



# Western Montana Democratic Socialists of America

Monthly Business Meeting

April 12, 2025. 10am

Location: Blackfoot Room, Missoula Public Library & via Zoom

In attendance: Brian, Steven, Mark, Tony, Forrest (CFGC), Wren, Dylan, Justis, Sean, Tom, Graeme, Becca, Robbie, Rachel, Charlie

Zoom: Sarah

- Native Land Acknowledgement: *We recognize that capitalism, land exploitation, and settler-colonialism are closely intertwined, as American capitalism was built on stolen indigenous land. We also recognize the clear role of indigenous oppression in serving the interests of fossil capitalism, as demonstrated time and time again. Finally, we believe that indigenous land rights and self determination are a crucial aspect of environmental justice and the fight against capitalist extractivism. For these reasons, we are committed to standing with the Salish and Kootenai people and pledge to support their struggle as best as we can.*
  - Introductions: Name, Pronouns, and Question: **“How do you plan to participate in the Bernie rally on Wednesday?”**
  - Community Agreements for Respectful Discussion (brief)
  - Rotating Roles:
    - Facilitator – Rachel
    - Timekeeper – ~~Sarah~~ Robbie
    - Progressive stack – Brian
    - Notetaker – Steven
  - Agenda: additions and approval – **add sections for National DSA and CFGC project; motioned, seconded, and approved with additions**
  - Meeting Minutes: correction and approval – **motioned, seconded, approved**
  - Treasurer’s Report (Sarah) - **\$1943.84 in checking, \$4573.38 statewide, rough budget for this fiscal year is \$3080 with \$1000 earmarked for convention expenses**
  - **Announcements - (5 Min)**
    - Newsletter submissions – **by Friday, April 25**
    - Jeanette Rankin Peace Center **Peacemaker of the Year** April 27, 2-4 PM
    - National DSA Security call (Rachel)? – **talked about the need to tighten security with current gov’t administration, should add section for May’s agenda to discuss making our chapter and steering agendas/minutes password protected on our website**

- “Voice of the People: Radio by & for the 99%” radio show, Tuesdays 12-2 pm, KFGM 101.5 FM, 1015kfgm.org, or podcast on <https://anchor.fm/vop-montana>
  - **Working Group Reports (20 min)**
    - Social & Outreach (Rachel) – May Day events coming up, one more S&O meeting before then (4/21), will then be planning for Pride. Board game night on 4/19 in Cooper room
    - Editorial & Comms (Robbie) – “Free Mahmoud Khalil!” by Robbie, Brian wrote about Citizens United, Dave Jones has two upcoming editorials about May Day and data centers, Mark has one upcoming about May Day 2028
    - Labor (Steven) – Starbucks phonebanking was on 4/5, we need to start pushing hard to get union members’ contact information. Sarah requested with the formation of the statewide labor group that we designate some of our budget, if possible, to statewide funds
    - Eco (Dave Jones) – around 30 people attended the last meeting and we got contact information for all of them, next meeting is 4/15, location TBD
    - Palestine (Brendan) – Defeated bill to set up “economic office” to fund Israel, Visas are being revoked from UM students – maybe Kaiman op-ed?
    - Electoral (Mark) – next meeting is 4/22 at 6pm, need new Ward 5 candidate, looking at endorsements and then campaign strategies
  - **New Chapter Projects (30 min)**
    - Bernie in Missoula Wed, April 16! (Steven) – talked about details for tabling, got people to sign up for times, prep meeting is 4/13 at 11am (correct the agenda)
    - Statewide DSA update (Mark?) – National is currently reviewing the WMTDSA constitution, and THEN it goes to at-large members (mistake in minutes from March)
    - National DSA Convention (Mark) – takes place in early August, there will be around 1500 delegates, we need to elect two (May business meeting)
      - Nominations: Rachel nominated, accepted
      - Mark nominated, accepted
      - Brian nominated, unsure
    - Clark Fork Gun Club (Forrest) Public Event and Protest Preparedness Coalition – Forrest would like to collaborate with DSA in order to create guidelines for protest preparedness, pre-planned responses with scenarios.
      - Motion to collaborate on this project with CFGC and send 2 delegates, seconded and approved with one abstention
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## Upcoming Meetings & Dates:

- **Sunday, April 13th, 11:00 a.m. Bernie Prep** meeting via Zoom.
- **Wednesday, April 16th, 8:00AM-4:00PM - Tabling at the Bernie Rally**
- **Wednesday, April 23rd, 6:00 p.m. Labor Working Group** meeting via Zoom, [contact Mark Anderlik](#) for link.
- **Saturday, April 19, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Board Game Social**, Public Library, Cooper Room B.
- **Monday, April 21, 4:30 p.m. - Social and Outreach** meeting, Flippers.
- **Tuesday, April 22, 6:00 p.m. - Editorial Working Group** meeting, via Zoom. All are welcome.
- **Tuesday, April 22, 6:00 p.m. - Electoral Working Group** meeting, via Zoom.
- **Sunday, April 27, 2:00 p.m.** - Peacemaker Ceremony for Brendan @ Holy Spirit Episcopal 130 S. 6th St East.
- **Thursday, May 1, 6:30. Unions in Missoula** presentation, talk and BBQ at Free Cycles. All are welcome to our Speaker Series!
- **Saturday, May 3, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.** Kiwanis Park. Annual May Day picnic/potluck.
- **Sunday, May 4, 11:00 a.m.** Steering meeting via Zoom. All are welcome.
- **Saturday, May 10, 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.** – Western Montana DSA Chapter Meeting, Jeanette Rankin Peace Center, Missoula and via Zoom.