, issues or referendums for endorsement, the candidate, issue or referendum must receive an affirmative vote of seventy-five (75) percent of Voting Members present.

6.05 Endorsement Length and Revocation

Endorsements of the Portage County Young Democrats will be considered active through the certification of general election results by the Board of Elections, and/or Secretary of State.

- I. Should a candidate for office be unsuccessful in their primary election, or withdraw from said election, their endorsement will be considered null and void upon certification of the Board of Elections, and/or Secretary of State.
- II. If the Campaign Committee has not yet formed to consider endorsement in an election cycle, the Executive Committee may vote to allow specific actions supporting previously elected and endorsed candidates seeking re-election to the same office.

In the case of candidates, issues or referendums endorsed by the Portage County Young Democrats, but not endorsed by the Ohio Democratic Party, the Executive Committee may vote to revoke their endorsement at any time.

- I. Violations of local, state and/or federal law, of the governing documents of this organization or affiliated organizations, or actions that directly contradict the mission and/or vision of the Portage County Young Democrats may be considered grounds for endorsement revocation.
- II. A 2/3 majority vote of the Executive Committee is required to revoke the endorsement of a candidate, issue or referendum.
- III. In the event of a revocation of endorsement for a candidate in an election, a joint session of the Executive Committee and Campaigns Committee may be called within seven (7) days to consider the endorsement of another candidate.

- A. Such endorsement would require a 2/3 majority vote of voting committee members present.
- B. Only voting members of the Executive Committee and Campaigns Committee will be permitted to speak.
- C. In the case of a Democratic primary, other Democrats appearing on the ballot may be considered.
- D. In the case of a nonpartisan election, all other candidates for the same office may be considered.

MOVED: Castle
SECOND: Errera
MOTION: 3-1-0

Note: There will be a board work session on Monday, February 28th at 8:00 PM.

XII. Adjournment at 9:00 PM

MOVED: Narzisi
SECOND: Castle
MOTION: 4-0-0