BYLAWS

Madison (WI) NOW

Revised September 2010

Article I. Name

The name of the organization shall be the Madison (WI) Chapter of NOW.

Article II. Purpose

As a subunit of the National Organization for Women (NOW) and Wisconsin NOW, the chapter shall take its purpose from the statements of purpose of those organizations.

Article III. Membership

Any person who subscribes to NOW’s purposes and who is a member of National NOW may become a member of Madison NOW by requesting to become a chapter member; however, no person may be a member of more than one chapter concurrently.

Article IV. Policy

The chapter shall be bound by the bylaws and policies of the national organization.

Article V. Meetings

The chapter shall hold at least three (3) membership meetings each year. One of those meetings, designated at the annual meeting, shall be held in the month of September and shall include the election of chapter officers.

Article VI. Dues

Amount of dues shall be set by the national organization. New members joining the chapter shall pay dues to the chapter, which shall forward a portion of those dues to the national organization. Renewals shall be handled through the national organization. The chapter will conform to all national policies and bylaws regarding dues and financial management.

Article VII. Officers/Board

Officers of the chapter shall include a president, a vice president, and a secretary/treasurer, and those officers shall constitute the executive board of the chapter. Two or more persons may share the duties of any office, but no member shall hold more than one office concurrently. Officers shall serve until their successors are elected. No officer may serve more than 3 consecutive terms in the same office. The executive board may appoint other officers (including, but not limited to, a membership chair, a newsletter editor, a legislative coordinator, a web master, a media coordinator, or an assistant treasurer) as needed. Officers’ duties shall be those generally understood for each of the above positions. Specific duties may be set forth in chapter policies or guidelines. Meetings of the officers/board shall be held at least quarterly.

If there is a vacancy in one of the primary officer positions, the remaining members of the executive board may appoint an interim officer to serve until the next scheduled election.

Article VIII. Committees

The president may appoint standing committees and committee chairs, as well as special or ad hoc committees and committee chairs, with the approval of the executive committee. Such committees and their chairs shall serve until their duties are completed or until the end of the term of the president who has appointed them.

Article IX. Elections

Officers shall be elected at the annual meeting by a majority vote or a majority of preferences counted in the final tally, if preferential voting is used. All members of the chapter are eligible to vote. In order to run for office, a person must have been a member of NOW for 60 days preceding the annual election. All members of the chapter shall be given at least 14 days notice of the date, time and place of the annual meeting and election and given an opportunity to nominate members for office. Notice may be given through standard mail (United States Postal Service) or through electronic means for those members for whom an electronic mailing address is available.

Article X. Delegates to National Conferences

Notice shall be given to all members of the opportunity to serve as delegates and/or alternates to the National Conference. If more individuals indicate a wish to serve as delegates, an election for delegates shall be held at a chapter meeting in the two months preceding the National Conference. The chapter shall follow the bylaws and policies of the national organization and its credentials committee in the qualification of delegates.

Article XI. Grievances

If a member or group of members files a grievance against another member or officer, the grievance shall be submitted to the chapter board. Then, each party to the grievance shall select one member for a grievance committee. Those two members shall select a third member for the committee. The committee shall then have the responsibility of setting up processes for the grievance and making a decision to resolve the grievance.

Article XII. Amendments

These bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the chapter members in attendance at a chapter meeting, providing that notice of the nature of the amendment is provided to the members at least 14 days in advance of the meeting by one of the means set forth in Article IX.

Article XIII. Dissolution

The chapter may be dissolved by a 2/3 vote of its members in attendance at the chapter meeting, providing that notice of the proposed dissolution is given as set forth in Article XII. Upon dissolution, any remaining chapter funds and assets shall be remitted to NOW or to another of its subunits, it accordance with the policies of the national organization.