Democratic Organizations in Princeton

Overview: The organizations listed below cooperate but vary greatly in scope. For example, the PCDO has public programs that span local to international issues, and has organized campaign activities in other states, while the PDMC activities are limited to Princeton and Mercer County. The Princeton Democratic Campaign is only concerned with the general election campaigns of Democrats in Princeton.

None of these organizations provide money or material support to candidates during the primary election campaign.

| | Princeton Community Democratic Organization | Princeton Democratic Municipal Committee | Princeton Democratic Campaign 2022 |
|--|---|--|------------------------------------|
| Elected membership | | х | |
| Basic duties defined by NJ law title 19 & 40a | | х | |
| Two members per voting district | | х | |
| Selects 3 candidates to fill municipal vacancy | | х | |
| Members are also members of county committee | | х | |
| Raises money under NJ ELEC rules | Х | х | Х |
| Raises money under FEC rules | Х | | |
| Gives money to candidates outside Princeton | х | х | |
| Pays for campaign expenses | Х | Х | Х |
| Organizes campaign activities in Princeton | Х | х | Х |
| Organizes campaigning outside Princeton | Х | | |
| Endorses municipal candidates | Х | ‡ | |
| Endorses county candidates | Х | * | |
| Endorses state candidates | Х | * | |
| Endorses federal candidates | Х | * | |
| Membership is open to all registered Democrats | Х | | |
| Elected officials participate in governance | Х | | |
| Monthly public meetings | Х | | |
| Takes positions on public policy by resolution | х | | |
| Activates members to lobby officials | Х | | |

[‡] Committee Members recommend ballot placement and slogan designation to the County Chair

^{*} Committee Members vote at the Mercer County Convention

Additional details on the organizations:

| Princeton Community Democratic | Princeton Democratic Municipal Committee | Candidate committees, such as the |
|---|---|--|
| Organization (PCDO) | (PDMC) | Princeton Democratic Campaign 2022 |
| PCDO is a club open to all registered Democrats. There is a suggested dues, but it | The PDMC is composed of 2 representatives from each of the 22 Princeton voting districts. | Every candidate needs to have a campaign committee for the primary. A candidate cannot |
| is not mandatory. Before consolidation, it was the only local Democratic organization | They also serve as members of the Mercer County Democratic Committee. The structure | legally raise or spend any money except through a candidate committee. After the |
| that spanned the Borough and Township. | and duties are specified in NJ Law titles 19 and 40a. PDMC members vote to select | primary, money must be raised through a general election candidate committee. |
| The leadership of the PCDO is elected annually and elected Democratic officials living in Princeton who are PCDO members | candidates to fill vacancies in the municipal government. | The Princeton Democratic Campaign is registered with NJ ELEC as a joint candidate committee for the general election. It is recreated each year with the participation of the Democratic candidates for Princeton council and mayor who win the primary. The Princeton Democratic Campaign normally spends all the funds it raises on the local campaign – this makes it unique and hence people looking to specifically support municipal candidates make donations to it. |
| serve ex-officio on the Executive Board. | PDMC members are also members of the county committee whose duties include filling vacancies in the county government and endorsing county, state, and federal candidates for primary ballot designation. The members from each voting district are elected to the municipal committee every 2 years on the Democratic primary ballot or appointed by the PDMC when vacancies exist. | |
| PCDO has monthly public programs and has often supported candidates (e.g., President Obama) by organizing campaign activities in | | |
| other states or regions. PCDO endorses candidates for the primary at the federal, state, county, and municipal level. | | |
| PCDO members pass resolutions to advocate for or against policies at every level of government. Resolutions are initiated by the members. | The PDMC recommends ballot placement and designation for primary candidates at the municipal level ("endorsement" in the chart). | NJ ELEC allows a candidate committee like the Princeton Democratic Campaign to donate a limited amount of money each year to the next group of candidates. This gives |
| PCDO is registered with NJ ELEC as a continuing political committee, and the FEC as a nonconnected committee. | PDMC is registered with NJ ELEC as a municipal political party committee. | Democrats an advantage by providing initial campaign funds before fundraising starts. By having all local candidates participate together |
| President: Thomas A. Parker Treasurer: Nick Didomizio | Chair: Owen O'Donnell | in one campaign, coordination is maximized, |
| 1 st Vice President: Jane Manners | Treasurer: Helen Heintz 1st Vice Chair: Felicia A. Spitz | and overhead is reduced. Chair: TBD |
| 2 nd Vice President: Denny Velazquez www.princetondems.org | 2 nd Vice Chair: Michael Krevitskie www.princetondmc.org | Treasurer: TBD |