

## **The Capital Worker Handbook: Community and Worker Councils**

### The Capital Worker Handbook: Community and Worker Councils

This handbook provides a practical guide for organizing and operating community and worker councils in alignment with Dialectical Synthesis Politics (DSP). These councils are democratic bodies where workers and community members can make collective decisions, govern their communities, and coordinate with other councils and committees at various levels. This guide outlines how the councils and committees function together, ensuring that every level remains hierarchical in name only—meaning that no one body holds more inherent power than another.

---

#### 1. Core Principles of the Council

Community and worker councils are built on four key principles:

**Democratic Decision-Making:** Every member has the right to participate in discussions, propose actions, and vote on decisions.

**Transparency:** Meetings are open, minutes are recorded, and decisions are accessible to all members.

**Accountability:** Elected representatives and decision-makers are accountable to the council and can be recalled if they fail to represent the will of the people.

**Anti-Elitism:** No member or representative holds more power than the rest. All decisions reflect the collective will.

---

#### 2. Council Structure

##### Membership

**Eligibility:** Membership is open to any worker or community member committed to the council's goals. New members are granted full voting rights after attending a set number of meetings to ensure familiarity with the process.

##### Roles in the Council

**Chairperson:** Elected to facilitate meetings, follow the agenda, and manage speaking times. This role rotates regularly to prevent power consolidation.

**Secretary:** Keeps accurate minutes of each meeting, including attendance, decisions made, and action items. The Secretary must ensure that minutes are distributed to all members within 24 hours of the meeting's conclusion.

Delegates: Members elected to represent the council at higher bodies, such as the Collaborative Committee or Central Committee. They communicate the council's decisions upward and report back on directives.

## Committees

Specialized committees are formed by each council to focus on specific tasks, such as:

Childcare

Infrastructure

Electricity and water services

Construction and maintenance

Gardening and food production

These committees meet weekly and report back to the full council at biweekly meetings to ensure progress on community needs.

---

## 3. Meeting Organization

### Meeting Frequency

Regular Council Meetings: Held biweekly to address ongoing issues, review progress, and propose new actions.

Emergency Meetings: Can be called by any council member if urgent matters arise, provided at least 50% of members agree to meet.

### Committee Meetings

Committees meet weekly to stay on top of their tasks and report back to the full council. They focus on specialized areas, such as infrastructure, childcare, or food production.

### Agenda Setting

The agenda is a key component of every meeting and must be circulated in advance. The Secretary collects items for the agenda and sends them to all members at least 48 hours before the meeting.

### Standard Agenda Format:

1. Opening and Attendance: The Chairperson opens the meeting, and the Secretary takes attendance.

2. Review of Previous Minutes: The minutes from the last meeting are read, corrected if needed, and approved by a majority vote.
3. Reports from Delegates or Committees: Delegates and committees report back on progress, directives, or ongoing projects.
4. Old Business: Discuss ongoing matters from previous meetings.
5. New Business: Proposals for new actions, initiatives, or strategies are introduced, debated, and voted on.
6. Open Floor: Time for members to raise concerns or discuss general topics.
7. Voting: Decisions are made by voting on proposals and action items.
8. Closing and Next Meeting Date: The meeting is adjourned, and the next meeting date is confirmed.

---

#### 4. Voting Procedures

Councils follow clear democratic processes to make decisions:

##### Voting Methods

**Simple Majority:** Most decisions are made by a simple majority (50% + 1 of those present).

**Two-Thirds Majority:** Major decisions, such as structural changes or electing representatives, require a two-thirds majority.

**Consensus Voting:** When applicable, councils may seek consensus, particularly on issues affecting all members directly.

##### Emergency Votes

In cases where immediate action is needed and time is too short for full deliberation, a vote can proceed with just one-third of members present. This ensures that urgent matters can be addressed without delay, while maintaining democratic input.

##### One-Way and Two-Phase Voting

**One-Way Voting:** For non-critical decisions, the council may choose to cast a single vote without further deliberation.

**Two-Phase Voting:** For major issues that require feedback from higher bodies, the council first

votes to send proposals up the chain (to the Collaborative or Central Committee). After feedback or directives are received, the council holds a second vote to approve or reject the final decision.

---

## 5. Minutes and Documentation

Accurate minutes and transparent record-keeping are essential for maintaining accountability and ensuring that all members are informed of actions and decisions.

Minutes Format:

1. Meeting Date and Time: The Secretary records when the meeting took place.
2. Attendance: A list of members present and any absentees.
3. Agenda Items: A summary of each discussion point.
4. Decisions: Record of all decisions made, including the results of votes and action items.
5. Votes: Details of who voted in favor, who opposed, and any abstentions.
6. Action Items: Tasks assigned to specific members or committees, with deadlines.

The Secretary ensures that minutes are distributed to all members no later than 24 hours after the meeting.

---

## 6. Communication with Other Councils and Higher Bodies

Councils maintain strong communication channels with other councils and higher bodies (Collaborative and Central Committees, IS) to ensure that local decisions are aligned with broader revolutionary strategy.

Delegates' Role:

Regular Reports: Delegates provide updates on discussions and decisions made at higher levels.

Communicating Decisions: Delegates relay the council's decisions and proposals upward, ensuring alignment with other councils.

Voting in Line with the Council's Decisions: Delegates vote on behalf of the council at Collaborative Committee meetings.

---

## 7. Accountability and Recall Procedures

Representatives must remain accountable to the councils that elected them. If a delegate or official is not acting in the council's interests, they may be recalled.

Recall Process:

1. Motion for Recall: Any member can submit a motion for recall, seconded by another member.
2. Discussion and Investigation: The council discusses the reasons for recall, and the representative has the chance to respond.
3. Vote: A two-thirds majority is required to recall the representative.
4. New Election: If the representative is recalled, a new election is held to fill the position.

---

## 8. Strategic Planning and Long-Term Goals

Councils engage in strategic planning to advance revolutionary goals.

Regular Strategic Meetings:

Held quarterly, these meetings are where councils:

Review long-term objectives.

Discuss alignment of council goals with broader revolutionary directives.

Plan campaigns and coordinate with other councils.

Continuous Education:

Councils are also responsible for the political education of their members. Every meeting includes time for discussion of theory, revolutionary strategy, or skill-building. This ensures members are continually learning and ready to take on leadership roles.

---

## 9. Hierarchy in Name, Equality in Power

The structure of Dialectical Synthesis Politics (DSP) is designed to coordinate, not control. While there is a structure in place—from local councils to the Collaborative Committees, the Central Committee, and the International Secretariat (IS)—this structure does not reflect a hierarchy of power. Each level of the organization serves to coordinate and communicate between councils,

but none have the right to impose decisions on the councils below.

#### Collaborative Committees:

Representatives from local councils form the Collaborative Committee to share information and align local efforts.

These committees help councils work together on bigger projects, like infrastructure that spans multiple towns or coordinated strikes.

#### Central Committee:

The Central Committee connects councils on a national level. It helps address issues affecting the entire country—like labor laws, healthcare reforms, or education.

However, the Central Committee has no more power than any other council—it exists to coordinate, not dictate.

#### International Secretariat (IS):

The IS links the Central Committees of various nations. It coordinates international revolutionary efforts, but like all bodies in DSP, it does not control councils. The IS helps synthesize global strategy, ensuring that the working class across the world can work toward shared goals.

---

#### Conclusion: Building the Future Through Collective Action

Councils are the foundation of DSP and revolutionary change. By following democratic procedures, ensuring transparency, and building strong communication between councils and higher bodies, the working class can take control of their communities, their workplaces, and ultimately, their futures.

Through collective action, continuous education, and global solidarity, councils will lay the groundwork for a classless, stateless society where power truly belongs to the people.