

The 2010 Virginia Republican Unit Chairman Replacement Initiative

Step By Step Guide

Virginia Tea Party Federation



If the GOP has made you unhappy then do something about that.

Be the GOP.

In the next 2 months the Republican units all across Virginia will once again choose their leaders. It is time for conservatives to reclaim the party that use to stand for Jeffersonian Constitutional Republicanism.

Maybe it is time you stood up to take the reigns.

You will have a direct influence on what happens in politics.

Step One:

Determine to Run as Chairman

Step Two:

Find out when the “Mass Meeting” will be held

Step 3

Find out who would make a good addition to your leadership team once you have won.

Step 4

Get as many people as possible to attend that meeting that are registered qualified voters to support you.

Step 4

Win

Step 5

Lead

Typically with just 20 to 30 people on your side you can ensure proper leadership is running the Republican Party Unit in your county.

A **Mass Meeting** will be called in your county soon. This is required to be done with at minimum 7 days notice. This is done to ensure the establishment can keep it's hand on the political steering wheel.

What you must do is prepare enough supporters that will commit to dropping what they are doing to support you on the day when the meeting has been called.

Start Now!

You may be fortunate enough to live in a County that has a top notch Unit Chairman...there are a couple.

However, if your reading this you are either;

A. An RPV Chair that is concerned about the initiative being presented in this document

or

B. A candidate that seeks to unseat the existing chairman.

There is a small window of time left before the next Mass Meeting is called. ***February*** is the assumed month that this will take place. It will take a concerted effort on your part to find the supporters needed to succeed. This will be a great test of your leadership ability.

How a mass meeting works according to RPV rules: The following information comes from the RPV document called "Survival Guide for Unit Chairman for 2010" It was also confirmed by Richard Crouse, rcrouse@rpv.org 804-780-0111

Locally, you are required by the Party Plan to hold a **Mass Meeting...to elect...a Unit Chair** and the members of your unit committee, for a term of 2 years. You will also be electing a vice-chair, secretary, treasurer and others (if called for in your by-laws) either at the same time your unit chair and committee is elected or by the unit committee at the first meeting that takes place after the new committee is in place. When you elect these officers may already be covered in your local by-laws. If it is not, your unit committee should make a determination of when they will be elected.

A minimum of seven (7) days written notice is required to hold a legal unit committee meeting.

You may require a pre-filing fee for an individual to run for Unit Chair, as long as it is included in the call. You may also require dues for membership on the unit committee, either to accompany pre-filing or to be paid by some other date.

You may require each person who pre-files to sign a statement saying that they intend to support all of our nominees in the ensuing election. For candidates for Unit Chair, Unit officer or Unit Committee, you may require this for the two-year term of office.

In order to be elected a Delegate to any convention; **or to be a Unit Chair, officer or committee member;** or to vote in a mass meeting, party canvass of convention, an individual must be a registered voter in your locality/applicable Congressional District by the date of the pre-filing deadline or, if you are not using pre-filing, the date of your mass meeting, canvass or convention.

The Mass Meeting

Registration for participation(voting) must be permitted at the time and place of the mass meeting, canvass or convention. Your committee cannot require advance registration for the meeting. Your committee can, however, require pre-filing for someone to be elected as a committee member, convention delegate, unit chairman, or nominee for elected office.

UNIT MASS MEETINGS

Qualifications for Participation

[Note: The committee may choose to use either of the following options, but must include one.]

[Option 1]

All legal and qualified voters under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, regardless of race, religion, national origin or sex, who are in accord with the principles of the Republican Party, and who, if requested, express in open meeting either orally or in writing as may be required their intent to support all of its nominees for public office in the ensuing election may participate as members of the Republican Party of Virginia in its mass meetings, party canvasses, conventions, or primaries encompassing their respective election districts.

In addition to the foregoing, to be in accord with the principles of the Republican Party, unless otherwise stipulated by the appropriate Official Committee, a person otherwise qualified hereunder shall not have participated in Virginia in the nomination process of a party other than the Republican Party after March 1, 2004, or in the last five years, whichever is more recent.

A single exception to this shall be approved for a voter that renounces affiliation with any other party in writing, and who expresses in writing that he/she is in accord with the principles of the Republican Party and intends, at the time of the writing, to support the nominees of the Republican Party in the future. Any voter that utilizes the foregoing exception, and thereafter participates in the nomination process of a party other than the Republican Party, shall not have the benefit of the exception thereafter.

[Option 2]

All legal and qualified voters under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, regardless of race, religion, national origin or sex, who are in accord with the principles of the Republican Party and who, if requested, express in open meeting either orally or in writing as may be required, their intent to support all of its nominees for public office in the ensuing election, may participate as members of the Republican Party of Virginia in its mass meetings, party canvasses, conventions or primaries encompassing their respective election districts.

Model Rules for a Mass Meeting

1. This mass meeting shall, to the extent applicable, be governed by and conducted in accordance with the following (giving precedence as listed): the State Party Plan, District or Unit Plan or By-Laws, these rules, and otherwise in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised).
2. Any person may attend the mass meeting, but only eligible voters duly registered by the Credentials Committee may have the floor unless specially recognized by the Chair. Only eligible voters duly registered by the Credentials Committee may vote. **No proxies are allowed at any time.**
3. All voters shall meet the requirements as specified in the Call of the Mass Meeting.
4. The Credentials Committee shall report on the proper credentials of each voter and decide any question that may arise concerning eligibility to participate.
5. No one will be allowed on the Mass Meeting floor without proper credentials displayed.
6. A roll call shall be taken at the request of one-fifth (1/5) of the total Mass Meeting votes as certified by the Credentials Committee.
7. Elections shall require a majority of the total Mass Meeting vote as certified by the Credentials Committee. There shall be no cumulative voting.

8. No voter may change his or her vote after it has been collected or recorded by the unit chairman or a teller appointed by the unit chairman.
9. (Optional) Upon adoption of these rules, the temporary officials of the Mass Meeting shall be made permanent.
10. No resolution may be presented from the floor unless first submitted in writing to the Resolutions Committee for consideration. Each resolution shall be considered separately in the order contained in the committee report.
11. The order of business shall be as set forth below, provided, however, that upon majority vote of the Mass Meeting, an item may be omitted or added. The Chairman of the Mass Meeting may interrupt the order as he or she may deem appropriate.
 - A) Reading of the Call by the Party Secretary.
 - B) Election of Temporary Chairman
 - C) Election of Temporary Secretary
 - D) Appointment of Temporary Parliamentarian, Timekeeper and Sergeant-at-Arms.
 - E) Appointment of Temporary Committees.
 - F) Meetings of Committees.
 - G) Credentials Committee Report.
 - H) Rules Committee Report.
 - I) Final Report of the Credentials Committee.
 - J) [if Rule 9 above is not adopted] Election of Permanent Chairman and Permanent Secretary.
 - K) [if Rule 9 above is not adopted] Appointment of Permanent Officials.
 - L) [if applicable] Nominations of candidates for public office [specify].
 - M) [if applicable] Election of persons to party offices [specify].
 - N) Election of Delegates and Alternates to the _____ District Convention.
 - O) Resolutions Committee Report.
 - P) Other Business.

Q) Adjournment.