

Anderson County Democratic Women's Club

2025 Annual Meeting

11/24/2025

Treasurer, Amanda Mantooth, gave a read-out of the financials for 2025.

Officer Election:

Nominations were taken from the floor. Ann Mostoller was nominated from the floor and was elected President by acclamation. Amanda Mantooth moved and Kay Brookshire seconded – all in favor with no opposition.

Ebony Capshaw was elected Vice President by acclamation. Ann Mostoller moved and Sissy Byram seconded – all in favor with no opposition.

Amy Dunkirk was elected Treasurer by acclamation. Ann Mostoller moved and Marty Adler-Jasny seconded – all in favor with no opposition.

Tiffany Malone was elected Nominating Chair by acclamation. Ann Mostoller moved and Ebony Capshaw seconded – all in favor with no opposition.

Ann Miller was elected Secretary by acclamation. Amanda Mantooth moved and Margot Spore seconded – all in favor with no opposition.

The new officers will be installed at the December meeting.

Bylaws:

Ann Miller read the proposed Bylaws changes, with several questions from the members. Ann Mostoller moved the changes be adopted and Sissy Byram seconded – all in favor with no opposition.

Resolution:

Ann Miller read the proposed Resolution clarifying the relationship between the Anderson County Democratic Party and the ACDWC. Ann Mostoller moved the resolution be enacted and Ebony Capshaw seconded – all in favor with no opposition.

**Appendix: Letter to members with text of Bylaws changes and the Resolution**

The Anderson County Democratic Women's Club Annual Meeting

November 24th 2025 - 5:30pm

Clinton Community Center (101 S Hicks St, Clinton, TN 37716)

Hello ACDWC Member,

During the November 24th, 2025 Annual ACDWC meeting we will have an important resolution, several Bylaws changes, and will vote on the Club officers for 2026.

The resolution is to address, and hopefully resolve, a misunderstanding by the ACDP before it becomes an actual problem for the Club. Note: The Tennessee Federation of Democratic Women is in concurrence with this resolution.

The Bylaws have not been updated since 2010, and there have been a number of changes to our practices in those 15 years that are not reflected in the Bylaws. As you will see below, none of the changes should come as any real surprise, such as email communication and voting for the Nominating Committee Chair. The current Bylaws are included for your reference.

The Club officer candidates the Nominating Committee has recruited are as follows: Open (President); Ebony Capshaw (Vice-President); Amy Dunkirk (Treasurer); Tiffany Malone (Nominating Committee Chair); and Ann Miller (Secretary). There will also be a call for nominations from the floor – so please step forward if you would like to serve as an officer. If you would like to serve in a non-officer capacity please talk with any of the officers.

#### Resolution to Clarify the Relationship with the Anderson County Democratic Party

Whereas: The Anderson County Democratic Party has expressed that they coordinate the messaging, scheduling, and activities of all Democratic organizations in the county, believe the Club is a recognized auxiliary of the Party, and demand to put their stamp of approval on all upcoming Club events prior to announcement through Club mailings or social media.

And whereas: The Anderson County Democratic Women's Club is affiliated with the Tennessee Federation of Democratic Women, and has never been an auxiliary of the Anderson County Democratic Party or affiliated with the Party in a subordinate role. For organizational alignment the President of the Tennessee Federation of Democratic Women is an ex-officio member of the Tennessee Democratic Party Executive Committee.

And whereas: The Anderson County Democratic Women's Club follows the Purposes stated in the Bylaws to "... promote the interest of the Democratic Party; to inform Democratic women and Anderson Countians on matters of government and politics; to

actively support the Democratic nominees in all general elections; to assist Democratic women in the development of political skills and leadership roles in the Democratic Party and to encourage them to seek elective or appointive office.”

Be it resolved: That per the power granted by Article II Section 3 of the Bylaws, the members of the Anderson County Democratic Women’s Club direct the Secretary to send a letter to the Anderson County Democratic Party stating we will continue to coordinate our efforts with the Party’s efforts where mutually beneficial; however, we have no implied or actual auxiliary, affiliate, or subordinate role to the Anderson County Democratic Party.

Proposed Bylaws Changes (old verbiage is crossed through)

#### Article III - Section 3: Special Meetings

Rationale: The current practice is to send email, rather than call the majority of Club members. However, there are a very small group of legacy members who are sent their newsletters and communication via USPS.

Wording: A Special Meeting of the Club for the purpose of transacting business may be called by the President or a majority of the Executive Board, provided all members shall be notified in writing or by telephone email eight (8) days in advance of the date of the meeting. Such notice shall state the purpose for which the meeting is called. Business transacted at such a meeting shall be limited to that stated in the notice or call email.

#### Article IV - Organization of the Board

Rationale: There are Democratic women coming into Anderson County with energy and drive to make our Club thrive. Also, due to outreach efforts in the last several years there are women who are just becoming aware of the Club. We want to harness their energy and talent as potential Club officers as they are willing. It often takes several meetings for a new person to be convinced of the value of the club and submit their membership. We believe three months is adequate to recognize someone’s commitment to the Club and their character as a leader.

Wording: The Board shall consist of the officers of the Club, the immediate past president, and the chairs of nominating, standing and permanent committees. All officers shall have been members in good standing for a period of not less than twelve three (12) (3) months.

## Article V - Officers

Rationale – Section 1 Election and Term of Office: For at least 5 years we have not voted on the Newsletter Editor or the Hospitality Chair as officers. These women have been appointed by the President, with concurrence of the Board. However, the Nominating Committee Chair has been an elected position, and the Board believes continuing to vote on the Nominating Chair is in the best interest of the Club.

Wording – Section 1 Election and Term of Office: Remove Newsletter Editor and Hospitality from "officers" section. Add Nominating Committee Chair as an officer.

Wording – Section 2 Responsibilities of Officers: Add "Nominating Committee Chair: It shall be the duty of the Nominating Committee Chair to assemble a committee to identify and vet potential officer candidates. It shall be her duty to prepare a slate of candidates for office to be voted upon at the next Annual Meeting and also to include candidates for a Nominating Committee to serve the following year. Such slate shall be presented to the Newsletter Editor in writing, to be mailed to each member with the notice of the Annual Meeting."

## Article VI Standing Committees – Nominating, Hospitality, and Newsletter Editor

Rationale: The following changes are to complete the change described in the previous Article.

Wording – Section 1 Nominating Committee: Remove Nominating Committee from this Article.

Wording – Section 2 Standing Committees: Add Hospitality and Newsletter Editor to the list of Standing Committees

Wording – Section 3 Duties of Standing Committees: Add “Newsletter Editor: It shall be the duty of the Newsletter Editor to send out a monthly notice to the entire membership at least eight (8) days prior to the monthly meeting informing them of dates and events and shall seek to promote interest in the Club and its activities by making public such activities via all news media in the county. She shall keep an up-to-date membership roster by coordinating with the Treasurer to provide an accurate mailing list.”

And, “Hospitality: It shall be the duty of the Hostess to make all arrangements for meeting places of the Club, including Board Meetings. It shall be her duty to receive reservations, to see that the meeting room is properly set up, and she shall compile for the Treasurer

records of any expenditures incidental to the obtaining of such places of Club meetings. She shall report to the Board the number attending the previous dinner meeting.”

#### Article VI Section 3: Duties of Standing Committees - Scholarship

Rationale: Helen Jernigan had greatly supported the scholarship fund during her life, and her family continues to support the scholarship with a generous contribution. The Board would like to honor Helen and her contribution to the scholarship and our community by naming the fund in her honor.

Wording – Section 3 Duties of Standing Committees: “Scholarship: A scholarship to a female high school senior in financial need, with the academic skills necessary to succeed, and goals shared by the Democratic Party. The scholarship shall be funded from the Anderson County Democratic Women’s Club Scholarship Fund Helen Jernigan Memorial Scholarship Fund (formerly known as the Audrey Prince Memorial Fund Anderson County Democratic Women’s Club Scholarship Fund) when money is available and/or applications are solicited and received. The scholarship committee shall be responsible for distributing and collecting the applications. The Board will make the final decision on the recipient.”

#### Article VI Section 3: Duties of Standing Committees - Membership

Rationale: The Board believes it is important to safeguard the personal information of our members. The newsletter now goes out to Democratic women in the area who are “pre-members” with the hope they will become members. The Bylaws now stipulate the membership list should be sent with the newsletter – a practice that has not happened, in reality, in many years. We believe the safer approach is to allow members to request a roster as they choose.

Wording – Section 3 Duties of Standing Committees: “Membership: The Membership Chairperson may appoint a Membership Committee to help devise such plans for enrollment and records of members as are needed, and shall seek to enroll new members for the betterment of the Club. The Chair shall maintain an up-to-date membership roster and furnish a list of new members to the Newsletter Editor and the Treasurer monthly and to the full membership with the June newsletter upon request to the Secretary. The committee shall meet and greet members and prospective new members at all meetings.”