

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF

(American Legion Auxiliary, Knowles G. Oglesby Unit 3, Inc.)

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

1575 Hwy 17 South, Bartow FL 33830

January 11, 2024

PREAMBLE

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations during the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and goodwill on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity, the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to participate in and contribute to the accomplishment of the aims and purposes of The American Legion; to consecrate and sanctify our association by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

CONSTITUTION

Article I - Name

The name of this organization shall be: American Legion Auxiliary, Knowles G. Oglesby Unit 3, Inc.

Article II - Nature

Section 1. The American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 3 is a civilian patriotic service organization of women that supports the mission of the American Legion.

Section 2. The American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 3 shall be absolutely nonpolitical and shall not be used for dissemination of partisan principles or for promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

Article III - Objective

Section 1. The objective of the American Legion Auxiliary, Knowles G. Oglesby Unit 3, Inc. shall be as stated in the Preamble of the Constitution.

Article IV - Eligibility

Section 1. Membership in the American Legion Auxiliary shall be limited to the grandmothers, mothers, sisters, wives, and direct and adopted female descendants of members of The American Legion, and to the grandmothers, mothers, sisters, wives, and direct and adopted female descendants of all men and women who were in the Armed Forces of the United States during any of the following periods: April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918; December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946; June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955; February 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975; August 24, 1982 to July 31, 1984; December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990; August 2, 1990 to the date of cessation of hostilities as determined by the Government of the United States; all dates inclusive, or who being citizens of the United States at the time of their entry therein, served on active duty in the Armed Forces of any of the governments associated with the United States during any of said periods, and died in line of duty or after honorable discharge; and to those women who of their own right are eligible for membership in The American Legion.

Section 2. There shall be two classes of membership, Senior and Junior.

(a) Senior membership shall be composed of members over the age of eighteen years; provided, however, that a wife under the age of eighteen years, who is eligible under Section 1 of this article, shall be classed as a Senior member.

(b) Junior membership shall consist of that group under the age of eighteen years, whose activities shall be supervised by the Senior membership. Upon reaching the age of eighteen years, Junior members shall automatically be admitted into Senior membership with full privileges.

Article V - Unit Officers

Section 1. The Unit shall elect annually a President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain, Historian and Sergeant-at- Arms.

(President, Secretary and Treasure are the absolutely required officers)

Article VI - Executive Committee

Section 1. There shall be an Executive Committee which shall consist of the officers and three (3) additional members-at-large elected by the Unit, Chairmen of the standing committees and all past Presidents in good standing.

Article VII - Fiscal Year

Section 1. The fiscal year shall be the same as that of the Department. (July 1 through June 30 each year)

Article VIII – Amendments

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a regular Unit meeting, provided the proposed amendments shall have been read at the previous meeting.

Section 2. Amendments not having been read previously may be adopted by the unanimous vote of the members present.

Section 3. This Constitution shall be automatically amended to conform to the National and Department Constitution and Bylaws and Standing Rules of the American Legion Auxiliary.

BYLAWS

Article I - Executive Committee

Section 1. Between meetings the government and management of this Unit shall be entrusted to the Executive Committee and all recommendations of said committee shall be presented to the Unit at the next meeting for approval.

Section 2. A vacancy existing in the Executive Committee from, any cause other than the expiration of a term shall be filled by a majority vote of the members present. A person so elected shall hold office for the unexpired term of the member whom she succeeds.

Section 3. Three (3) members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Section 4. The Executive Committee shall meet once a quarter on the second Thursday at 5:30 PM. Special meetings may be called by order of the president if on written request of at least three (3) members of the Executive Committee.

Article II – Elections

Elections shall be held annually.

Elections shall be done by ballot &/or electronically via e-mail or text and a majority of votes cast shall be necessary to elect. If there is only one person nominated for an office the ballot may be dispensed with and that nominee declared a winner.

Article III – Discipline

Sec. 1. For any violation of the Unit, Department or National Constitutions, or for conduct Improper and prejudicial to the welfare of the American Legion Auxiliary or of the American Legion, any member may be expelled from membership or any officer may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote at a Unit meeting duly called for that purpose; said expulsion or removal to be binding only in the event that said member or officer shall have been at least a fifteen (15) day notice in writing by the Unit Secretary of the charges and the hearing thereon. Either party may have the right to appeal to the Department Executive Committee, and their action thereon shall be final. The expenses of said appeal shall be borne by the appellant.

Sec. 2. Neither this unit in the Department or any member thereof shall circularize any other Unit or Member thereof without the consent of a Department Executive Committee.

Sec. 3. Liabilities: No member or group of members shall subject this Unit to liability without authorization of the Unit.

Article IV – Parliamentary Authority

Sec. 1. The Unit organization shall be governed by “Robert’s Rule of Order, Newly Revised” on all points not covered in National and or Department and this Constitution and Bylaws.

Article V – Amendments

Sec. 1. These Bylaws may be amended by a two thirds vote of the members present at a regular meeting provided the proposed amendments shall have been read at a previous Unit meeting.

Sec. 2. Amendments not having been previously read may be adopted by the unanimous vote of the members present.

Sec. 3. This Constitution and Bylaws shall be automatically amended to conform to the National and Department Constitution and Bylaws and Standing Rules of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Article VI – Unit Monies

Section 1. All money is to be deposited into a banking institution that is Federally insured. Two (2) signatures are required for any withdrawal. The National Constitution and Acts of the National Convention constitute the Fundamental Law of the Auxiliary and Department Conventions. The act of the Department Convention and the Department Executive Committees must conform to the Constitution of the Department in which it is located. Any provision of a Unit Constitution which conflicts with the Constitution of the Department Executive Committee is invalid and without effect. In a few Departments, the adoption of a uniform Unit Constitution and By-Laws prescribed by the Department is mandatory.

These Constitution & Bylaws and Standing Rules were read and approved at a regulary scheduled meeting held on Thursday, Jan 11. 2024

Dianne Tucker

Unit President, Dianne Tucker

Karen Petrunyak

Unit Sec. Karen Petrunyak

Sherry Brading

Unit C&B Chairman, Sherry Brading

2/25/2024

Date

APPROVED

Department Constitution & Bylaws Chairman

Date