

Policies and Procedures

This note is a running list of policies that the Carlisle Democratic Town Committee has voted to adopt recently.

Neutrality in Town Elections

1. By long-standing tradition candidates for local office in Carlisle run on a non-politically-partisan basis.
2. The CDTC has its own long standing tradition, which it now reaffirms, of not endorsing candidates for local office.
3. The Committee adopts no position on, and certainly does not oppose, a member or associate member endorsing a candidate for local office in his or her individual capacity as a private citizen, in keeping with the sacred American tradition of enabling almost exclusively unrestricted free speech.
4. A member of the CDTC has the right to endorse a candidate as an individual but is not permitted to endorse a candidate as a member of the CDTC or to commit the CDTC to an endorsement in Town elections.

Endorsement Votes

This policy covers endorsements of any kind: candidate, initiative, anything recommended by the committee as a whole In a letter to the editor in the Mosquito. Goals:

1. Set a fairly high bar short of requiring a unanimous vote of all members.
2. Get the maximum participation by the members, by permitting people who cannot make the meeting at which the vote is tallied to vote by email to the designated co-chair.

The vote tally meeting date is selected a month in advance for a clear statement of what is being voted on. There will be an email-in period of 7 days with a deadline shortly before the tally date (deadline before meeting to give the co-chair time to compile the email results.) A clear statement of exactly what is being voted upon will be sent out by the co-chair before the email period starts.

At the tally meeting the endorsement will be motioned, seconded, and voted upon. If there is discussion leading to a change in what is being voted on, then a vote will be taken if the motion is to be tabled for another email-in vote. To pass, at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of the present plus mail-in votes (ignoring any cast by a member who turns out to be present) must be affirmative.

Ideally, after approving an endorsement the points of an LTE stating the endorsement and reasons, will be agreed upon and person identified to write the letter to the Mosquito.