



RIVER OAKS AREA DEMOCRATIC WOMEN BYLAWS

Revised 2.4.2021

ARTICLE I

The name of this organization shall be River Oaks Area Democratic Women, also known as ROADwomen.

ARTICLE II

This organization shall have as its objectives and purposes:

A. To elect Democrats to office, with a special emphasis on electing Democratic women who champion Reproductive Rights for all.

B. To influence the Democratic Party to continue its historic role as a party that promotes social justice and equal rights for all people.

C. To educate residents of Harris County and surrounding areas about important political issues affecting them.

ARTICLE III

All Democrats are eligible for membership in the organization.

Except for Life Members, dues will be payable annually in January.

A NEW member that joins January through July shall pay \$50 per person (Individual) or \$75 (Family) for the calendar year.

A NEW member that joins August through October shall pay \$25(Individual) or \$40 (Family) for the remainder of the calendar year.

(Dues paid in November or December will roll over into the following calendar year, and should therefore be paid in full.)

A person is eligible to vote at ROADwomen meetings if her or his dues are current; that is, if she or he is a Life Member or if she or he joined or renewed membership within the 12 months preceding the date of the vote.

Changes in membership dues shall be recommended by the Executive Committee and approved by a majority of the membership at a general meeting.

ARTICLE IV

The organization's officers shall be a seven (7)-member Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will appoint a Treasurer*. The duties of the Executive Committee will include, but not be limited to, being Chair of one of the following Committees:

1. **President** - The President shall preside at all meetings and be the official spokesperson for the Executive Committee and for the organization. The President shall create committees as needed. The President shall have the power to call special meetings. The President shall be the official spokesperson at all meetings or gatherings with other Democratic organizations, Democratic officeholders and/or candidates seeking office.

2. **Membership** – Oversees community outreach for building RW membership, managing membership dues renewals, keeps official list of dues-paying members with the collaboration of the Treasurer.

3. **Meeting Programs** – Arranges speakers and programs for monthly meetings. Also plans and arranges special social events, candidate meetings, and other events as needed. Will work with Communications Chair to create Facebook invitations, social media graphics and write-up of event for Newsletter/Email Blasts.

4. **Fundraiser** – Creates and oversees major fundraisers, and supports ad hoc fundraisers undertaken. Will work closely with the Treasurer to ensure budgets are created for each fiscal year, and that fundraising goals are shared with membership at meetings when appropriate.

5. **Community Outreach** – Coordinates with volunteers and campaigns for social action and GOTV efforts.

6. **Communications** – Maintaining organization's website, social media, email blasts and monthly newsletter. Works closely with Meeting Programs Chair.

7. **Hospitality** – When in person meetings occur, the Hospitality Chair will arrange with meeting sponsors to provide food and beverages, organize set-up and take down, and ensure a clean venue. When meeting virtually, the Hospitality Chair will assist the Program Chair in securing meeting guests and creating event invitations.

*The Treasurer maintains the financial records of the organization, makes bank deposits, and makes expenditures as authorized by the Executive Committee. Files reports as required by the Texas Ethics Commission, State of Texas, and Internal Revenue Service. Acts as the Registered Agent for the ROADwomen Corporation.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

To be eligible to serve on the Executive Committee, a person must have become a dues-paying member at least six (6) months, and have served for at least three (3) months on the Advisory Committee before election to the Executive Committee.

Executive Committee members shall serve for a term of three (3) years, with an option to serve one (1) additional term. Executive Committee members will then be able serve on the Advisory Committee should they choose.

Elections for the Executive Committee shall be held at the regular January meeting of the organization. Vacancies will be filled for any unexpired term by election by members present and voting at the next regular meeting after the vacancy occurs.

Executive and advisory members shall at all times conduct themselves in a professional manner. All board members shall be required to carry out their duties in a courteous and businesslike manner, particularly where the public is concerned. Persistent, unwelcome, pervasive mistreatment of, or unprofessional conduct directed towards, another or others while on the board shall be considered a violation of RW rules and may be subject to dismissal if after verbal discussion/warning/input the conduct does not result in corrected behavior. Violations may result in dismissal from board and/or membership revoked.

Executive Committee or Advisory Board members can be removed for good cause by a majority vote of the Executive Committee members.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

The ROADwomen Executive Committee will elect members to the Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee provides non-binding strategic advice to the Executive Committee.

To be eligible to serve on the Advisory Committee, a person must have become a dues-paying member at least three (3) months, and must be voted on by the Executive Committee. An Advisory Committee member may be asked to resign at any time by the Executive Committee. There are no term limits for Advisory Committee members.

ARTICLE V

At the discretion of the Executive Committee, ROADwomen will meet monthly either in person or virtually, except in the month of December and in June of every even-numbered year when the Texas Democratic Party holds its convention. Voting may occur during virtual meetings. Special meetings may be called at the discretion of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee has the discretion to combine a ROADwomen monthly meeting with another special event occurring in the area..

ARTICLE VI

These Bylaws shall take effect upon adoption by a two-thirds vote of those in attendance at a membership meeting.

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at a meeting, provided the proposed amendment has been read as a proposed amendment at the preceding meeting.