

JERSEY SHORE TEA PARTY PATRIOTS
BY-LAWS

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JERSEY SHORE TEA PARTY PATRIOTS

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE 1: NAME, PURPOSE AND CORE BELIEFS

- Section 1: The name of this organization is the JERSEY SHORE TEA PARTY PATRIOTS, hereinafter referred to as the JSTP.
- Section 2: The purpose of the JSTP is to preserve, protect and defend the God given rights of the people of the sovereign State of New Jersey; to limit state and federal government to the specific powers enumerated in their respective constitutions; to encourage and promote an informed and actively engaged citizenry; and to demand ethical, accountable representation of the people by their elected officials.
- Section 3: Core Beliefs
- A. We believe that freedom and liberty are self evident rights granted to us by God, not given to us by government.
 - B. We believe the role of government is to advance and protect these rights within the limits set forth in our state and national constitutions.
 - C. We believe that elected officials must be honest and ethical people of integrity who will accurately and faithfully represent the will of the people who elected them to serve as their representatives.
 - D. We believe that an informed and engaged citizenry is essential to the establishment of good government through their informed vote and by holding their representatives accountable to the people they represent.
- Section 4: The JSTP may choose to cooperate with and provide representation to other like minded organizations; however, the JSTP is wholly independent of all other organizations with regard to its operational and financial activities.
- Section 5: The Jersey Shore Tea Party Patriots operates under the Constitutions of the United States of America and the State of New Jersey. Specifically the following provisions of the Constitution the United States of America and the State of New Jersey.
- A. Amendment 1 of the US Constitution
 - 1. Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

B. Amendment 14, Section 1, Paragraph 1, Sentence 2 of the US Constitution

1. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

C. Article 1, Paragraphs 1, 2, 5, 6, 18 of the State of NEW JERSEY Constitution.

1. All persons are by nature free and independent, and have certain natural and unalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, of acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and of pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness.
2. All political power is inherent in the people. Government is instituted for the protection, security, and benefit of the people, and they have the right at all times to alter or reform the same, whenever the public good may require it.
3. No person shall be denied the enjoyment of any civil or military right, nor be discriminated against in the exercise of any civil or military right, nor be segregated in the militia or in the public schools, because of religious principles, race, color, ancestry or national origin.
4. Every person may freely speak, write and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that right. No law shall be passed to restrain or abridge the liberty of speech or of the press. In all prosecutions or indictments for libel, the truth may be given in evidence to the jury; and if it shall appear to the jury that the matter charged as libelous is true, and was published with good motives and for justifiable ends, the party shall be acquitted; and the jury shall have the right to determine the law and the fact.

The people have the right freely to assemble together, to consult for the common good, to make known their opinions to their representatives, and to petition for redress of grievances

- D. We are citizens who have come together to address, petition and insist our elected servants obey their oath of office and to obey the US Constitution and the State Constitutions as they are written and what the words actually state and mean.

ARTICLE 2: MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1: The JSTP recognizes three forms of membership: Regular Membership, Affiliate Membership and Honorary Membership.
- Section 2: Regular Membership refers to those persons who pay JSTP dues and reside within Monmouth County. All Regular Members of the JSTP must be at least 18 years of age.
- Section 3: Affiliate Membership refers to those persons who do not pay JSTP dues and/or reside outside of Monmouth County and/or have not reached the age of 18. Affiliate members are eligible to attend and speak at JSTP meetings but may not vote on JSTP business or in elections of JSTP officers.
- Section 4: Honorary Membership is bestowed on individuals by majority vote of the Regular membership. Honorary members are eligible to attend and speak at JSTP meetings but may not vote on JSTP business or in elections of JSTP officers.
- Section 5: The annual dues of the organization are \$15 per person. Dues may be changed on an annual basis upon recommendation of the Executive Board and a majority vote of the Regular Members present at the Annual Business Meeting where a quorum is present.
- Section 6: Payment for the first year's dues must be included with the completed membership application.
- Section 7: All membership classes as described in Article 2, Section 2 will not become effective until August 6th 2010 so that normal JSTP business can be transacted at the August 2010 business meeting.

ARTICLE 3: EXECUTIVE BOARD

- Section 1: The Executive Board of the JSTP, hereinafter referred to as the Board, shall consist of JSTP officers, and three Members at Large.
- Section 2: Members at Large are elected at the annual business meeting.
- Section 3: Vacancies which occur in the Member at Large positions will be filled by vote using a secret ballot of all Regular members at the next open meeting of the JSTP.

- Section 4: Vacancies which occur in officer positions will be filled by majority of the Board.
- Section 5: The Board may appoint an official spokesperson or spokespersons to represent the Board on communication to the press, the public, or an elected official about activities or matters relating to the JSTP.
- Section 6: The Board must have a quorum to conduct business. A quorum is defined as one half of the members plus one member.

ARTICLE 4: OFFICERS

- Section 1: The officers of the JSTP include the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- Section 2: The Board will conduct interviews of persons interested in holding elected JSTP office and will recommend a slate of officers to the membership, to be voted on at the Annual Meeting. Nominations from the floor will also be accepted.
- Section 3: Only Regular Members who have been members a minimum of six months are eligible to serve as officers of the JSTP. In addition, candidates for the position of President must have held a previous JSTP office or served on a JSTP committee for a period of one year.
- Section 4: JSTP officers are elected for a one year term at the Annual Business Meeting where a quorum is present.
- Section 5: A tie will be broken by a coin toss for the election of officers.
- Section 6: The roles and responsibilities of the President are:
- A. Preside over JSTP Meetings and Board meetings.
 - B. Assure that the By-Laws are enforced.
 - C. Have signatory authority with the Treasurer and the Vice President.
 - D. Initiate payments and reimbursements for organization related expenses, as approved by the Board.
 - E. Have authority to initiate any expenditure for amounts not to exceed \$100.
 - F. Prepare an annual budget with the Treasurer.
 - G. Prepare an annual report on the status of the organization.
 - H. Oversee the planning and scheduling of JSTP meetings.
 - I. Represent the JSTP or assign a designee to represent the JSTP at other meetings.
 - J. The President does not vote except in the event of a tie.

- Section 7: The roles and responsibilities of the Vice President are:
- A. Act as the President during any absence of the President.
 - B. Assist the President, as requested, in the execution of the President's duties.
 - C. In the event the President position becomes vacant, the Vice President will assume the position of President.

- Section 8: The roles and responsibilities of the Secretary are:
- A. Record the minutes of Board and JSTP meetings.
 - B. Transmit such minutes to all appropriate parties in the prescribed timeframe.
 - C. Prepare official correspondence.
 - D. Notify the membership of all JSTP meetings.

- Section 9: The roles and responsibilities of the Treasurer are:
- A. To receive and deposit monies.
 - B. Have signatory authority, with the President and the Vice President, to pay all expenses approved by the Board.
 - C. Maintain on-going bank records and make such records available to the President and Vice President upon request.
 - D. Maintain and make available a detailed current financial statement to the Board for distribution at regular Board meetings.
 - E. Create and make available a detailed fiscal year-end financial statement for the May JSTP meeting.
 - F. Assist the President in preparing an annual budget.
 - G. Send Members a dues renewal notice during the month of November.
 - H. Notify Members if their membership expires due to non-payment of dues.
 - I. Two signatures are required on all checks that exceed the amount prescribed in the Standing Rules of Order.

- Section 10: Term Limits:
- A. No officer may serve more than three consecutive terms in the same position.
 - B. Members-at-Large on the Executive committee may not serve more than two consecutive years in that capacity.

ARTICLE 5: MEETINGS

Section 1: JSTP meetings will be held on a regular basis according to a schedule developed by the Board.

Section 2: The Annual Business Meeting of the JSTP will be held each year during the month of August. At the Annual Business Meeting a quorum is defined as 20% of the Regular Membership.

- Section 3: For all other JSTP meetings a simple majority of the members present is required to conduct business.
- Section 4: Emergency JSTP meetings may be called by the Board President if a majority of the Board members deem there is action that requires member input which must occur before the next regularly scheduled JSTP meeting.
- Section 5: Board meetings will occur regularly at least bi-monthly or more frequently as determined by the Board.
- Section 6: Emergency Board meetings may be called by the Chair with a minimum 24 hour notice to Board members by email or phone call. A longer notification period is preferred if possible.
- Section 7: Committee meetings will be held according to the needs of the committee as determined by the Committee Chair.

ARTICLE 6: COMMITTEES

- Section 1: The five standing committees of the JSTP include Legislative and Candidate Committee, Education and Training Committee, Membership Committee, Technology and Communications Committee, and Events & Public Relations Committee.
- A. Committee chairs are appointed upon approval by a majority of the Board members present where a quorum is established.
 - B. Committee chairs must be Regular Members of the JSTP.
 - C. Committee chairs will attend Board meetings at the direction of the Board
 - D. Committee membership is open to both Regular Members and Affiliate Members.
 - E. Committee members are recommended by the Committee Chair, subject to the approval of the Executive Board.
 - F. Committee members may be dismissed at the discretion of the Committee Chair if they miss three meetings.
 - G. Committee members may be dismissed from the committee by the Executive Board; upon recommendation of the Committee Chair, for conduct that is deemed incompatible with the purpose and/or reputation of the JSTP. The Board will give the committee member an opportunity to address the Board prior to the decision to dismiss.
- Section 2: Legislative and Candidate Committee Chair's duties shall include, but are not limited to:

- A. Monitor local and state legislation through research and attendance at public meetings of public school boards, city and county government meetings, congressional district meetings and state meetings.
- B. To work on ballot initiatives and formulate policy statements regarding current issues.
- C. To help identify qualified candidates for local, state and national offices.

Section 3: The Education and Training Committee Chair's duties shall include, but are not Limited to:

- A. Coordinate and facilitate research of American and World History as it relates to the topics of politics, government, and law, with a special emphasis on the Founding Fathers and Founding Documents of the United States.
- B. May solicit speakers to address the general membership meetings or other forums as appropriate.
- C. Oversee any sub-committees developed under the preceding. Work in cooperation with other Committee Chairs and the general membership as necessary.
- D. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President.

Section 4: Membership Committee Chair's duties shall include, but are not limited to:

- A. Locate, Coordinate and facilitate various recruiting venues.
- B. Assist the Treasurer in collecting dues from members in arrears
- C. Suggest and develop membership benefits, Social functions, and other events to encourage participation.
- D. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President.

Section 5: The Technology and Communications Committee Chair's duties shall include, but are not limited to:

- A. Coordinate and facilitate the operation of JSTP related websites, email lists, membership
- B. databases, and other technical matters.
- C. Oversee any sub-committees developed under the preceding.
- D. Work in cooperation with other Committee Chairs and the general membership
- E. as necessary.
- F. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President.

Section 6: The Events & Public Relations Committee Chair's duties shall include, but are not limited to:

- A. Coordinate and facilitate the promotion of the JSTP and related activities via media interaction and advertisement.

- B. Oversee any sub-committees developed under the preceding.
- C. Work in cooperation with other Committee Chairs and the general membership as necessary.
- D. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President.

Section 7: Ad Hoc Committees

- A. The Board may appoint other ad hoc committees to perform specific functions not covered by standing committees, to provide additional support to standing committees, or to provide information to the Board necessary to inform decisions of the Board.
- B. Ad Hoc Committee chairs are appointed by the Board. Ad hoc committee chairs will attend Board meetings at the direction of the Board, but do not have voting privileges.
- C. Ad Hoc committees will be disbanded by the Board upon completion of their task or one year from the date of appointment, whichever comes first.

ARTICLE 7: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1: Parliamentary Authority shall be Robert's Rules of Order, except where superseded by the Standing Rules of Order of the JSTP. The rules contained in this document shall govern the JSTP in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws or standing rules of order of the JSTP.

Section 2: Standing Rules of Order may be developed that relate to the orderly transaction of business in the meetings or to the duties of the officers. Standing Rules of Order may be adopted without previous notice by a majority vote at any JSTP meeting.

ARTICLE 8: APPOINTED POSITIONS

Section 1: The President may appoint a Sergeant at Arms whose duties shall include, but are not limited to:

- A. Facilitate the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance at Executive Board and
- B. General membership meetings.
- C. Facilitate general order at meetings.
- D. Assist in the coordination of security and safety efforts for JSTP-related events in conjunction with that specific committee.
- E. Oversee any committees developed under the preceding.
- F. Facility time tracking at meetings for agenda topics and open microphone opportunities.

Section 2: The President may appoint an Archivist whose duties shall include, but are not limited to:

- A. Collecting and maintaining a history of JSTP events through various media.
- B. Work with the Technology and Communications Committee to post photo and video work on the JSTP website.

ARTICLE 9: AMENDMENTS

Section 1: These by-laws may only be amended at the Annual Business Meeting.

Section 2: A vote to amend these by-laws may be overturned by a unanimous vote of the Board. This vote must occur within two weeks following the vote at the Annual Business Meeting, or the amendment will be considered adopted.

ARTICLE 10: PROPERTY

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

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 JSTP.
- b. Loans: No loans shall be contracted on behalf of the JSTP 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 JERSEY SHORE 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 JSTP 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 JSTP.

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

Bylaws approved August 5, 2010 by the membership of the Jersey Shore Tea Party Patriots at the regular business meeting in Ocean Township, New Jersey.

Signed

*Rem Hunnewell,
President 2009-2010*

*Martin Driffill,
Vice President 2009-1010*

*Donald R. Laster Jr.
Secretary/Treasurer 2009-2010*