

**CLEVELAND STONEWALL DEMOCRATS**

**("CSD")**

**CODE OF REGULATIONS**



**ARTICLE I: GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**1.1 NAME AND STATUS**

This name of this organization shall be the Cleveland Stonewall Democrats (herein referred to as the CSD). The CSD is a non-profit political committee that is an affiliate of the National Stonewall Democrats (herein referred to as the NSD). The NSD was registered with the Federal Election Commission in December, 1997, and incorporated in the District of Columbia on May 6, 1998.

**1.2 LOCATION**

The CSD has been organized under the laws of the state of Ohio. The mailing address and telephone contact for the CSD shall be listed in at least one community publication of general distribution within the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) community. Listings shall be among other political organizations and/or activities within the Northeast Ohio GLBT community. The principal activities of the CSD shall be located in Cuyahoga County, Ohio. However, activities may take place both in and out of the Cuyahoga County area as business of the CSD may require.

**ARTICLE II: PURPOSE**

**2.1 MISSION STATEMENT**

Cleveland Stonewall Democrats are devoted to advancing equal rights for all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. The CSD supports the Democratic Party and Democratic candidates who support our mission. It draws its strength from a regional network of Northeast Ohio individuals composed of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and allied-straight Democrats who are working to achieve the following goals:

- A) To educate the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community, and people who are supportive of it, about the vast differences that exist between the two major parties on the issues of concern to our community;
- B) To lead our party to improve its record on issues of importance to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community, including civil

rights legislation, prevention of hate crimes, AIDS prevention and treatment, gay and lesbian health and wellness; and women's reproductive freedom.

- C) to work for the nomination of Democratic candidates from the local to the national level, including qualified gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender candidates, who will be fully supportive of our efforts against bigotry and intolerance; and,
- D) To encourage our community to support and vote for Democratic candidates who are committed to defeating homophobia and prejudice.

## **2.2 CLEVELAND STONEWALL DEMOCRATS PAC**

The Cleveland Stonewall Democrats have established a Political Action Committee (Hereafter referred to as the PAC). The PAC financially supports the Democratic Party, and Democratic Candidates who support our mission and who have been endorsed by a vote of the Cleveland Stonewall Democrats.

## **ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP**

### **3.1 QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP**

Any Democrat subscribing to the purposes of the CSD, described in the Mission Statement in Article II and complying with the provisions of these by-laws, and who is current in the payment of dues, may become a voting member of the CSD (herein referred to as "Voting Member").

### **3.2 DUES**

Each Voting Member shall pay annual dues as set forth by the Executive Committee with the approval of the voting members. Dues shall be renewed on the anniversary date of that the Voting Member joined the CSD.

### **3.3 MAILING LIST**

The President of the CSD and any other person as designated by the Executive Committee (see article 5) shall maintain the list of Members, which shall include the name and mailing address provided by the Voting Member, and the date on which the Voting Member first qualified for membership. The membership list of the CSD shall be confidential and shall not be delivered or disclosed to any Voting Member or any other person. Nothing herein shall restrict the use of the membership list for mailing purposes by the CSD or for such other purposes or by any other person or entity so long as the Executive Committee approves such use.

### **3.4 RESPONSIBILITIES OF VOTING MEMBERS OF THE CSD**

The duties of the Voting Members of the CSD are as follows:

- A) To annually evaluate, recommend and approve -- as considered appropriate by the Voting Members of the CSD – the mission, program, goals, and plan of operation for the CSD as recommended by or through the Executive Committee;**
- B) To establish policies governing the operation of the CSD, Officers, and Executive Committee;**
- C) To attend the regularly scheduled CSD meetings in order to advise, counsel, suggest, debate, and participate in the decision-making process with respect to the mission, program, goals and plan of operation for the CSD;**
- D) To execute, fulfill, complete, and satisfy, to the best of her/his ability, any task, charge, assignment, duty, or responsibility assigned to him or her by the President or Executive Committee or their appointed designee or agent;**
- E) To conduct themselves in a reasonable manner, appropriate to the forum, when representing the CSD; and,**
- F) To nominate and select Officers.**

### **3.5 MEETINGS OF THE CSD**

The Voting Members shall meet as is deemed necessary by the Executive Committee, but no less than once each year, with the proper notice given.

- A) THE ANNUAL MEETING: The Annual Meeting of the CSD shall be held not later than thirty (30) days after the end of each calendar year. The format, date, time, and location of said meeting shall be determined by the Executive Committee. Notice of the date, time, and location of the Annual Meeting shall be mailed at least two weeks in advance to all Voting Members by the CSD Secretary or designee of Secretary. The purposes of the Annual Meeting shall be to evaluate the progress of the CSD, elect the Officers, receive and act upon reports and such other transactions as may be brought before the members at the meeting. No formal action may be taken at the Annual Meeting without a quorum, as mandated in Article X. If a quorum is present, any action taken must have the affirmation of a simple majority of the Voting Members present, unless otherwise provided herein.**
- B) REGULARLY SCHEDULED CSD MEETINGS: The Executive Committee, along with the Voting Members, will meet on a regular schedule as determined by the President and announced to the voting members at the Annual Meeting or through some other form**

of reasonable notification. No formal action may be taken at a regularly scheduled CSD meeting without a quorum, as mandated in Article X, and a majority of the Executive Committee members. If a quorum is present, any action taken on behalf of the CSD must have the affirmation of a simple majority of the Executive Committee members and other Voting Members present, unless provided otherwise herein.

- C) **STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** Standing Committee meetings will be called by the Committee Chair or by any two appointed members of the Standing Committee. As appropriate, notification of the Standing Committee meetings shall follow the procedures described herein. Except for the Executive Committee, Standing Committees may not act on behalf of the CSD without having received previously expressed authorization from the CSD during a Regularly Scheduled CSD Meeting or Executive Committee Meeting. In addition to the Regularly Scheduled CSD Meetings, the Executive Committee may also meet periodically to discuss and conduct the general operational business of the CSD and may act upon only such matters without having obtained previously expressed authorization during a Regularly Scheduled CSD Meeting.
- D) **SPECIAL/EMERGENCY MEETINGS:** Special or Emergency Meetings of the CSD may be called by any two (2) members of the Executive Committee and/or twenty-five percent of the Voting Members. No formal action may be taken at a Special or Emergency Meeting without a quorum, as mandated in Article X. If a quorum is present any action taken on behalf of the CSD must have the affirmation of a simple majority of the members present, unless otherwise provided herein. The Secretary shall give appropriate notification, in advance, of any Special or Emergency Meeting and may use any of the following means of notification as may be reasonable under the circumstances: U.S. Mail, telephone, voice message, telecopier/facsimile, and/or e-mail message. Record keeping of the discussion during Special and Emergency Meetings shall be held to the same high standard as during Regularly Scheduled and Executive Committee Meetings.

## **ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS**

### **4.1 OFFICER ELECTION**

Voting Members of the CSD shall elect by majority vote the following officers. Officers shall be voting members of CSD.

- A) President;
- B) Vice President for Political Strategy;

- C) Vice President for Membership
- D) Vice President for Public Relations;
- E) Vice President for Fundraising;
- F) Vice President for Community Liaison;
- G) Vice President of Volunteer Coordination;
- H) Secretary; and,
- I) Treasurer.

Each officer will hold her/his office until her/his successor is appointed and qualified or until her/his earlier resignation or removal. All officers will be elected to a one-year term by the Voting Members. Officers shall be permitted to be elected to consecutive terms by the Voting Members.

#### **4.2 PRESIDENT**

The President will be the chief executive officer and primary spokesperson for the CSD. Subject to the provisions of these by-laws and to the direction of the Voting Members, the President will have the responsibility for the general management and control of the affairs and business of the CSD subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. Furthermore, the President will perform all duties and have any powers which are commonly incident to the office of chief executive or which are delegated to him or her by the Voting Members and/or Executive Committee. Without limiting the foregoing, the President will have the following responsibilities:

- A) The power to sign all contracts and other instruments of the CSD which are authorized by the Executive Committee;
- B) General supervision and direction of all of the other Officers and agents of the CSD;
- C) Overall responsibility for seeing that the CSD and its committees carry out the purposes for which the CSD is based;
- D) The power to authorize the Treasurer to expend funds from the CSD account(s); and,
- E) Chair meetings of the Executive Committee, Regularly Scheduled CSD Meetings, Special and Emergency Meetings, and the Annual Meeting.

#### **4.3 VICE PRESIDENT FOR POLITICAL STRATEGY**

The Vice President for Political Strategy shall have the charge of convening and chairing the Political Strategy Committee. This body is charged with the following responsibilities:

- A) Coordinate activities to maintain and enhance relations between the CSD and elected officials, candidates for public office, the local Democratic Party organizations, the Ohio Democratic Party, the Democratic National Committee;

- B) Develop activities to increase gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender participation in public Boards, commissions, and elective office; and,
- C) Facilitate “get out the vote” activities during the course of each election cycle.

#### **4.4 VICE PRESIDENT FOR MEMBERSHIP**

The Vice President for Membership shall have the charge of convening and chairing the Membership & Public Relations Committee. This body is charged with the following responsibilities:

- A) Provide members with notices of meetings, elections, delegate selection, and proposed bylaws changes;
- B) Promote membership in the CSD; and,
- C) Coordinate CSD recruitment activities;

#### **4.5 VICE PRESIDENT FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS**

The Vice President of Public Relations shall have the charge of convening and chairing the Public Relations Committee. This body is charged with the following responsibilities:

- A) Provide communications concerning meetings, programs, and projects of the CSD to the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community and the community at-large;
- B) Develop mechanisms for promoting awareness of the CSD and enhancing its image; and
- C) Coordinate CSD outreach activities;

#### **4.6 VICE PRESIDENT FOR FUNDRAISING**

The Vice President for Fundraising shall have the charge of convening and chairing the Fundraising Committee. This body is charged with the following responsibilities:

- A) Coordinate fundraising activities for the CSD; and
- B) Coordinate specific fundraising events for candidates that are endorsed by the CSD.

#### **4.7 VICE PRESIDENT FOR COMMUNITY LIASON**

The Vice President for Community Liaison shall have the charge of convening and chairing the Community Liaison Committee. This body is charged with the following responsibilities:

- A) Advocate for CSD within the community about issues and concerns

relevant to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons, their families, and allies;

B) Build coalitions among like-minded community groups, including political organizations, labor unions, citizen committees, and policy groups;

C) Coordinate field organizing and grassroots efforts to support the mutual objectives of CSD and coalition partners.

D) Build coalitions among like-minded CSD members who are interested in forming caucuses. Continue to act as a resource for established caucuses.

#### **4.8 VICE PRESIDENT OF VOLUNTEER COORDINATION**

The Vice President of Volunteer Coordination shall have charge of convening and chairing the Volunteer Committee. This body is charged with the following responsibilities:

A) Develop and implement a plan to assess needed skills for the organization, identify current volunteers and their skills.

B) Develop and implement volunteer recruitment strategy.

C) Develop curriculum and training for the volunteers, including, but not limited to the standards volunteers must uphold when representing CSD.

D) Maintain a current list of all volunteers.

E) Coordinate with the various committee chairs to ensure that events have sufficient volunteer coverage.

The Vice President for Volunteer Coordination supervises all volunteer activities ensuring positive representation of CSD.

#### **4.9 TREASURER**

The Treasurer shall have general charge and custody for the finances of the CSD. When necessary and proper, she/he will endorse, or cause to be endorsed, on behalf of the CSD all checks, drafts, notes, and other obligations and evidences of the payment of money to the CSD or coming into her/his possession. He or she will deposit, or cause to be deposited, the same, together with all other funds of the CSD coming into his/her possession, in such financial institutions as may be selected by the Voting Members. She/he will keep, or cause to be kept, full and accurate role of

all Voting Members, in good standing, of the CSD (the “Treasurer’s Role”) in books belonging to the CSD, which will be open at all times to the inspection of the Executive Committee and current Voting Members. She/he will present to the Executive Committee at its meetings her/his report as Treasurer of the CSD and will make such reports to the CSD as the Voting Members require.

#### **4.10 SECRETARY**

The Secretary will have the charge of the CSD Minute Books. The Secretary shall be responsible for preserving the minutes from the Executive Committee meetings and other general meetings of the CSD. The Executive Committee, at its discretion, may appoint an assistant secretary, not necessarily a member of the Executive Committee, who shall perform the duties and assume the responsibilities of the Secretary as above set forth, under the general direction of the Secretary.

#### **4.11 DELEGATION AND ASSUMPTION OF AUTHORITY**

The President may, from time to time, delegate the powers or duties of any officer to any other officers or agents, and the President may designate a Voting Member to assume to powers or duties of any officer in either case notwithstanding any provision of these Regulations.

#### **4.12 REMOVAL**

Any Officer of the CSD may be removed by a 60% vote of the Voting Members present at any meeting with a quorum.

### **ARTICLE V: COMMITTEES**

#### **5.1 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Executive Committee of the CSD (herein referred to as the “Executive Committee”) shall be comprised of the Officers listed in article 4.1. Each caucus approved by the Executive Committee shall appoint a delegate to serve as a voting member of the Executive Committee. The Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer of the Cleveland Stonewall Democrats PAC will serve as Ex Officio members of the Executive Committee.

Annually at the Executive Committee meeting following the CSD Annual meeting, the Executive Committee will elect from its members an Executive Vice President. In the absence of the President, the Executive Vice President will assume the responsibilities of the President, as enumerated in Article 4.2.

## **5.2 DESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

The CSD shall have the following Standing Committees:

- Political Strategy Committee;
- Membership Committee;
- Community Liaison Committee
- Volunteer Coordination Committee
- Public Relations Committee and,
- Fundraising Committee.

The President shall designate and charge each of the Standing Committees as the President deems necessary to carry out the mission, program, goals, and plan of operation for the CSD. The Executive Committee may create, designate, and charge additional committees it deems necessary to carry out the mission, program, goals, and plan of operation for the CSD. At least one (1) Voting Member shall serve on each Standing Committee or other committee. The Chair of each Standing Committee or other committee(s) shall be nominated by the President and approved by the CSD at a Regularly Scheduled CSD meeting. The Chairs of each Standing Committee and the Officers shall be collectively referred to as the Executive Committee. The President shall appoint the members of remaining Standing Committees and other committee(s), after consultation with the Executive Committee and existing Chairs of each committee. The committee members may be Voting Members of the CSD or other interested persons.

## **5.3 DESIGNATION OF CAUCUSES**

Any 10 current members, as defined by section 3.1, may petition the Executive Committee for recognition as a geographic or special interest caucus. Part of the petition will be a recommendation for a caucus membership fee of at least \$1.00, which will be collected at the time of payment of the CSD membership dues, and forwarded to the caucus.

The purpose of a caucus is to bring like-minded members together to focus on issues and candidates of particular interest to them. Each recognized caucus will be bound by the bylaws of the CSD.

Within 24 months, any recognized caucus must have 15 CSD members. Any recognized caucus must meet twice a year to maintain recognized status. Minutes of each meeting will be kept and will be made available to the CSD Executive Committee.

The Caucuses are encouraged to participate in the endorsement process by holding candidate nights. Using the standing rules for endorsement outlined in Article VIII, with the limitation that only members of the caucus will be eligible to vote, the caucus will poll their members to develop

recommendations to present at the CSD candidate endorsement meeting(s).

The CSD Executive Committee shall provide annual training that will be made available to the caucuses to meet their need for member development. The Vice President for Community Liaison shall act as a resource for developing and established caucuses. The Standing Committees will offer development opportunities through membership, and provide support and resources.

Each recognized caucus shall provide a delegate to act as a voting member of the Executive Committee. Each caucus is encouraged to provide members to serve on CSD Standing Committees.

Money raised for candidates by a caucus must be administered by the CSD PAC.

Should the members of a caucus wish to dissolve they may do so by a 60% vote of their membership and petitioning the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee shall dissolve any caucus if it falls below 10 members after the initial 24 months, fails to meet twice a year and keep minutes that are available to the CSD Executive Committee, or fails to follow the standing rules for endorsement outlined in Section VIII.

The Executive Committee may dissolve any caucus if the Executive Committee secures a 60% vote of the voting members present at any meeting with a quorum.

#### **5.4 ACTION TIME FRAMES**

In applying any provision of these Regulations which require that an act be done or not done a specified number of days prior to an event or that an act be done during a period of a specified number of days prior to an event, calendar days will be used, the day of the act will be excluded and the day of the event will be included.

### **ARTICLE VI: INDEMNIFICATION OF MEMBERS AND OFFICERS**

#### **6.1 HOLD HARMLESS STATEMENT**

The CSD will have the right to indemnify and hold harmless the Voting Members, the President, Secretary, Treasurer, and each Vice President of the CSD, any other Officers and their respective Assistants designated by

the Voting Members to the full extent permitted by Ohio law. The CSD will have the power to purchase or procure insurance for such purpose at such time it is deemed necessary and sufficient funds are determined to be available for this purpose. This paragraph shall not apply to willful misconduct or gross negligence by any Voting Member, Officer, Assistant, or other designated persons.

## **ARTICLE VII: CONTRACTS**

### **7.1 CONTRACTS**

The Voting Members may authorize any Officer or Officers, agent or agents of the CSD, in addition to the Officers so authorized by these by-laws, to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of, and on behalf of the CSD. Such authority may be general or confined to specific instances. All contracts shall be made available for membership viewing and comment at the next three Regularly Scheduled CSD Meetings following execution, after that time they shall be maintained by the treasurer with other financial records.

## **ARTICLE VIII: STANDING RULES FOR ENDORSEMENTS**

### **8.1 VOTING**

Club endorsements of candidates for public office and club positions on ballot propositions may be determined at any properly noticed club meeting, provided that the following occur:

- A. A quorum is present, as mandated in Article X; and
- B. Notice of the meeting including notification of the races or ballot measures which are to be considered for endorsement.

Proxy voting and absentee voting is not permitted. Candidates and their staff members who are otherwise eligible to vote are also eligible to vote on all endorsements.

### **8.2 SECRET BALLOT**

Voting on any endorsement shall be made by secret ballot.

### **8.3 SELECTION OF RACES AND PROPOSITIONS**

The Executive Committee shall recommend the selection of races and propositions to be included on the slate. The selection may be modified by a majority vote of those eligible members present and voting.

### **8.4 DEMOCRAT ONLY MANDATE**

Only Democratic candidates may be endorsed; however, if no Democrat has filed as a candidate, the club may endorse any person who has filed as a candidate. This rule is not subject to suspension.

### **8.5 60% MAJORITY REQUIREMENT**

An affirmative vote of at least (60) percent of the CSD Voting Members present and eligible to vote shall be required to endorse a candidate. The vote required is measured by all those eligible members present and voting. The option of "No Endorsement" shall be included as an option of the endorsement ballot for each race or ballot issue.

### **8.6 ONE ENDORSED CANDIDATE PER SEAT**

Only one (1) candidate may be endorsed per seat. An endorsement implies that the CSD recommends that people vote for that seat. It does not necessarily imply that the CSD supports all of the candidate's positions.

### **8.7 CANDIDATE SURVEY**

Candidates for offices other than President of the United States and Vice President of the United States must complete the CSD candidate survey, and are encouraged to attend the appropriate endorsement meeting, in order to be considered for an endorsement.

- A. Candidate surveys shall be prepared by the Political Action Committee and approved by the Executive Committee. They shall be reviewed regularly to ensure that current issues are adequately reflected. Candidates for judicial office will be evaluated on a customized survey and/or attendance at the appropriate meeting. The completed survey shall be assessed by the Political Action Committee.
- B. A candidate completing the survey is eligible for consideration at the appropriate endorsement meeting.

- C. Candidates must complete a survey and may attend the appropriate endorsement meeting. A candidate who does both will be considered for endorsement based on the survey answers and meeting presentation.
- D. Candidates for President and Vice President will be evaluated on platforms and position papers.

## **8.8 COUNTING OF BALLOTS**

- A. Ballots shall be counted by:
  - 1. One (1) member of the CSD Executive Board
  - 2. Two (2) members of the CSD Membership
- B. No person actively involved in a political campaign or whose candidate is being considered for an endorsement shall take part in the tallying or counting of the ballots.

## **8.9 BALLOT PROPOSITION RATINGS**

The CSD may rate any ballot proposition as “Support”, “Oppose”, or “No Position”.

## **8.10 NO CANDIDATES TO BE PRESENT DURING CSD DEBATE**

No candidates, including candidates who are also current CSD Voting Members, may be present for the debate on the office for which that candidate is contending.

## **8.11 CSD FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF “ENDORSED” CANDIDATES AND “SUPPORT[ED]” BALLOT PROPOSITIONS**

Club funds may only be contributed to the campaigns of those candidates “Endorsed” by the CSD and those ballot propositions earning a rating of “Support.” A sixty (60) percent majority of current CSD Voting Members present and eligible to vote may designate certain races/issues as “priority campaigns” to indicate that those campaigns should be given priority in terms of funding, the recommendation of a candidate or ballot proposition for funding to the Cleveland Stonewall Democrats PAC, or CSD-coordinated volunteer efforts.

## **8.12 ENDORSEMENT MEETING GUIDELINES**

The agenda for endorsement meetings shall be as follows:

- A) Candidates Opening Comments (three to five minutes depending on the race, time constraints, etc)

- i. Give candidates three to five topics to address during this time period. Topics should include issues that are of the most importance to people in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community. Topics should be developed by the Political Action Committee and approved by the Executive Committee. Questions may be taken directly from the written questionnaire. The candidates should be asked questions that will obtain specific answers.
- B) Question and Answer Period
  - i. Ten to twenty minutes in length, depending on race, number of candidates, etc.
  - ii. All candidates should be addressed at one time.
- C) Discussion and Voting
  - i. Reports from Caucuses
    - a. A representative from each caucus may give a brief report on endorsement recommendations in all races/ballot measures from their caucus. Four minute limit per caucus.
  - ii. Discussion by the current CSD Voting Members
    - a. Three speakers from each side of the issue shall alternate. One or two minute limit per speaker.
- D) Miscellaneous
  - i. Candidates should be encouraged to bring literature with qualifications, endorsements, etc.
  - ii. The invitation letter should include a summary of endorsement rules and procedures, and a list of topics that the candidate should address.
  - iii. Candidates who were endorsed in a primary election will not have to requalify for endorsement in the general election unless a request for reconsideration is made by 5 members to the Vice President of Political Strategy 2 weeks prior to the General Election Endorsement Meeting. The Vice President for Political Strategy will notify any primary endorsed candidates who will be reconsidered. Candidates who were not endorsed in the primary will be eligible and encouraged to participate in the General Election endorsement process.

## **ARTICLE IX: ACCOUNTING**

### **9.1 CHECKS AND DRAFTS**

In addition to the provision of 4.2, all checks, drafts, and other orders for payment of funds will be signed by such Officers as the Executive Committee may, from time to time, designate.

## **9.2 BOOKS AND RECORDS**

The CSD will keep correct and complete books and records of account and will also keep minutes of the proceedings of its Voting Members, Executive Committee, and committees having any of the authority of the Executive Committee. All books and records of the CSD may be inspected by any Voting Member or her/his agent or attorney or any proper purpose at any reasonable time.

## **9.3 FISCAL YEAR**

The fiscal year of the CSD shall be January 1 through December 31.

## **9.4 FISCAL MANAGEMENT**

It shall be the responsibility of the Executive Committee to have the accounts of the CSD reviewed each fiscal year. The Executive Committee may appoint a public accountant for this purpose.

## **9.5 FACSIMILE SIGNATURES**

In addition to the provisions for the use of facsimile signatures elsewhere specifically authorized in these Regulations, facsimile signatures of any Officer(s) or Voting Member(s) of the CSD may be used whenever and as authorized by the Voting Members.

## **9.6 RELIANCE UPON BOOKS, REPORTS, AND RECORDS**

The Voting Members, Executive Committee, President, Secretary, Treasurer, and any Vice President, to the extent of its authority as provided in Articles II and III of these regulations will, in the performance of its duties, be fully protected in relying in good faith upon the books of account or other records of the CSD, including reports made to the CSD by any of its Officers, by an independent certified public accountant, or by an appraiser selected with reasonable care.

## **ARTICLE X: QUORUM**

For any meeting, a quorum shall consist of 10% of the Voting Members. A quorum shall be required only in those meetings in which a vote of the Voting Members shall be taken. A Voting Member must be present in order to be counted as part of a quorum determination and in order to cast a vote. Any or all of the above quorum requirements may be waived with a two-thirds majority vote of the Executive Committee. To be eligible to vote, a member must have been a dues-paying member in good

standing at least 30 days prior to the meeting at which the vote will take place.

## **ARTICLE X: AMENDMENT OF REGULATIONS**

### **10.1 AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS**

The Executive Committee may propose changes to the bylaws by majority vote. Bylaw changes may also be proposed to the Executive Committee by petition signed by 10% of the Voting Members. Such changes shall be voted upon at the next Annual Meeting, so long as the membership has at least 30 days notice of any such proposed changes. Any amendment receiving two-thirds vote of the membership present at any Annual Meeting with a quorum present shall be adopted.

### **10.2 NOTICE REQUIREMENTS: VOTE REQUIRED**

Prior written notice concerning a change in the Regulations must be given to each Voting Member. The notice shall state which regulation(s) is/are to be changed and the general nature of the change. The exact wording may be determined at the CSD meeting.

## **ARTICLE XII: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the CSD in all situations to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and federal law.

## **ARTICLE XII: NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT**

The Cleveland Stonewall Democrats shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, ethnic or national origin, age, disability, veteran status, social or economic status, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other factor unrelated to membership and the mission of the CSD.

With revisions approved 6/2002  
With revisions approved 1/2003  
With revisions approved 1/2004