

**CONSTITUTION OF NYSUT  
RETIREE COUNCIL 8**

Accepted by RC 8 Steering Committee on May 14, 2013

Approved at Spring Luncheon on May 2, 2013

Recommended revision to Constitution January 8, 2013

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Approved at Fall Luncheon on September 30, 2010

Accepted by RC8 Steering Committee on April 12, 2010

Recommended revisions from Constitution Committee March 2010

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Accepted at February 8, 2005 RC8 Meeting

Approved at Fall Luncheon June 2005

Recommended revisions from Constitution Committee October 2009

**CONSTITUTION OF NYSUT  
RETIREE COUNCIL 8**

**I. Name**

This organization shall be known as NYSUT Retiree Council 8 (RC8).

**II. Affiliations**

NYSUT Retiree Council 8 shall be affiliated with NYSUT and its national affiliates. The RC8 Constitution shall at all times be consistent with the guidelines of NYSUT and its national affiliates and where inconsistent, the highest authority of the state/national organization shall be applicable.

**III. Purposes**

- A. To promote the best interests and welfare of NYSUT Retirees
- B. To promote mutual assistance and cooperation with other organizations with which RC8 is associated
- C. To promote the aims and objectives of the members of NYSUT and its national affiliates

**IV. Membership**

Membership in this organization shall be open to any NYSUT member retiring from an RC8 in-service local.

**V. Participation Fee**

The annual Participation Fee of RC8 shall be proposed by the Steering Committee and approved by a majority of the membership in attendance at the annual RC8 spring meeting.

**VI. Officers--**The officers of RC8 shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

**A. Duties of the President**

The President shall

- 1. Administer all affairs and execute all policies of RC8
- 2. Call regular meetings of the RC8 general membership and the RC8 Steering Committee
- 3. Preside at all meetings of the RC8 general membership and the RC8 Steering Committee
- 4. Appoint members of all committees established by RC8 subject to the approval of the RC8 Steering Committee and serve in an advisory capacity on those committees
- 5. Represent RC8 with all external groups and attend NYSUT Leadership meetings
- 6. Serve as First Delegate to the NYSUT Representative Assembly (RA)
- 7. Recommend all committees necessary for the functioning of the organization
- 8. Fulfill such other duties as the office requires

**B. Duties of the Vice-President**

The Vice-President shall

- 1. Assume the duties and responsibilities of the President during the President's absences and perform such other duties as the President may designate
- 2. Serve as Legislative Chair reporting to the Steering Committee and general membership
- 3. Serve as an advisor to the Program Committee
- 4. Attend required membership functions as designated by the President

C. Duties of the Secretary

The Secretary shall

1. Perform duties usual to the office including taking and reporting minutes of meetings and such other duties as may be required by the President
2. Keep all records organized and secure

D. Duties of the Treasurer

The Treasurer shall

1. Keep membership and financial records for RC8 and the RC8 Steering Committee and perform those duties usual to the office
2. Use the NYSUT publication *Managing Local Union Finances* as a guide for financial procedures
3. Present a proposed annual budget to the Steering Committee for approval at its April meeting
4. Keep all records organized and secure and read for audit
5. Prepare and submit a monthly report to the Steering Committee of RC8 for approval

E. Stipends

A stipend proposed by a committee appointed by the President and approved by the Steering Committee will be paid to the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor and Web Supervisor.

F. Nominations

1. Current officers will be provided the opportunity to stand for re-election
2. A three-person nominating committee shall be appointed by the President at the RC8 Steering Committee meeting in September and approved at the October meeting during each election term

The Nominating Committee shall

- a. Select a chairperson
  - b. Provide written notification of the elected positions to be filled and the time, place, and proper form for the submission of written nominations to all members of RC8 by December 30
  - c. Present nominations at the February Steering Committee meeting
  - d. No member of the nominating committee shall be eligible to run for office while serving on the nominating committee
  - e. Prepare the election ballot for the general membership spring meeting
  - f. Count all ballots and announce the results
3. No member may hold more than one of the offices defined in Section VI at the same time
  4. Any member of RC8 shall be eligible to nominate candidates or run for office

G. Election

1. Written notice of the time and place of election and a listing of all nominated candidates for the offices to be filled shall be mailed to all members of RC8 at their last known home address at least fifteen (15) days prior to the election
2. Election shall be by secret ballot at the annual spring business meeting of RC8. Ballots will be counted under the supervision of two at-large members appointed by the President
3. The Secretary shall preserve all election records, including ballots, for a period of one year at the NYSUT office
4. Campaigning on the premises where the election is held shall be prohibited

## H. Terms of Office

Duly elected officers shall serve a three-year term beginning July 1.

## I. Vacancies

1. If the office of the President becomes vacant, the Vice-President shall assume that office until the end of the term
2. If any other office becomes vacant, it shall be filled by appointment by the President with approval of the RC8 Steering Committee
3. The appointee shall hold office until the next election is held by the general membership

## VII. NYSUT Retiree Council Steering Committee

### A. Members of the Steering Committee with voting rights shall be

1. Two representatives certified in writing by each local retiree chapter/unit
2. One representative certified in writing by the local in service President from each NYSUT local without an established retiree chapter
3. Elected Delegates to the NYSUT Representative Assembly (RA) if they are not the certified representative from their retiree local/unit
4. The President of RC8 shall only vote to break a tie

### B. Non-voting members of the Steering Committee shall be

1. The immediate past President of RC8 serving in an advisory capacity if not a Steering Committee representative
2. The representative to the Central New York Labor Council if not a Steering Committee Representative
3. The Newsletter Editor if not a Steering Committee representative
4. The RA Alternate if not a Steering Committee representative
5. The Web Maintenance Supervisor if not a Steering Committee representative

### C. Duties

The Steering Committee shall

1. Act on expenditures and policy matters for RC8 between general membership meetings
2. Make recommendations to the general membership of RC8
3. Act as liaison between RC8 and associated organizations
4. Provide advice and counsel to RC8 officers
5. Approve presidential appointments
6. Take turns serving on committees
7. Work with the President to obtain names and addresses of new retirees from their respective locals by July 1
8. Support Retiree Council 8 by attending monthly meetings and other RC8 functions

## VIII. Representatives to Representative Assembly

A. The President of RC8 shall serve as the first Delegate to the NYSUT Representative Assembly

B. Additional Delegates/Alternates to the NYSUT Representative Assembly and national governance bodies shall be elected by secret ballot in a manner consistent with the Constitution and By-Laws of the appropriate state and national organizations and with State and Federal Labor Laws

**IX. General Membership Meetings**

- A. Membership meetings shall be held no less than twice a year. Additional meetings of the general membership may be called by the President or by petition of ten percent of the membership
- B. A quorum at a general membership meeting shall consist of the members present

**X. Protection of the Rights of Members**

- A. Every member of RC8 shall have equal rights and privileges to nominate candidates, to hold office, to vote in elections or referendum, to attend membership meetings and to participate in deliberations and voting upon the business of the organization
- B. RC8 shall show no discrimination toward any individual or group of RC8 individuals on the basis of sex, creed, color, race, national origin or political activities and beliefs

**XI. Amendments**

- A. An amendment to this Constitution may be proposed by the RC8 Steering Committee or no fewer than ten percent of the RC8 general membership
- B. A proposed amendment must be distributed by posting on the AFT/NYSUT/RC8 web site or in writing to each RC8 member at least fifteen (15) days before the ratification vote
- C. An amendment may be ratified by a two-thirds vote of those present at an RC8 general membership meeting

**XII. Parliamentary Authority**

Meetings of all duly constituted bodies of RC8 shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order: Newly Revised except as otherwise provided in this Constitution and the Constitutions of NYSUT and AFT.