

# Wisconsin United to Amend Constitution

## Article 1: Name of Organization

The name of this organization is Wisconsin United to Amend (hereinafter "WIUTA").

## Article 2: Purpose

The purpose of WIUTA is to provide education about, and to promote passage of, an amendment to the U.S. Constitution specifying that under that constitution corporations are not persons and that money is not a form of speech.

## Article 3: Membership

**Section 3.1: Qualification.** Membership is open to anyone interested in pursuing the purpose of the organization.

**Section 3.2: Types of Membership.** WIUTA shall have two types of membership, defined as follows:

- (a) General Membership shall consist of anyone who has signed a WIUTA petition or indicated an interest in participating in events or activities sponsored by WIUTA.
- (b) Voting Membership at a meeting shall include anyone who has, within the 180 days preceding that meeting, attended two or more WIUTA phone conferences, meetings or events in which WIUTA participated, or served WIUTA in some other substantive way.

## Article 4: Officers

**Section 4.1: Enumeration.** Officers of WIUTA shall be two Co-Chairs, a Treasurer, a Vice-Treasurer, and a Secretary. Only voting members are eligible to be officers.

**Section 4.2: Executive Board.** The officers constitute the Executive Board of WIUTA.

**Section 4.3: Vacancies in Office.** If an office falls vacant, it may be filled temporarily by appointment by the Executive Board. It shall be filled for the remainder of the term of office at the next regular election under Article 5.

## **Article 5: Elections**

**Section 5.1: Summer.** Nominations for Co-Chair #2 and Treasurer shall be made during May for election at the first regular meeting in June.

**Section 5.2: Winter.** Nominations for Co-Chair #1, Vice-Treasurer, and Secretary shall be made during November for election at the first regular meeting in December.

**Section 5.3: Nominations.** Self-nominations are permitted. Nominations need not be seconded. Each nominee must explicitly accept the nomination prior to the election.

**Section 5.4: Eligible Voters.** Officers of WIUTA shall be elected by the voting membership.

**Section 5.5: Term of Office.** The term of office shall be two years from the end of the meeting at which the election occurs.

## **Article 6: Duties of the Officers**

**Section 6.1: Co-Chairs.** The Co-Chairs are responsible for overseeing the work and activities of WIUTA, setting the agendas for and facilitating general meetings.

**Section 6.2: Treasurer.** The Treasurer is responsible for maintaining, managing, and reporting the financial records of WIUTA and carrying out financial actions as approved by the membership. A financial report will be made by the Treasurer at each general meeting.

**Section 6.3: Vice-Treasurer.** The Vice-Treasurer is responsible for assisting the Treasurer and acting as such when the Treasurer is absent from a general meeting.

**Section 6.4: Secretary.** The Secretary is responsible for taking, archiving, and disseminating minutes of general meetings and for maintaining a current roster of voting members.

## **Article 7: Officer Discipline**

**Section 7.1. Principle.** WIUTA officers and team leaders are the public face of WIUTA and must conduct themselves in accordance with the organization's stated objectives, democratic processes, fair play, honest dealings, and socially accepted standards of civil discourse and behavior. They are accountable to the membership for deviations from this expectation.

**Section 7.2. Penalties.** There are 3 possible penalties that may be applied to officers and team leaders:

- (a) Reprimand: official disapproval of the stated conduct.
- (b) Censure: strong official disapproval of the stated conduct, combined with public disavowal of it.
- (c) Removal: stripping the person of her or his office. Such removal does not result in loss of membership in the organization nor in disqualification from holding any future such position.

**Section 7.3. Introduction.** A motion to apply a penalty may be made at any meeting by any voting member. It must state the reasons for the proposed action and the specific penalty sought.

**Section 7.4. Timing.** No such motion may be adopted unless the person who is the object of the discipline has had an opportunity to speak in her or his own defense, or until the 3rd meeting following its introduction, whichever occurs first.

**Section 7.5. Voiding.** If the person who is the object of such a motion resigns her or his position, the motion shall immediately be voided.

**Section 7.6. Adoption.** A motion of reprimand or censure may be adopted by majority vote at the first available meeting consistent with "Timing" above. A motion of removal may not be adopted at such a meeting but only at the following meeting, provided the motion is included in the meeting notice; it requires a 3/5 vote.

**Section 7.7. Amendment.** Any disciplinary motion may be amended by majority vote to provide for a lesser penalty, but not for a greater one.

## **Article 8: Teams**

**Section 8.1: General.** Team names, duties, and procedures shall be specified in the Standing Policies.

**Section 8.2: Rosters.** Formal team rosters are kept by the Secretary.

**Section 8.3: Reports.** Team reports will be a regularly scheduled part of each general meeting agenda.

## **Article 9: General Meetings**

**Section 9.1: Quorum.** The quorum for a general meeting shall be 5 voting members or 25% of the voting members, whichever is greater.

**Section 9.2: Schedule.** The schedule for general meetings (usually monthly conference calls) shall be communicated at least two weeks in advance of the meeting.

## **Article 10: Amendments**

**Section 10.1: Governing Documents.** The governing documents of WIUTA are this Constitution and the compendium of Standing Policies.

**Section 10.2: Introduction.** Provisions of a governing document may be amended (adopted, repealed, replaced, or revised) at a general membership meeting, provided that:

- (a) The explicit text of any proposed amendment must be presented in writing.
- (b) The proposal must explicitly state which governing document it is intended to amend.
- (c) The proposal may be discussed at the meeting at which it is introduced, and it may be amended at that meeting, but it may not be voted on until a later meeting.
- (d) The notice of the meeting at which the vote is to occur shall include mention of the proposed amendment.

**Section 10.3: Adoption.** The vote needed shall be:

- (a) a majority to amend the proposed amendment itself.
- (b) 3/5 to amend the Constitution.
- (c) a majority to amend the Standing Policies.

**Section 10.4: Technical Amendments.** The secretary is empowered to number, entitle, arrange, punctuate, and properly spell the governing documents for ease of understanding and use, but such technical revisions shall be without substantive effect.