

St. Paul Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party
Wards 7 Conventions
May 4, 2019



PROPOSED AGENDA

1. Call to order and welcome by Ward Chair(s)
2. Reading of the DFL affirmative action, outreach, and inclusion statements
3. Election of Convention Chair
4. Credentials report
5. Adoption of the agenda and rules
6. Endorsement for City Council
7. Election of two (2) Ward Coordinators
8. Election of delegates and alternates to the city convention
9. Elect representatives to the city pre-convention committees (delegates and alternates to city convention only)
10. Other business
11. Adjourn

PROPOSED RULES

General Rules of Order

1. These rules are subordinate to the St. Paul City DFL Constitution, the MN DFL Constitution, and the 2018-2019 DFL Official Call. The current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised will govern all other matters not stated below.
2. A majority vote of the convention is required to adopt these rules and agenda. Any debate or amendment of the rules will be limited to a total of five (5) minutes with two (2) speakers on each side of any question or amendment.
3. Once these rules have been adopted by the convention, any changes require the approval of a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the convention.
4. The quorum for conducting any business of the convention is a majority of the registered and voting delegates including upgraded alternates. Each ballot is a test of quorum.
5. To address the convention or Chair, delegates must first go to the microphone, be recognized by the Convention Chair, and state their name and precinct.
6. The Convention Chair may appoint any officials necessary for convention business including a Secretary, Parliamentarian, Sergeant-At-Arms, and Tellers.

Seating of Delegates and Alternates

7. Registration of delegates and alternates to the convention shall continue until adjournment.
8. Alternates shall be upgraded to delegate status as openings appear in the rank order established when the credentials were issued, otherwise by lot. The convention shall hear and resolve any challenges regarding delegate or alternate seating pursuant to the Official Call.
9. Each precinct shall elect a delegation chair. They shall be responsible for the upgrading of alternates, roll calls, and ballot voting.

Convention Floor Control

10. The convention floor will be limited to credentialed delegates, alternates, convention staff, candidates seeking endorsement by the St. Paul DFL in the 2019 election cycle and three (3) campaign representatives, elected officials currently holding office, and candidates seeking endorsement in later election cycles.

11. The Ward Coordinators or their designee will provide each person from the above groups with an identifying badge as proof of credentials. Only people with badges will be allowed on the convention floor.

Signs

12. Signs for all campaigns will be limited to those two feet by four feet or less. Inside the building:
 - (a) Campaigns for Saint Paul City Council are allowed six (6) signs.
 - (b) Campaigns for SPPS Board of Education are allowed four (4) signs.
 - (c) Campaigns for any other candidates or ballot measures are allowed three (3) signs.
13. Signs may not be taped or otherwise fixed to the exterior of the building. Campaign or issue signs outside the building must be on metal stands (lawn side stands) and can be placed in the snow and grass only.
14. Absolutely no campaign signs are allowed on the entry doors.
15. All signs inside must be fixed by blue painter's tape and will only be allowed on brick, concrete, glass, or tile surfaces.
16. No stickers of any kind are permitted in the building.

Literature

17. Campaigns are responsible for handing out their own literature. They may only hand it to persons, they may not leave it on seats.
18. Campaigns are responsible for gathering any leftover literature.

Speeches

19. The Convention Chair, at his/her discretion, may recognize any candidate or office holder. Elected officials representing any part of the Ward will be given priority to speak due to the scarcity of time. Candidates or office holders may speak to the convention for no more than two (2) minutes.
20. Each candidate for School Board shall have up to four (4) minutes to address the convention.

Voting Rules

21. Only credentialed delegates and upgraded alternates will be allowed to vote.

City Council Endorsement Rules

22. Endorsement of a candidate for City Council requires a sixty percent affirmative vote of the Ward Convention.
23. Each candidate shall be allowed no more than seven (7) minutes to address the convention. They may allow any speaker to use part of their time. No others may speak for or against the candidate.
24. The only ballots counted will be those marked for a nominated candidate or for "No Endorsement."
25. The Convention Chair will notify the Convention five (5) minutes before the floor is frozen.
26. After the second ballot, any candidate who received less than 10% shall not appear on the third and subsequent ballots. After the third and each subsequent ballot, the candidate with the lowest number of votes shall be eliminated before the next ballot. In case of a tie for lowest, no candidate shall be eliminated. In no case shall the number of candidates be reduced to less than two.
27. Question and Answer: There will be a question and answer period after candidate presentations as follows:
 - (a) The first question shall be "Will you suspend your campaign if someone other than you is endorsed by this convention? Yes or No answer only."
 - (b) All other questions must be submitted in writing before the completion of candidate presentations
 - (c) All questions must be legible, general in nature, addressed to all candidates, cover a single topic, and not in the nature of a personal attack.
 - (d) The Convention Chair or designees shall screen all questions and select those that shall be asked.

- (e) The Convention Chair shall ask the candidates each question in turn, but shall not read any preliminary remarks, statements or explanations included with the questions.
- (f) The order of response for the first questions will be established by lot and will rotate for each subsequent question.
- (g) Each candidate shall be allowed one (1) minute to answer each questions.

The question period will last for thirty (30) minutes or until all questions are asked but shall be extended to allow all candidates to answer the final question.

Election of Party Officers

- 28. The Ward Coordinators shall be elected by a majority vote. Voting will be conducted by separate ballot for each position. If none of the nominees for an office receives a majority vote on a ballot, the nominee with the least number of votes will be dropped on the next ballot, provided that at least two candidates remain on that ballot.
- 29. Nominations shall be made from the floor without speeches or seconds.
- 30. Each Nominee will have two (2) minutes to address the convention.

Election to St. Paul City Convention

- 31. If the convention chooses to sub-caucus, this will be done by the walking sub-caucus method.
- 32. Election of city convention delegates and alternates may be done by voice or paper ballot.