



Constitution of the Keweenaw Socialists

8/28/24

Article 1. Purpose

1.1. We, the Keweenaw Socialists, officially abbreviated KS and referred to in this document as the Organization, are dedicated to the following Principles:

- 1.1.1.** That all humans are equal and have value that is intrinsic and non-quantifiable by way of economic output.
- 1.1.2.** That advances must be made to ensure an equitable quality of life for all persons without dependence on the exploitation of people or natural resources.
- 1.1.3.** That governing authority is derived exclusively from the will of the people for whom that authority applies, and that any governing authority that does not have the will of the people is wholly illegitimate.
- 1.1.4.** That all people are entitled to the fruits of their labor and freedom from exploitation.

1.2. Based on the aforementioned Principles and the present material conditions we hold these Conclusions to be self-evident:

- 1.2.1.** The prosperity of humankind is inextricably linked to the well being of the environment, and our continued survival depends on our reciprocity with those natural systems.
- 1.2.2.** Capitalist society can be divided between two classes, those who subsist through their own labor, and those whose way of life depends on the labor of others through ownership. As long as these two classes exist the working class and the owning class will be in perpetual conflict, as their desires are fundamentally antagonistic.

- 1.2.3.** Our present society has been built on the interconnected forces of colonialism, imperialism, and white supremacy, both through direct subjugation and through systemically oppressive policy. Humanity cannot be free until all oppressed people are liberated.
- 1.2.4.** The ending of global capitalist systems and their subsequent replacement with that of socialism is not only morally imperative, but also achievable, and absolutely necessary for the continued habitability of the planet.
- 1.3. In the interest of these Principles and Conclusions we shall engage in the following activities:**
 - 1.3.1.** Promoting socialist ideas in the greater Keweenaw Peninsula community; including class consciousness, mutual aid, unionization, and the liberation of oppressed peoples.
 - 1.3.2.** Furthering the understanding of the history of capitalist, fascist, and socialist groups and movements, as well as the development of socialist theory among Members and the greater Keweenaw Peninsula community.
 - 1.3.3.** Performing and promoting mutual aid within the greater Keweenaw Peninsula community.
 - 1.3.4.** Organizing direct action for the furtherance of goals in line with our Principles and Conclusions.
 - 1.3.5.** Promoting community defense against the threats of fascism and white supremacy through training in organization, medicine, firearms, and self-defense.

Article 2. Membership

2.1. Qualifications

- 2.1.1.** Persons wishing to become Members of the organization must be part of the greater Keweenaw Peninsula community, or a part of an educational or aid focused institution therein.
- 2.1.2.** Persons wishing to become Members of the organization must demonstrate a good faith interest in, and support of, the Principles of the Organization as defined in Article 1.
- 2.1.3.** Members must meet at least one of the following requirements:
 - 2.1.3.1.** They have completed a minimum number of service hours as defined within the By-Laws.
 - 2.1.3.2.** They have attended a minimum number of meetings as defined within the By-Laws.
 - 2.1.3.3.** They have paid a minimum quantity of dues as defined within the By-Laws.
 - 2.1.3.4.** They have participated in actions of the Organization as defined within the By-Laws.

2.2. Rights of Members

- 2.2.1.** Introduce motions in General or Special Meetings.
- 2.2.2.** Nominate Members, including themselves, for office in the Administrative Council.
- 2.2.3.** Vote in elections for Offices of the Administrative Council.
- 2.2.4.** Propose Constitutional Amendments, as defined in Article 6, Section 2.1.
- 2.2.5.** Vote on Constitutional Amendments.
- 2.2.6.** Propose By-Laws, as defined in Article 7, Section 2.
- 2.2.7.** Vote on By-Laws.
- 2.2.8.** Initiate impeachment proceedings, as defined in Article 3, Section 4.1.
- 2.2.9.** Form Committees, as defined in Article 4, Section 1.
- 2.2.10.** Form Action Groups as defined in Article 4, Section 2.
- 2.2.11.** Call Special Meetings, as defined in Article 5, Section 2.2.
- 2.2.12.** Air grievances to the Administrative Council pertaining to the operation or actions of the Organization, offices or actions of the Administrative Council, other Members, or anything else relating to the Organization.
- 2.2.13.** Introduce a motion, or request, to a member of the Administrative Council, that other members be Dissociated, as defined in Article 2, Section 4.2.
- 2.2.14.** Hold office in the Administrative Council.
- 2.2.15.** Call for an Emergency Election, as defined in Article 3, Section 4.3.

2.3. Code of Conduct

- 2.3.1.** Members shall not engage in any discriminatory behavior based on, but not limited to, sex, gender, orientation, marital status, neurodivergence, physiodivergence, disability, race, ethnicity, national origin, or religion.
- 2.3.2.** Members shall not engage in physical or emotional abuse, harassment, or derogatory behavior of any kind.
- 2.3.3.** Members shall not commit any nature of sexual offenses, including, but not limited to, intentionally inappropriate sexual language or behavior including sexual harrassment, and sexual assault.
- 2.3.4.** Members shall not work to intentionally undermine the Organization or hold membership in other organizations which promote fascism, nazism, neoconfederatism, or white supremacy.

2.4. Member Disassociation

- 2.4.1.** Members may be Disassociated from the Organization on the grounds of abusive behavior or behavior destructive to the organization and/or its purpose as determined by Article 2, Section 3 and Article 1.
- 2.4.2.** A Member, or Members, hereinafter referred to as the Complainant(s), may introduce a motion, or request to a member of the Administrative Council, that another Member, hereinafter referred to as the Defendant, be Disassociated. A Disassociation hearing shall be held in a Special Meeting consisting exclusively of the Complainant(s) or proxy(s), Defendant, and at least three members of the Administrative Council, at a time determined by the Administrative Council.
- 2.4.3.** A member of the Administrative Council shall not reside over a disassociation hearing in which they are the Complainant or the Defendant.
- 2.4.4.** In the course of a Disassociation hearing the Complainant(s) or proxy(s) shall be given adequate time to express their grievances, and the Defendant shall be given adequate time for rebuttal to the listed grievances, the onus of proof is on the Complainant(s). Testimony by the Complainant(s), proxy(s), or Defendant may be given in the exclusive presence of members of the Administrative Council if requested. The Administrative Council shall seek to moderate an amicable agreement between the Complainant(s) and the Defendant before disassociation is brought to a vote.
- 2.4.5.** Disassociation shall require a vote of at least two thirds of the Administrative Council present at the meeting.
- 2.4.6.** A disassociated person may be barred from participating in Organization events and attending Organization meetings for a period of time as determined by the Administrative Council.

Article 3. Administrative Council

3.1. Officers

3.1.1. Chair

3.1.1.1. Shall preside over General, Special, and Administrative Meetings.

3.1.1.2. Shall prepare meeting agendas.

3.1.2. Vice-Chair

3.1.2.1. Shall assist the Chair in their duties.

3.1.2.2. Shall perform the duties of the Chair in their absence, or upon request.

3.1.3. Secretary

3.1.3.1. Shall distribute meeting agendas.

3.1.3.2. Shall keep accurate meeting minutes for General, Special, and Administrative Meetings.

3.1.3.3. Shall maintain an updated roster of all members.

3.1.3.4. Shall maintain an archive of organization documents.

3.1.4. Treasurer

3.1.4.1. Shall manage the funds of the Organization, keep accurate records of transactions.

3.1.4.2. Shall manage the collection of dues.

3.1.4.3. Shall allot Organization funds at the request of Committees or Action Groups.

3.1.5. Event Coordinator

3.1.5.1. Shall assess interest in, plan, and promote Organization social events.

3.1.5.2. May delegate duties to Committees, Action Groups, or individual Members.

3.1.6. A member may hold more than one Office concurrently, with the exception of the Offices of Chair and Vice-Chair.

3.1.7. In the event an office is not filled the Administrative Council shall appoint an interim officer within a week.

3.2. Staff

3.2.1. Parliamentarian

3.2.1.1. Shall ensure that General and Special Meetings are conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order as defined in Article 5, Section 6.

3.2.2. Sergeant at Arms

3.2.2.1. Shall enforce the directives of the Parliamentarian using the minimum required force.

3.2.2.2. Shall ensure the safety of all members present at General and Special Meetings.

3.2.2.3. Shall remove individuals from a meeting in which they are in violation of Article 2, Section 3.

3.2.3. Press Secretary

3.2.3.1. Shall represent the Organization to the public and members of the press.

3.2.3.2. Shall prepare and distribute press releases.

3.2.4. Liaison

3.2.4.1. Shall pursue and maintain beneficial relations between the Organization and other external organizations.

3.2.4.2. Shall report pertinent information to the Administrative Council regarding the activities of local government.

3.2.5. Administrative Assistant

3.2.5.1. Shall assist officers in the performance of their duties as delegated.

3.2.5.2. Any number of Administrative Assistants may be appointed.

3.2.6. Staff may be appointed by the Administrative Council and shall not vote on decisions of the Administrative Council.

3.2.7. Members may serve in an Office, and as Staff, of the Administrative Council concurrently.

3.3. Ombuds

3.3.1. Shall receive, process, and take appropriate action to resolve or remediate grievances aired by Members in accordance with Article 2, Section 2.12.

3.3.2. Shall not be subject to direction from the Administrative Council.

3.4. Elections

3.4.1. General Elections

3.4.1.1. General Elections for all Administrative Council Offices and the office of Ombuds shall begin in the first week of March.

3.4.1.2. The Membership must be notified that a General Election is to take place at least one week prior to it beginning.

3.4.1.3. A period of two weeks shall be given for Members to submit nominations for Administrative Council Offices and the office of Ombuds and for nominated Members to campaign.

3.4.1.4. Voting on Administrative Council Offices and the office of Ombuds shall occur following the nomination period.

3.4.1.5. Inaugurations shall occur one week after voting.

3.4.2. Special Elections

3.4.2.1. Special Elections shall begin within one week following an Administrative Council Office or the office of Ombuds becoming unfilled.

3.4.2.2. A period of one week shall be given for Members to submit nominations for the unfilled Administrative Council Office or the office of Ombuds and for nominated Members to campaign.

3.4.2.3. Voting on the unfilled Administrative Council Office or the office of Ombuds shall occur following the nomination period.

3.4.2.4. Inauguration shall occur immediately.

3.4.3. Emergency Elections

3.4.3.1. Emergency Elections may be called immediately following a General or Special Election in which offices remain

unfilled, multiple offices are held by the same Member, or under other circumstances in which there is concern over the composition of the Administrative Council or the way in which the previous election was conducted, as determined by the Membership or the Administrative Council.

3.4.3.2. Emergency Elections may be called by at least five members or by at least ten percent of the membership, whichever is larger at the time the election is called, or by a unanimous vote of the Administrative Council.

3.4.3.3. Emergency Elections begin immediately after they are called.

3.4.3.4. Members may submit nominations for offices of Administrative Council, the office of Ombuds and for Administrative Council Staff. Voting shall occur immediately after the nomination period.

3.4.3.5. A period of one week shall be given for Members to submit nominations and for nominated Members to campaign.

3.4.3.5.1. This section may be overruled by a vote of at least two thirds of a Quorum of Members.

3.4.3.6. Inauguration shall occur immediately.

3.4.4. Election results for each Administrative Council Office and the office of Ombuds shall be determined by plurality vote of a Quorum of Members.

3.4.5. Run-off Elections

3.4.5.1. In the event of a tie during an election a run-off election shall be conducted within one week of the conclusion of voting in the previous election.

3.4.5.2. Voting shall be done exclusively on those offices and among those nominees which tied in the previous election.

3.5. Impeachment

3.5.1. Impeachment proceedings may be initiated by a group of at least five Members, or by at least ten percent of the membership, whichever is larger at the time that Impeachment is proposed.

3.5.2. The membership must be notified that a vote to Impeach will take place at least one week prior to the vote.

3.5.2.1. This section may be overruled by a vote of at least two thirds of a Quorum of Members.

- 3.5.3.** A member of the Administrative Council may be Impeached from their office on the grounds of malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance of their duties by a vote of at least two thirds of a Quorum of Members.
- 3.5.4.** If a member of the Administrative Council is Impeached they shall be immediately removed from office.
- 3.5.5.** In the event that a member of the Administrative Council is disassociated, they shall also be automatically removed.

Article 4. Structure

4.1. Committees

- 4.1.1.** Committees may be created by at least five members or by at least ten percent of the membership, whichever is larger at the time the Committee is created, by submitting and successfully passing a Charter as a By-Law.
- 4.1.2.** Committee Charters must include the following:
 - 4.1.2.1.** Name of the Committee.
 - 4.1.2.2.** Purpose and duties of the Committee.
 - 4.1.2.3.** Structure and membership of the Committee.

4.2. Action Groups

- 4.2.1.** Action Groups may be created by at least two members by submitting a Group name and purpose to the Administrative Council.
- 4.2.2.** Action Groups may be created on an ad hoc or recurring basis in order to carry out specific actions, perform certain activities, or for any other constructive purpose.
- 4.2.3.** Action Groups may self organize in accordance with democratic principles as determined by the membership of that Group.

Article 5. Meeting Process

5.1. General Meetings

- 5.1.1.** General Meetings shall be called by the Administrative Council at least once per month.
- 5.1.2.** A schedule of General Meetings shall be proposed annually by the Administrative Council to take place the following year. This schedule shall be approved by a majority vote of a Quorum of Members.
- 5.1.3.** At least one member of the Administrative Council and one member of each Committee must be present at each General Meeting. A single Member may serve in this capacity as a member of more than one Committee.

5.2. Special Meetings

- 5.2.1.** Special Meetings may be called at any time by the Administrative Council.

5.2.2. Special Meetings may be called by a group of at least five Members or by at least ten percent of the membership, whichever is larger at the time the meeting is called.

5.3. Administrative Meetings

5.3.1. Administrative Meetings shall be called by the Administrative Council at least once per month.

5.3.2. Members shall be permitted to observe Administrative Meetings and make comments on their proceedings.

5.4. Quorum

5.4.1. A Quorum is defined as two thirds of the membership.

5.4.2. A Quorum must vote in order for any binding decisions relating to the entirety of the Organization to be made.

5.4.3. A unanimous vote of the entire Administrative Council may be used to make binding decisions in the absence of a Quorum, but not to override the verdict of a Quorum.

5.4.3.1. This applies in all cases except where it is explicitly prohibited.

5.4.4. A majority vote of a Quorum may be used to override any action taken by the Administrative Council.

5.5. Voting

5.5.1. Decisions relating to the operation and actions of the Organization, the Administrative Council, or any Committee, shall be determined through a vote of the members of the respective group.

5.5.2. Unless otherwise specified, a decision shall require a majority vote in order to pass.

5.5.3. Voting shall be conducted anonymously, the results of which shall be made available to all members.

5.6. Rusty's Rules

5.6.1. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the most recent edition of Rusty's Rules of Order except wherein it contradicts this Constitution or the By-Laws.

Article 6. Constitution

6.1. Constitutional Adoption

6.1.1. This Constitution shall be adopted by the authority of the signatories of The Charter of the Keweenaw Socialists (Charter).

6.1.2. A vote of at least three fourths of the signatories of the Charter shall be necessary for the adoption of this Constitution.

6.1.3. This Constitution shall become effective immediately after its adoption and membership shall be immediately granted to all signatories of the Charter.

6.2. Constitutional Amendments

- 6.2.1.** Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed in writing by a group of at least five members, or by at least ten percent of the membership, whichever is larger at the time the Amendment is proposed.
- 6.2.2.** The membership must be notified that a vote will take place to ratify an Amendment at least one week prior to the vote.
 - 6.2.2.1.** This section may be overruled by at least a two thirds vote of a Quorum of Members.
- 6.2.3.** Amendments shall be ratified by a vote of at least three fourths of a Quorum of Members. A unanimous vote of the Administrative Council cannot be used to ratify an Amendment.
- 6.2.4.** Ratified Amendments shall take effect immediately, but shall not apply retroactively, unless specified in the text of the amendment.

6.3. Constitutional Review

- 6.3.1.** A Constitutional Review shall be scheduled by the Administrative Council annually to take place during a general meeting.
- 6.3.2.** During a Constitutional Review the Constitution shall be presented, in its entirety, and time given for members to voice their concerns and propose Amendments.
- 6.3.3.** Concerns may be presented in writing to the Administrative Council at any time prior to the Constitutional Review, and shall be read during the Constitutional Review by a member of the Administrative Council.

Article 7. By-Laws

- 7.1.** This Constitution creates the By-Laws of the Keweenaw Socialists (By-Laws), which are binding to members of the Organization, except wherein they contradict the Constitution.
- 7.2.** By-Laws may be proposed in writing by a group of at least five members, or by at least ten percent of the membership, whichever is larger at the time the By-Law is proposed.
- 7.3.** The membership must be notified that a vote will take place to enact a By-Law at least one week prior to the vote.
 - 7.3.1.** This section may be overruled by at least two thirds vote of a Quorum of Members.
- 7.4.** By-Laws shall be enacted by a vote of a majority of a Quorum of Members.
- 7.5.** By-Laws shall take effect immediately, but shall not apply retroactively, unless specified in the text of the By-Law.

KS.2021.1

Enacted: 8/25/2021

Revised: 3/20/2023

Sponsor(s): [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

For the establishment of student organizations within the greater Keweenaw Peninsula community as chapters of the Keweenaw Socialists.



1. Chapters

- 1.1. Keweenaw Socialist Student Chapters, referred to in this document as Chapters, are defined as registered student organizations at educational institutions within the greater Keweenaw Peninsula community.
- 1.2. The purpose of Chapters shall be to promote the principles of the Keweenaw Socialists at their educational institution of origin.

2. Constitution

- 2.1. Chapters shall abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Keweenaw Socialists.
- 2.2. Chapter constitutions shall not conflict with the Constitution of the Keweenaw Socialists in any capacity.

3. Membership

- 3.1. Chapter membership shall consist exclusively of registered students of their educational institution of origin.
- 3.2. Chapter members shall become members of the Keweenaw Socialists upon graduating or otherwise discontinuing attendance at the institution in which the Chapter is established.

4. Establishment

- 4.1. In order to establish a Chapter, students wishing to establish said chapter must register their organization with their educational institution of origin and notify the Administrative Council.
- 4.2. Chapters shall be established by a vote of at least a majority of the members present at a meeting in which a quorum is present.

KS.2021.2

Enacted: 9/13/2021

Revised: 5/9/2023

Sponsor(s): █████, ███, █████, █████, █████

For setting requirements of membership as mandated by the Constitution.



1. Membership

- 1.1. In order to become a Member of the Organization persons must meet at least one of the following requirements, and request to the Administrative Council that they be granted Membership.
- 1.2. In order to maintain membership Members must request to the Administrative Council that their membership be renewed annually.

2. Meeting Attendance

- 2.1. Members must have attended at least three meetings, at least one of which must be in-person, within the previous twelve months.

3. Participation

- 3.1. Members must have sufficiently participated in actions of the Organization as determined by the Administrative Council.

KS.2021.3

Enacted: 9/20/2021

Revised:

Sponsor(s): [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]



For the operation of a Discord server to facilitate online communication between members, anonymous voting, and to promote the Keweenaw Socialists and socialism in other Discord servers.

1. Operation

- 1.1. The Administrative Council shall operate and maintain a Discord server (Server) to facilitate online communication among members, within committees, and with non-members.
- 1.2. All activities taking place on the Server shall abide by Article 2, Section 3 of the Constitution of the Keweenaw Socialists, as well as any additional rules determined by the Administrative Council.

2. Moderation

- 2.1. The Administrative Council shall maintain a team of Moderators for the purposes of Server upkeep, rules enforcement, and initial vetting.
- 2.2. The size of the moderation team shall be determined by the Administrative Council in accordance with the changing population of the server.
- 2.3. Server Moderators shall be elected at least annually by an approval vote of the Membership.
 - 2.3.1. The quantity of Moderators being elected shall be pre-determined.
 - 2.3.2. Members may nominate themselves or others.
 - 2.3.3. The Membership shall anonymously vote for each candidate that they approve of. The quantity of nominees, equal to the quantity of Moderators being elected, with the largest numbers of votes shall be elected.
 - 2.3.4. Voting ties shall be broken at the discretion of the Administrative Council.