



# New Haven Democracy Fund

"To ensure that all the citizens of New Haven have a fair and meaningful opportunity to participate in the election of mayor."  
New Haven Code of General Ordinances, Chapter 2, Article XI, §2-821 • Established in 2007 • democracyfund@newhavenct.net



## DEMOCRACY FUND BOARD MEETING

6:15 PM, Wednesday January 18, 2017

New Haven City Hall – 165 Church Street

Second Floor, Mayor's Meeting Room #2

### *New Haven Democracy Fund Board:*

*Sergio Rodriguez, Chair*

*William Wynn, Vice Chair*

*Jack Paulishen, Secretary*

*Gerald Martin*

*(Three Seats Vacant)*

*Democracy Fund Administrator: Alyson Heimer*

### Agenda:

1. Call to Order and Attendance. Meeting was called to order by Chair Rodriguez at 6:15pm.
2. Approval of Past Minutes. Motion to approved the minutes from October with the room to make any corrections necessary.
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Administrator's Report
  - A) Annual Report. Annual Report draft
  - B) Goals for 2017. Increasing social media presence. Continued outreach and getting members added to the board remain Challenges. What resources are needed to get goals accomplished. Timeline for success. Results.
  - C) Update on 2017 Launch Event. Reached out to Sanders staff and Jim Dean to come speak at the event, to be held in March or April.
5. Report from the Chair

Introduction of Draft Motions to Amend Bylaws. Rodriguez explained that the board has had issues with meeting quorum and combining officer positions.

Martin moved that the following changes shall be made to the Democracy Fund Bylaws to reduce the number of Board executives from four (4) to three (3) to streamline the functions of the board. This analysis is based on Title III, Chapter II, Article XI, Sec. 2-823 Democracy Fund Administration, the Administrator is responsible for some of the duties outlined in the current board executive descriptions, specifically the roles of Secretary and Treasurer. The Administrator takes minutes at the meetings, and maintains oversight of the finances of the Board.



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Therefore, the positions of Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer would be replaced by a First and Second Vice Chair position.

The responsibilities of the First Vice Chair would then include the current responsibilities of the Vice Chair Position as indicated in Article III, Section III of the Bylaws, including presiding over meetings in the Chair's absence. In addition, this First Vice Chair will serve to monitor the finances of The Fund as requested by the Board Chair.

The responsibilities of the Second Vice Chair will be to monitor documentation and ensure the transparency of the Board, including monitoring and reviewing the minutes and signing the minutes. The Second Vice Chair can also serve as a secondary point person for candidates if needed. Wynn Seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

Rodriguez Discussed the issue of Quorum, and Martin moved amend the proposed amendment of the proposed motion to change the definition of Quorum in the Board Bylaws. If the board has five (5) or fewer seated members, a minimum of three (3) board members can constitute a quorum. When The Board has six or seven seated members, a minimum of four (4) members would be needed to meet a quorum as outlined in Article IV, Section VII.

The definition of the vote of the majority will remain unchanged as outlined in Article IV, Section VII. Seconded by Paulishen.

Wynn motioned to pass the motion as amended. Martin Seconded. Unanimously approved.

Wynn motioned to approve the Administrator's annual Report with the room to make any necessary changes by January 27th and to be delivered to the Mayor's office and Board of Alders no later than January 31.

6. No public comment

7. New Business

Election for First Vice Chair and Second Vice Chair will take place in February.

Motion to adjourn by Wynn. Seconded by Martin. Meeting adjourned at 6:49 pm.