

Frequently Asked Questions – DCI to PCI

- **What is changing?**
 - The Board of Directors is proposing to membership that we amend our Club by-laws and change our name to the Progressive Club of the Islands.
- **Why are we changing?**
 - We want to have the freedom to:
 - Support all deserving candidates of our choosing (e.g. endorse candidates in Primary elections, remove restrictions on political contributions)
 - “Officially” include members who are not Florida full time residents
 - Attract progressive-minded Independents as club members
 - Self determine club direction and by-laws
 - Be able to register as a Florida Political Committee
 - Be able to incorporate
- **Why do we want to register as a Florida Political Committee (PC)?**
 - Our annual contribution to all Florida political campaigns is limited to \$500 unless we register as a PC. We want to be able to contribute more in upcoming elections.
- **Will we still be chartered by the Florida Democratic Party (FDP)?**
 - Under the new bylaws our Club will be independent of the FDP. Our legal and political consultants advised us that we could not make these changes to our by-laws and still be chartered by the FDP.
- **Why are we changing the name?**
 - Florida state law prohibits use of a political party's name in any form (e.g. abbreviation, symbol, etc.) without being a chartered organization of the political party or have the permission of the Executive Committee of the State Party.
- **What will change?**
 - Change our name to the Progressive Club of the Islands
 - Greater impact on local races and issues
 - Greater flexibility, autonomy, timeliness
- **What will not change?**
 - We have not changed our political philosophy – either to the left or right.
 - We will still be actively involved in the Democratic Party Get Out the Vote Effort.
- **Why haven't we changed earlier?**
 - We are now a much larger club than we were in the 2016 election. We had the resources to do more in 2018 but found ourselves restricted by the by-laws imposed by the FDP charter.
- **What's next?**
 - Members to vote on amended by-laws at February monthly meeting
 - With membership approval, enact modified by-laws immediately after membership vote is tallied
 - Elect a Board of Directors at the March Membership Meeting