

**Constitution**  
**for**  
**Minnesota Historical Society Workers**  
**Local 3173**

**Article I**  
**Name**

The name of this organization shall be Minnesota Historical Society Workers Local Number 3173 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO.

**Article II**  
**Affiliations**

This local union shall be affiliated with Minnesota Council Number 5 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees; the Minnesota AFL-CIO; and the St. Paul Regional Labor Federation, AFL-CIO.

**Article III**  
**Objectives**

The objectives of this local union shall be to carry out on a local basis the objectives of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

**Article IV**  
**Membership and Dues**

Section 1. All non-supervisory and non-confidential employees of the Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, Minnesota are eligible for membership in this local union, subject to the requirements of the constitution of the International Union.

Section 2. Application for membership shall be made on a standard application form. Unless such form includes a valid authorization for payroll deduction of dues, the application shall be accompanied by the current month's dues.

Section 3. The monthly membership dues of the local shall be 1.75% of monthly gross wages for members employed full time, defined as a regular work schedule of 0.75 FTE or higher and 1.25% of monthly gross wages for members employed part time, defined as a regular work schedule of 0.74 or less per member and is subject to adjustment, if needed, to meet the minimum dues required under the International Constitution.

Section 4. The dues structure shall be reviewed by the local's trustees following ratification of each new contract in order to ensure as equitable a system as possible. Following the review, the trustees may make recommendations for modifications to the dues structure which shall be voted on by the membership in line with Article IX.

Section 5. Membership dues shall be payable monthly in advance to the local secretary-treasurer and in any event shall be paid not later than the 15th day of the month in which they become due. Any member who fails to pay dues by the 15th day of the month in which they become due shall be considered delinquent, and upon failure to pay dues for two successive months shall lose their good standing status and stand suspended. Provided, however, that any person who is paying dues through a system of regular payroll deduction, bank draft, or similar system, shall for so long as such person continues to pay through such deduction method, be considered in good standing.

Section 6. A member suspended under the above section may be reinstated to membership in the local on payment of a reinstatement fee of \$5 plus the current month's dues.

## **Article V Meetings**

Section 1. Regular meetings of this local shall be held once each month, at a time and place to be fixed by the membership or the local executive board.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the local president, the local executive board, or by petition filed with the president and signed by 15% of the members of the local. Special meetings may also be called by the International President or by an authorized representative of the International President.

Section 3. The quorum for meetings of this local shall be 15 members.

Section 4. In advance of each fiscal year, the executive board shall submit to the general membership a proposed budget for the coming year, setting forth anticipated expenditures needed on an ongoing or annual basis. The proposed budget shall be approved by the general membership at the December general membership meeting.

Section 5. The fiscal year of this local shall begin on the first day of January and end on the last day of December.

## **Article VI Officers, Nominations, and Elections**

Section 1. The officers of this local shall be a president, a vice-president, a recording secretary, a secretary-treasurer, and three executive board members (this number can be larger), and these seven shall constitute the local union executive board. In addition, there shall be elected three members who shall serve as trustees. The trustees shall be elected to three-year terms of office, except that in the initial election, one shall be elected for a one-year term, one for a two-year term, and one for a three-year term. All other officers shall be elected for a term of one year.

Section 2. Nominations shall be made at a regular or special meeting of the local. At least fifteen days' advance notice shall be given the membership prior to the nomination meeting. A nominating committee may be appointed or elected to make nominations, but whether or not such nominating committee is used, nominations shall be permitted from the floor at the nomination meeting. All regular elections shall be held in the month of September.

Section 3. To be eligible for office, a member must be in good standing for one year immediately preceding the election, except in the initial election held in this local; provided, however, that no retired member shall be a candidate for office. For a member who is transferred or promoted into this local from another AFSCME local, this requirement shall be satisfied if such member's combined membership in good standing in both locals is one year at the time of election. Previous membership in good standing in the MNHS local shall count towards the one-year minimum requirement.

Section 4. Officers shall be elected by secret ballot vote, and the balloting shall be conducted so as to afford to all members a reasonable opportunity to vote. At least fifteen days' advance notice shall be given the membership prior to the holding of the election.

Section 5. All matters concerning nominations and elections in this local union shall be subject to the provisions of Appendix D, entitled Elections Code, of the International Union Constitution.

Section 6. Vacancies in office shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by vote of the executive board.

Section 7. Every officer shall, upon assuming office, subscribe to the Obligation of an Officer contained in Appendix B of the International Union Constitution.

**Article VII**  
**Duties of Officers and Executive Board**

Section 1. The president shall:

- a. preside at all meetings of the local union and of the executive board.
- b. be a member of all committees except election committees.
- c. countersign all checks drawn against the funds of the local.
- d. appoint all standing committees and all special committees of the local, subject to the approval of the executive board.
- e. report periodically to the membership regarding the progress and standing of the local and regarding the president's official acts.

Section 2. The vice-president shall:

- a. assist the president in the work of the president's office.
- b. in the absence of the president or in the president's inability to serve, preside at all meetings and perform all duties otherwise performed by the president.
- c. upon approval by the local executive board, be authorized to act as co-signer of checks drawn on the local funds in place of either the president or the secretary-treasurer.

Section 3. The recording secretary shall:

- a. keep a record of the proceedings of all membership meetings and of all executive board meetings.
- b. carry on the official correspondence of the local, except as the executive board may direct otherwise.
- c. perform such other duties as the executive board may require.

Section 4. The secretary-treasurer shall:

- a. receive and receipt for all monies of the local union.
- b. deposit all money so received in the name of the local union in a bank or banks selected by the executive board, and money so deposited shall be withdrawn only by check signed by the president and the secretary-treasurer.
- c. prepare and sign checks for such purposes as are required by the constitution or are authorized by the membership or the executive board.
- d. prepare and submit the monthly membership report to the International Union office and see that a check is drawn in payment of the local's per capita tax each month and sent to the International Secretary-Treasurer.

- e. keep an accurate record of receipts and disbursements and shall, once each month, submit to the membership a monthly operating statement of the financial transactions of the local for the previous month.
- f. act as custodian of all properties of the local union.
- g. give a surety bond for an amount to be fixed by the executive board of the local union, at the expense of the local union and through the International Union.
- h. see that any financial reports required by the International Union Constitution to be submitted to the International Union are submitted in accordance with the International Union Constitution.

Section 5. The trustees shall make or cause to be made at least semi-annually an audit of the finances of the local, including the finances concerning any health and welfare, pension, insurance or other benefit programs covering members of such local, and shall report to the membership on the results of such audit.

Section 6. The executive board shall be the governing body of the local union except when meetings of the local union are in session. All matters affecting the policies, aims and means of accomplishing the purposes of the local not specifically provided for in this constitution or by action of the membership at a regular or special meeting shall be decided by the executive board. The board shall meet at the call of the president or of a majority of the members of the board. A report on all actions taken by the executive board shall be made to the membership at the next following meeting. A majority of the members of the executive board shall be required for a quorum.

### **Article VIII Miscellaneous Provisions**

Section 1. This local union shall at all times be subject to the provisions of the constitution of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

Section 2. Except to the extent specified in this constitution, no officer of the local union shall have the power to act as agent for or otherwise bind the local union in any way whatsoever. No member or group of members or other person or persons shall have the power to act on behalf of or otherwise bind the local union except to the extent specifically authorized in writing by the president of the local union or by the executive board of the local union.

Section 3. The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern this local union in all cases to which they are necessary and in which they are not inconsistent with this constitution and special rules of this local union or of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. The members of any committee or meeting may vote to alter or suspend these procedures to best suit their needs.

Section 4. To protect union privacy and security, it is strongly recommended that officers and members do not use MNHS computers and non-public networks for private union business or communications (for example, union strategy meetings, internal executive board meetings or committee communications, or managing union social media). MNHS computers and networks may be used for communications and business that includes MNHS management (for example, new employee orientation emails, steward communications with management, LMC administration with management).

**Article IX  
Amendments**

This constitution may be amended, revised, or otherwise changed by a majority vote of the members voting on such proposed change and such change shall take effect only upon written approval of the International President. Proposed amendments to this constitution must be made at a regular or special meeting of the local union and read and voted on at a subsequent meeting of the local union, adequate and proper notice having been given to the membership prior to the date on which the vote is taken. A written copy of the proposed amendment shall be furnished to every eligible voter at the meeting at which the vote is taken. Amendments must be reviewed by the AFSCME International Union to confirm they are in keeping with current AFSCME policy before they take effect.

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lee Saunders". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "L".

LEE SAUNDERS  
President

Approval date: April 25, 2025