

***NEW YORK STATE UNITED TEACHERS  
ELECTION DISTRICT #13  
MID-HUDSON RETIREES***

***CONSTITUTION***

**I. NAME**

THIS ORGANIZATION SHALL BE KNOWN AS NYSUT MID-HUDSON RETIREE COUNCIL #13 (REPRESENTING COLUMBIA, DUTCHESS, GREENE, SULLIVAN AND ULSTER COUNTIES)

**II. PURPOSES**

- A. TO PROMOTE THE BEST INTEREST AND WELFARE OF NYSUT RETIREES.
- B. TO PROMOTE MUTUAL ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS WITH WHICH IT IS ASSOCIATED, INCLUDING LOCALS AND RETIREE CHAPTERS WITHIN RETIREE COUNCIL #13, AND
- C. TO PROMOTE THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE NEW YORK STATE UNITED TEACHERS AND ITS NATIONAL AFFILIATES.

**III. AFFILIATIONS**

THIS ORGANIZATION IS AFFILIATED WITH THE NEW YORK STATE UNITED TEACHERS AND ITS NATIONAL AFFILIATES.

**IV. MEMBERSHIP**

- A. ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP IN THIS ORGANIZATION INCLUDES ALL NYSUT MEMBERS WHO RETIRED FROM LOCALS WITHIN ELECTION DISTRICT #13 OR WHO TRANSFER AFFILIATION TO THIS DISTRICT (RETIREE COUNCIL 13) THROUGH PROCEDURES APPROVED BY NYSUT, AND, WHO ALSO MAINTAIN MEMBERSHIP IN NYSUT AFTER RETIREMENT.

- B. ASSOCIATE (NON-VOTING) MEMBERSHIP MAY BE OBTAINED BY THOSE WHO WERE ELIGIBLE FOR NYSUT MEMBERSHIP, BUT HAVE NOT MAINTAINED THIS MEMBERSHIP AFTER RETIREMENT, OR OTHER NYSUT MEMBERS WHO BELONG TO ANOTHER NYSUT RETIREE COUNCIL.

## **V. SERVICE DONATION**

- A. A SERVICE DONATION, TO THE MID-HUDSON RETIREE COUNCIL #13, SHALL BE PROPOSED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND SHALL BE BASED UPON THE FINANCIAL REPORT TO BE SUBMITTED BY THE TREASURER.
- B. THE SERVICE DONATION, THOSE FUNDS WHICH ARE CONTRIBUTED BY THE MEMBERS AND USED AS THE OPERATING BUDGET, SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE SPRING GENERAL MEETING.
- C. MEMBERS SHALL NOT BE EXCLUDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF THE SERVICE DONATION.

## **VI. OFFICERS**

- A. THE FIVE OFFICERS OF NYSUT MID-HUDSON RETIREE COUNCIL #13 SHALL BE: PRESIDENT, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT, SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT, SECRETARY AND TREASURER.
- B. DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT:  
  
THE PRESIDENT SHALL:
  - 1. BE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF NYSUT MID-HUDSON RETIREE COUNCIL #13 AND ADMINISTER ALL AFFAIRS AND EXECUTE ALL POLICIES OF THE ORGANIZATION.
  - 2. PRESIDE AT ALL MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

AND GENERAL MEMBERSHIP.

3. REPRESENT THE ORGANIZATION WITH ALL EXTERNAL GROUPS.
4. APPOINT AND ESTABLISH THE FUNCTION OF ALL COMMITTEES WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
5. CALL REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND GENERAL MEMBERSHIP; AND
6. FULFILL SUCH OTHER DUTIES AS THE OFFICE REQUIRES AND AS ARE CONSISTENT WITH THIS CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

C. DUTIES OF THE VICE-PRESIDENTS:

THE VICE-PRESIDENTS (FIRST AND SECOND) SHALL ASSUME THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PRESIDENT IN HIS/HER ABSENCE AND SHALL PERFORM SUCH OTHER DUTIES AS DELEGATED BY THE PRESIDENT.

D. DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY AND TREASURER:

THE SECRETARY AND TREASURER EACH SHALL PERFORM THOSE DUTIES USUAL TO THOSE OFFICES AND SUCH OTHER DUTIES THAT MAY BE REQUIRED BY THE PRESIDENT OR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

E. NOMINATIONS

1. A NOMINATING COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF FIVE (5) ACTIVE MEMBERS SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT NO LATER THAN MARCH OF EACH YEAR IN WHICH ELECTIONS ARE SCHEDULED.
2. THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE SHALL PROPOSE A SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR ELECTION.

3. EACH MEMBER SHALL BE GIVEN REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY TO NOMINATE CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE.
  - (A) NOTICE OF THE OFFICE TO BE FILLED, THE RIGHT TO MAKE NOMINATIONS, AND THE TIME, PLACE AND PROPER FORM FOR SUBMISSION OF NOMINATIONS SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED TO ALL MEMBERS.
  - (B) NOMINATION PROCEDURE SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
  - (C) ANY ACTIVE MEMBER IS ELIGIBLE FOR NOMINATION FOR OFFICE.
  - (D) NO MEMBER MAY HOLD MORE THAN ONE OFFICE AT THE SAME TIME EXCEPT THAT OF DELEGATE OR ALTERNATE.
  
4. NOMINATIONS SHALL BE ACCEPTED FROM THE FLOOR AT THE SPRING ELECTION MEETING. PERSONS NOMINATED FROM THE FLOOR MUST BE PRESENT OR HAVE SUBMITTED WRITTEN CONFIRMATION OF THEIR WILLINGNESS TO SERVE.

#### F. ELECTION

1. WRITTEN NOTICE ANNOUNCING THE TIME AND PLACE OF ELECTIONS SHALL BE MAILED TO EACH MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING AT HER/HIS LAST KNOWN HOME ADDRESS AT LEAST FIFTEEN (15) DAYS PRIOR TO THE ELECTION.
  
2. ELECTIONS SHALL BE BY SECRET BALLOT UNLESS THERE ARE NO ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS. IN THIS CIRCUMSTANCE, A MOTION FROM THE FLOOR THAT THE SECRETARY CAST A SINGLE BALLOT FOR THE SLATE OF NOMINEES MAY BE ENTERTAINED.
  
3. THE SECRETARY SHALL PRESERVE ALL ELECTION RECORDS, INCLUDING BALLOTS FOR A PERIOD OF ONE (1) YEAR.

## G. TERMS OF OFFICE

DULY ELECTED OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES SHALL SERVE A TWO (2) YEAR TERM, BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1 UNTIL AUGUST 31 OF THE SECOND YEAR. EACH OFFICER SHALL REMAIN IN OFFICE UNTIL HIS/HER SUCCESSOR ASSUMES OFFICE.

## H. VACANCIES

1. IF THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT BECOMES VACANT, THE FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT SHALL ASSUME THAT OFFICE.
2. IF ANY OTHER OFFICE BECOMES VACANT, IT SHALL BE FILLED BY AN ELECTION WITHIN THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND THAT PERSON SHALL HOLD OFFICE UNTIL THE NEXT ELECTION IS HELD BY THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP.

## **VII. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- A. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHALL BE COMPOSED OF THE DULY ELECTED OFFICERS, TWELVE (12) DIRECTORS, AND THE ELECTED DELEGATES TO THE NYSUT AND AFT REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLIES.
- B. BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEMBERS SHALL BE ELECTED AT THE SAME TIME AS THE OFFICERS AND IN A SIMILAR MANNER.
- C. DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
  1. APPROVE AN ANNUAL BUDGET
  2. ACT UPON EXPENDITURES AS MAY BE REQUIRED
  3. INTERPRET THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
  4. ACT ON POLICY MATTERS FOR THE ORGANIZATION BETWEEN MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
  5. MAKE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE MEMBERSHIP FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION; AND
  6. PERFORM ALL OTHER DUTIES AS ENUMERATED IN THE

## CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

- D. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHALL MEET AS REQUIRED DURING THE YEAR. SPECIAL MEETINGS MAY BE CALLED BY THE PRESIDENT OR BY PETITION OF A MAJORITY OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
- E. THE QUORUM FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO CONDUCT A MEETING SHALL CONSIST OF EIGHT (8) MEMBERS.
- F. ANY BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEMBER WHO IS ABSENT FOR MORE THAN THREE CONSECUTIVE MEETINGS WHETHER OF THE BOARD OR OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MAY BE REMOVED FROM OFFICE BY VOTE OF THE OTHER DIRECTORS.

### **VIII. DELEGATES TO REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLIES**

DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO THE NYSUT REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY AND NATIONAL GOVERNANCE BODIES SHALL BE ELECTED IN THE SAME MANNER AS OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE APPROPRIATE STATE AND NATIONAL ORGANIZATION AND WITHIN GUIDELINES OF APPLICABLE LAW.

### **IX. GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**

- A. MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MAY BE CALLED BY THE PRESIDENT, BY A MAJORITY OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, OR BY PETITION OF TEN PERCENT (10%) OF THE MEMBERSHIP. GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS SHALL BE HELD NO LESS THAN TWICE A YEAR.
- B. A QUORUM AT A GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SHALL CONSIST OF THE ACTIVE MEMBERS PRESENT.

## **X. PROTECTION OF RIGHTS OF MEMBERS**

- A. EVERY ACTIVE MEMBER OF THIS ORGANIZATION SHALL HAVE EQUAL RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES TO NOMINATE CANDIDATES, TO HOLD OFFICE, TO VOTE IN ELECTIONS OR REFERENDA, TO ATTEND MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS AND TO PARTICIPATE IN DELIBERATIONS AND VOTING UPON THE BUSINESS OF THE ORGANIZATION.
  
- B. THIS ORGANIZATION SHALL SHOW NO DISCRIMINATION TOWARD ANY INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS ON THE BASIS OF SEX, CREED, COLOR, RACE, NATIONAL ORIGIN OR POLITICAL ACTIVITIES AND BELIEFS.

## **XI. AMENDMENTS**

- A. AN AMENDMENT TO THIS CONSTITUTION MAY BE PROPOSED BY:
  - 1. A MAJORITY OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS; OR
  - 2. NO FEWER THAN TEN PERCENT (10%) OF THE ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP.
  
- B. AN AMENDMENT SHALL BE RATIFIED BY A TWO-THIRDS (2/3) VOTE AT A GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING.
  
- C. IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ADOPTION, PROPOSED AMENDMENTS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT LEAST FOUR (4) MONTHS BEFORE THE NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS (SPRING AND FALL).
  
- D. COPIES OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP PRIOR TO THE VOTE.

## **XII. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

MEETINGS OF ALL DULY CONSTITUTED BODIES OF THIS

ORGANIZATION SHALL BE GOVERNED BY ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER, NEWLY REVISED, EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS DOCUMENT.

### **XIII. FISCAL YEAR**

THE FISCAL YEAR SHALL BE FROM SEPTEMBER 1 THROUGH AUGUST 31 EACH YEAR.

*ADOPTED DECEMBER 1994*

*AMENDED MAY 2002*