

*Seneca County Democratic Committee
Theodore H. Young, Chairman
32 W. Wright Avenue, Waterloo NY 13165*

September 23, 2005

Ms. Anna E. Svizzero
Director of Election Operations
NYS Board of Elections
40 Steuben Street
Albany NY 12207

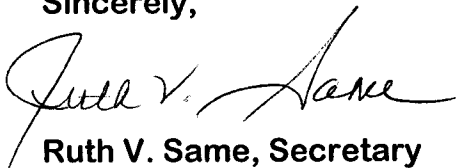
Dear Anna:

Enclosed please find the certificate of organization of the Seneca County Democratic Committee for 2005 – 2007.

In addition I have also enclosed a copy of the Seneca County Democratic Committee By Laws even though they have not changed since our filing in 2003.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Ruth V. Same, Secretary
Seneca County Democratic Committee

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**SENECA COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE
2005 ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

TO: *New York State Board of Elections*
Seneca County Board of Elections

At a meeting of the Seneca County Democratic Committee, held on September 22, 2005 at the Waterloo Holiday Inn, we the undersigned, Theodore H. Young, as the Permanent Chairman, and Ruth V. Same, as the Permanent Secretary, do hereby certify that the organizing meeting of the Seneca County Democratic Committee was duly convened, with a quorum present.

In accordance with Section 2-112 of the New York State Election Law, the By Laws of the Seneca County Democratic Committee and the Rules and Regulations of the New York State Democratic Committee the officers of the Seneca County Democratic Committee were duly elected.

The officers of the Seneca County Democratic Committee for the two year term 2005 – 2007 are as follows:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>
Theodore H. Young	Chairman	32 W Wright Avenue Waterloo NY 13165
Sue A. Sauvageau	Co-Vice Chair	61 ½ Fall Street Seneca Falls NY 13148
Ronald M. Serven	Co-Vice Chair	1191 Dublin Road Waterloo NY 13165
Ruth V. Same	Secretary	11 John Street Seneca Falls NY 13148
Rosemary F. Bellomo	Treasurer	24 Porter Street

SENECA COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE
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ARTICLE I - NAME AND PURPOSE

- Section 1. The organization of the Democratic Party in Seneca County shall be known as the "Seneca County Democratic Committee".
- Section 2. The purpose of this organization shall be the advancement of the Democratic Party in Seneca County, New York.

ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1. Biennially, in each odd numbered year, in each election district, there shall be two members elected by each election district in the County who shall be residents of the Assembly District and enrolled Democrats, at the time of the election and throughout their term of office.
- Section 2. As far as practicable, the members shall be equally divided between the sexes.
- Section 3. The members shall be elected to the County Committee in the manner provided by law, at the Primary Election.

ARTICLE III - ORGANIZATION AND MEETINGS

- Section 1. The elected members of the County Committee shall, within 20 days after their election, meet and organize in the manner provided by law. Within three days after the organizational meeting, the Secretary of the County Committee shall file, in the office of the State Board of Elections and in the office of the County Board of Elections, a certificate stating the names and addresses of the officers elected.
- Section 2. The Chairperson of the last County Committee shall fix the time and place for the organizational meeting, as provided by law, and within ten days shall notify each member of said County Committee, by mail, of the time and place of such meeting.
- Section 3. At the organizational meeting, the Secretary of the last County Committee or someone designated by the Chairperson shall preside, call the roll of the elected members, and preside over the election of a Chairperson. Immediately upon the election of a Chairperson the meeting shall be turned over to the Chairperson who shall preside over the election of the (two) Co-Vice Chairpersons, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Sergeant-At-Arms.
- Section 4. The County Committee may appoint additional officers as the Committee may determine as advisable.
- Section 5. Each of the officers of the County Committee shall be enrolled members of the Democratic Party but do not need to be members of the County Committee.
- Section 6. The officers, elected or appointed, shall discharge the usual duties attached to their respective positions, and any such other duties as directed by the County Committee or the Chairperson.

Section 7. The terms of office of each officer and each member of the County Committee

Section 10. Voting shall be by ayes and nays unless a member present requests a roll call vote, in which the voting power of each member shall be in proportion to the party vote in their district as cast for governor in the last preceding gubernatorial election.

Section 11. A committee person may be represented by a designating proxy in writing, signed by such committee person, which shall be filed with the Secretary or Chairperson of the County Committee before the opening of the meeting for which the proxy is given. No such proxy shall be valid if the designee does not reside in the county and is not an enrolled member of the Democratic Party. At the organizational meeting, no proxy shall be valid unless voted by an enrolled member of the Democratic Party from the town in which the election district represented is situated.

ARTICLE IV - COMMITTEES OF TOWNS AND VILLAGES

Section 1. The members of the County Committee elected by the election districts of the ten towns of the county or the five villages of the county shall constitute respectively the Democratic Town and Village Committees for purposes required by statute. Within fourteen days after the County Committee is organized the Town and Village Committees shall organize. They should have at least the following officers: a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, a Treasurer, and a Secretary, and any additional officers as they may designate. The Secretary of said Town and Village Committee shall certify to the County Chairperson and to the County Board of Elections, their respective officers and Town Committee members, within five days after their organizational meeting. If in the election of officers of the Town and Village Committee there shall be a tie vote, the Seneca County Democratic Chairperson shall select the officer from the candidates that are tied.

ARTICLE V - DESIGNATION OF CANDIDATES

Section 1. Nominations for Town and Village officers shall be made at a caucus or primary election, as the members of the County Committee from a Town may adopt by a two thirds vote. In accordance with 6-108.1 of the New York State Election Law, these rules shall continue in force until a certified copy of a rule revoking the same shall have been filed with the Seneca County Board of Elections at least four months before the Primary Election. In accordance with Section 6.144 of the Election Law, designating petitions for Town and Village offices shall be filed in the office of the Seneca County Board of Elections.

Section 2. At a meeting of the Seneca County Democratic Committee, held on October 22, 1997, by majority vote of the members of the Seneca County Democratic Committee, it was voted that only enrolled members of the Democratic Party will be accepted for nomination/designation, with the exception of judicial candidates. (Anyone with an enrollment change pending, from the Democratic Party to any other affiliation will not be considered as an enrolled member of the Democratic Party, eligible for nomination/designation.)

ARTICLE VI - SPECIAL ELECTIONS

Section 1. Party nominations for an office to be voted for at special elections shall be made by the Town, Village or County Committee representing the unit of representation for which said office is to be filled.

ARTICLE IX - VACANCIES

Section 1. Where a vacancy occurs in the County Committee, such vacancy shall be filled by the remaining members of said committee. The fellow committee person in the affected district should be given the first opportunity to provide the candidate for the vacancy. In the event of an emergency a temporary appointment may be made by the Chairperson and confirmed or made permanent at a later meeting of such committee.

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENT OF RULES

Section 1. These rules may be amended from time to time by a majority vote of the County Committee as provided by law. Within ten days after the adoption of any rule or amendment, a certified copy shall be filed by the County Committee in the office of the State Board of Elections and in the office of the Seneca County Board of Elections. If a section of such rules relate to the nomination of candidates for Town or Village Office, such section of the rules shall be filed in the office of the Town or Village Clerk in which the party makes any nomination for Town or Village Office.

ARTICLE XI - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. There shall be an Executive Committee which shall consist of the ten Town Chairs and the officers of the County Committee.

Section 2. A member of the Executive Committee may request a roll call vote which shall be by gubernatorial vote, cast at the last gubernatorial election.

DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

a. **CHAIRPERSON:** The duty of the Chairperson shall be to encourage and promote the good will of the Democratic Party at all times. The Chairperson shall encourage the election and appointment of Democrats to all positions within our government. The Chairperson shall act as mediator for all disputes within the party and shall encourage unity at all times. At no time shall the Chairperson delegate authority unless it is prescribed by law or is addressed in the rules of the Seneca County Democratic Party. The Chairperson's authority shall be the final word in all matters of importance to the continuity and to the success of the Democratic Party in Seneca County.

b. **CO-VICE CHAIRS:** One Female, One Male. It shall be the duty of the Co-Vice Chairs to assist the Chairperson in all matters pertaining to the party. The cooperation of both is of the essence. In the case of serious sickness or death of the Chairperson, the two Co-Vice Chairs **jointly** may call meetings of the Executive Committee to handle necessary affairs of the party until a full County committee meeting can be called, as prescribed by law, and a new Chairperson elected. The Co-Vice-Chairs are to attend all meetings that are called by the Chairperson and the duties assigned to them, in the interest of the Seneca County Democratic Party, is at the discretion of the Chairperson

c. **SECRETARY:** It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep minutes of all meetings of the committee and to file and keep records of all matters pertaining to the Seneca County Democratic Party. The Secretary shall have the power to call meetings with the written request of the Chairperson. Additional duties of the Secretary shall be as assigned by the Chairperson.

e. **SERGEANT-AT-ARMS:** It shall be the duty of the Sergeant-at-Arms to maintain order at all public and private functions of the Seneca County Democratic Committee. Notice of the name of the elected Sergeant-at-Arms shall be filed with the Seneca County Sheriff's Department and with the nearest New York State Police Headquarters.

Section 3. a. The Chairperson shall call as many special or executive meetings as deemed necessary to conduct the business of the Seneca County Democratic Party. All officers and Town Chairs shall be invited to Executive Committee meetings. If a special meeting other than an Executive Committee meeting is called by the Chairperson, the Secretary shall record and file the names of those in attendance. Upon request of any member of the Executive Committee, the Chairperson shall call a meeting of the full County Committee within 14 days of said request.

b. At least two meetings of the Executive committee shall be held each year in October and May at a location designated by the Chairperson.

c. The Executive Committee shall have the power to act on behalf of the County Committee between meetings of the full committee and shall have the authority to conduct regular business, but the Executive Committee shall not have the right to infringe on the power of the full committee, as prescribed by law.

ARTICLE XII - COMMITTEES

Section 1. The following committees shall be formed by the Chairperson when necessary to conduct business within the Seneca County Democratic Committee: Executive, Finance, Law, Campaign, Legislation, and Platform and Resolutions. These committees may be dissolved when the Chairperson considers their business finished. These committees may also be utilized to recommend appointments that may be made within the party. Their selection of appointments is a recommendation and must be approved by the Executive Committee and by the Chairperson.

Section 2. The Chairperson shall be empowered to convene binding arbitration panels for review of intra-party disputes, submitted by contending parties within the Democratic Party, which are not capable of being settled in primaries.

Section 3. The Chairperson shall also have the power to call periodic meetings with elected Democratic leaders in Seneca County in order to translate to them the views of the Seneca County Democratic Committee and its officers. The Chairperson may also publicly expose or oppose the other political parties, and challenge their errors or inadequacies as the Chairperson sees them.

ARTICLE XIII - NEW YORK STATE RULES

Section 1. In the event the Seneca County By-Laws, as adopted, fail to provide the necessary authority for the continuity of the Seneca County Democratic Party, the Rules of the New York State Democratic Party Shall be observed and followed to the best ability of the officers and committee members.

ARTICLE XIV - FUNDS AND CLUBS

Section 1. Funds may be loaned to Town Chairs or to Town Committees within the Seneca

Section 2. Democratic Clubs representing the Democratic Party label may be formed at the County level or at the Town level. These clubs may be comprised of men, women or a combination of both. A county wide club shall be formed at the discretion of the County Chairperson. It shall be the obligation of a Town Chairperson to inform the County Chairperson of clubs formed within a town, its officers, its purpose, when the meetings take place, etc. The County Chairperson shall be the recognized head of all such clubs, both Town and County.

a. Dues may be charged for membership in clubs formed under the Seneca County Democratic Party name.

b. Funds earned by a county wide club shall be the property of the County Committee.

c. Fund raising events held by the respective Town Chairs shall have the approval of the County Chairperson. All funds earned wholly within a Town shall be the property of the Town Committee.

ARTICLE XV – COOPERATION AND ATTENDANCE

Section 1. If a committee member does not attend one of (at least) two meetings of the full County Committee held in one year, a notice shall be sent to that committee member, by the Chairperson, stating that if an explanation of their absence is not given either in person or in writing, by the next full meeting of the Seneca County Democratic Committee they will be asked to resign from the committee. A Committee member who is constantly absent from meetings without cause will be notified by mail and subject to review by the Town Chairperson and the County Chairperson.

Section 2. It shall be the obligation of candidates seeking or holding party or public office under the Democratic Party name, while serving or seeking to serve, not to oppose publicly the election of any Democratic nominee for office in Seneca County or in the State of New York

ARTICLE XVI – OATH OF OFFICE

Section 1. At each re-organizational meeting, the following oath shall be taken by all officers and committee members present. For those not present, it shall be taken individually and a certificate signed and notarized that such oath has been taken. At the re-organizational meeting, the Secretary shall make special note that those present took such oath, swear to it and file this recognition with the Seneca County Election Commissioner. All individual oaths shall also be filed with the Seneca County Election Commissioner.

a. **Oath**

I _____, solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New York, and that I will, to the best of my ability as an officer or committee member of the Seneca County Democratic Committee and Party, work and follow the rules of the Seneca County Democratic Party and Committee.