

SEATTLE CHAPTER
OF THE
LATINO CAUCUS
of the
AMALGAMATED
TRANSIT UNION

BYLAWS

Adopted April 1996
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ARTICLE I

Section 1. The following abbreviations, when used, shall have these meanings:

C	-	Chairperson
Co	-	Co-Chairperson
T/RS	-	Treasurer/Recording Secretary
L.C.	-	Latino Caucus of the Amalgamated Transit Union
E.C.	-	Executive Committee of the Latino Caucus of the Amalgamated Transit Union
S.C.L.C.	-	Seattle Chapter of the Latino Caucus of the Amalgamated Transit Union
ATU	-	Amalgamated Transit Union

ARTICLE II

Section 1. Preamble of the Seattle Chapter of the Latino Caucus of the Amalgamated Transit Union:

We the S.C.L.C., exist to advance the principles and goals set forth in the Constitution and General Laws of the ATU and the Bylaws of the ATU Latino Caucus, and are subordinate to the aforementioned Constitution and General Laws and the ATULC.

We hold that in order to advance the principles and goals of the ATU, we must address the needs of all our members. To that end, we have formed to strengthen the ATU's resolve to fight discrimination by declaring the following:

1. Full equality for the Spanish Language. We oppose all acts of discrimination against those who Speak Spanish on the job or in their daily lives.
2. (A) We oppose all acts of discrimination against Latinos in recruitment, training, hiring, and Promotions, on the job, in the schools and in their communities.

(b) We oppose all acts of disparate application of discipline against Latinos.
2. We uphold the right of Latinos to fully develop their cultural traditions.
3. As members of the ATU, we advance and promote the organization of all workers into the ATU and take special notice of the thousands of Latino workers that are without the benefit of Union protection.
4. We welcome and encourage the ATU's support and development of Latino membership and leadership within the Union through education, training and other resources.

ARTICLE III

Section 1. Membership:

- A. Any member in good standing with the ATU may become a member of the S.C.L.C.
- B. Associate member: Any person that is not an ATU member may become a part of this organization as an associate member. Such member will be able to attend meetings with no voice and no vote. Associate members may not hold office in the Local Chapter. Associate members dues will be the same as full members. Associate members must submit request for membership to the Local Chapter for approval.
- C. Dues: To be a member in good standing with the Seattle Chapter Latino Caucus, \$5.00 must be paid to the Treasurer of the Local Chapter by July 1st of each year. Any member's dues that are not paid by the 1st of July of each year shall be sent a 30-day notice. Failure to respond to the notice shall result in that member being dropped from the rolls of the Seattle Chapter Latino Caucus.

Section 2. Meetings:

Membership meetings of the S.C.L.C. will be held quarterly at a minimum of 4 times per year unless otherwise designated by the S.C.L.C.

- A. The S.C.L.C. membership meetings are the governing body of the S.C.L.C. All decisions made at the membership meeting bind the entire S.C.L.C.
- B. Three (3) percent of the total membership of the S.C.L.C. in good standing shall constitute a quorum for doing business.
- C. All business for the S.C.L.C. shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order, unless otherwise stated in these Bylaws.
- D. Any vote shall be determined by the simple majority, unless otherwise noted in these Bylaws, the ATU L.C. Bylaws or the Constitution or General Laws.

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS

Section 1. The Officers of the S.C.L.C. shall be the Chairperson, Co-Chairperson and the Treasurer/Recording Secretary.

Section 2. Officers of the S.C.L.C. shall serve for two (2) years with the nominations and elections being held every two (2) years to coincide with even number years.

Section 3. If any officer fails to attend three- (3) successive meeting, unless excused or prevented by illness, his/her office shall be declared vacant and his/her successor shall be elected.

ARTICLE V

DUTIES of the CHAIRPERSON

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Chairperson to preside at all meetings of the S.C.L.C., to preserve order and enforce the Constitution and Bylaws, and to see that all Officers perform their respective duties.

Section 2. The Chairperson shall decide all questions of orders, subject to appeal to the membership of the S.C.L.C., and shall have the right to vote in case of a tie, when she/he shall give the deciding vote. She/He shall announce the results of all votes.

- Section 3. At all regular meetings, the Chairperson shall report in full the progress and working of the S.C.L.C. and perform such other duties as the S.C.L.C. may direct.
- Section 4. Should the Chairperson be unable to attend any meeting, she/he shall so notify the Co-Chair and or the Treasurer/Recording Secretary.
- Section 5. The Chairperson shall carry out all instructions of the S.C.L.C. Her/his main duty is to provide general leadership and coordination to the S.C.L.C. as a whole.
- Section 6. The Chairperson has the discretion to select one of the S.C.L.C. member(s) to represent the S.C.L.C. for the purpose of attending meetings, functions or any other duty consistent with the goals and objectives of the S.C.L.C.

ARTICLE VI

DUTIES of the Co-CHAIRPERSON

- Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Co-Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson, to preside and to perform all duties pertaining to the office of the Chairperson and to render such assistance as may be required of her/him.
- Section 2. In the case of vacancy in the Chairperson’s office, she/he shall preside until the S.C.L.C. elects a Chairperson to fill the vacancy.

ARTICLE VII

DUTIES of the TREASURER/RECORDING SECRETARY

- Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer/Recording Secretary to keep accurate and correct account of the proceedings of the S.C.L.C.; to carry out all correspondence and perform such other duties as her/his office shall require.
- Section 2. The Treasure/Recording Secretary shall keep a correct roll of membership and check on it at the membership meetings, when necessary. To collect all dues and handle capital submission to the L.C. Treasurer.
- Section 3. The Treasurer/Recording Secretary shall notify all members of the S.C.L.C. 30 days prior to the Membership meeting, either by posting, publication or individual notices, as deemed necessary by the chapter officers.
- Section 4. The Treasurer/Recording Secretary shall make available copies of any S.C.L.C. membership meeting minutes to any member, to ATU Local 587 Recording Secretary and ATU L.C. E.C. upon request.

ARTICLE VIII

NOMINATIONS/ELECTIONS

- Section 1. Nominations and Elections will occur every two- (2) years at the first quarterly meeting on years ending in even numbers. The Treasurer/Recording Secretary shall notify all members of the SCLC of the pending election of officers, and the date, location, and time of the meeting during which the elections will occur. Such notification will be done 30 days prior to the meeting, in writing, to each member’s last known address.

- Section 2. The presiding officer shall open nomination(s), declaring that it is in order to proceed with the nominations of candidates for the S.C.L.C. office(s).
- A. The order of nomination shall be Chairperson, Co-Chairperson, and Treasurer/Recording Secretary.
- Section 3. Following the nominations, the T./RS will distribute to all members in good standing present an official ballot. An official ballot shall include all of the offices that are contended.
- A. Each member in good standing present will then write the name of the candidate they are voting for in the space next to the office for which the candidate is running.
- B. Only the names of those candidates nominated may be counted on the ballots. All other names shall be disregarded. 50% plus one (1) will constitute a victory, otherwise a run-off election will be held between the two (2) candidates receiving the highest vote counts. This process will be continued until one candidate receives a majority vote. All elections shall be by secret ballot.
- Section 4. Two (2) disinterested members of the S.C.L.C. shall be selected to conduct the election and to count the ballots.
- Section 5. When a candidate is running unopposed in nominations for any position, that person shall be deemed elected.
- Section 6. The newly elected officers shall assume their offices immediately upon the close of the S.C.L.C. membership meeting, and the outgoing officers shall deliver any and all documents, records, or any other property of the S.C.L.C., to her/his successor.
- Section 7. Vacant officer positions.
- A. In the event of a Chairperson or Co-Chairperson vacancy with more than six (6) months until the next regular election cycle, at the next scheduled meeting there will be an interim election, conducted by the officer not vacated.
- B. In the event of a vacancy in the Treasurer/Recording Secretary position of more than six (6) months, the chairperson will appoint an interim T./RS until an election can be held.
- C. If the vacancy is less than six (6) months:
- i) The Co-Chairperson shall serve as Chairperson
 - ii) The Co-Chairperson office shall remain vacant.
 - iii) The Treasurer/Recording Secretary office shall be filled by interim appointment by the Chairperson.

ARTICLE IX

ORDERS OF BUSINESS

1. Call to order, the Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of previous meeting
3. Communications and Bills
4. Reports of Officers
5. Reports of Committees
6. Old Business
7. New Business
8. Welfare of the S.C.L.C.
9. Receipts and Expenditures
10. Adjournment

ARTICLE X

AMENDING BYLAWS

- Section 1. Any member who may desire to amend these Bylaws shall present a request for such a change in writing, to the T/R.S. at least thirty (30) days before the next scheduled meeting of the S.C.L.C. The S.C.L.C. shall review the amendment(s) and vote. A two-thirds (2/3) majority is required for approval of any Bylaw amendment.
- Section 2. Upon approval of any Bylaw amendment(s), they must then be submitted to the ATU L.C. E.C for approval prior to adoptment.

ARTICLE XI

REMOVAL of OFFICERS

- Section 1. Any officers of the S.C.L.C. may be removed from Office for cause by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at the next S.C.L.C. membership meeting. The Constitutional and General Laws of the ATU define "Cause".
- Section 2. The Accused charged with "Cause" shall be provided copies of all charges prior to the next S.C.L.C. membership meeting.
- Section 3. The accused shall have the right to examine all evidence and witnesses testifying against her/him, and be permitted to produce such witnesses and evidence deemed best in her/his behalf.
- Section 4. Any member of the S.C.L.C may represent the Accused before the S.C.L.C.
- Section 5. The charges against an Officer of the S.C.L.C. must be specific, in writing, and signed by three (3) members of the S.C.L.C. who are in good standing.