

February 3, 2024 - DSA General Membership Meeting

Present: Sandy Burch, Steven Clark, Carly, Sam Kulla, Tony Davis, Brendan, Mark Anderlik, John Wolverton, Robbie Liben, Sarah McClain, Wren, David Quattrocchi, Daniel Carlino, Liam, Alessandro, Charlie, Brian, Rachel Calderon-Navarro, Reed

Introductions

Roles:

- **Facilitator:** Sandy
- **Time-keeper:** Brendan
- **Progressive stack:** Tony
- **Note-taker:** Arthur
- *Motion to approve the agenda (Tony, Mark), approved*
- *Motion to approve last meeting's minutes (Mark, Sarah), approved*

Treasurer's Report (Sarah)

- \$6,319.13, of that \$4,966.03 belongs to the Statewide Organizing Committee (sometimes called the "Legislative Action Committee")

Steering Committee Elections

- Nominations?
 - *Brendan volunteers to run for Co-Chair*
 - *Rachel volunteers to run for Co-Chair*
 - *Brian volunteers for Communications Coordinator*
 - *Arthur nominates Sam for Secretary, accepted*
 - *Tony nominates Sarah for Treasurer, declined*
 - *Wren volunteers to run for Treasurer,*
- *Motion to approve the slate of (uncontested) candidates by acclamation (Tony, Mark), approved*
 - Carly: Are there descriptions of the roles somewhere?
 - Sandy: Yes, they are in our By-Laws, we also e-mailed out a description to the membership this past week.

2024 Budget (Sarah)

- Last year's items are generally accounted for...
- We have \$680 for printing costs of Working Groups; this is larger than last year because the Labor Working Group requested more

- Incidentally, we have some carry-over for this.
- Estimated revenue comes to \$1600 each year, from National
- *Motion to approve the budget* (Brendan, Tony), *approved*
 - Tony: It's my understanding that we're approving the projection but there will be future votes to approve spending it in certain ways
 - Sarah: Yes
 - Mark: What we have in our Labor Working Group budget is actually: \$75 for books and manuals, \$50 for copying, \$25 for action materials like poster boards, \$150 for workshop food/drink, and \$85 for travel reimbursement.
 - Brendan: And when do we know what the amount of our Common Good Missoula membership is?
 - Arthur: It may be \$250 or less; this has been a point of contention because our organization has lower revenues than most member organizations.
- Rachel: Given the tech issues we've been experiencing, is there money in the budget for better communications technology and equipment? This has been an issue for the Labor Working Group especially.
 - Robbie: We do have a couple of wireless microphones already paid for that are coming; also a Bluetooth camera.
 - Sarah: We also have \$175 left over from the 2023 budget...
 - Mark: Please consider paying Solidarity dues to National or switching to monthly dues; this is where our Chapter's money comes from.

Looking Back at 2023 (Sandy)

Looking Ahead to 2024

- *What are you looking forward to in 2024?*
- "I want Missoula to be a pro-Labor town."
- "I want everyone to have a safe place to put their head at night."
- "I want to find out where I can fit and where I can help."
- "Let's make Missoula a socialist city."
- "Everyone has housing issues; everyone has to live in a house."
- "Build a grassroots housing coalition from the ground up."
- "I'd like us to show up for candidates that we endorse."
- "DSA should be involved with Planned Parenthood and the ACLU running a ballot initiative on reproductive rights."
- "I still have a vision of 5000 members."
- "I would like to see more recruitment of members."

- “I would like to see us promote anything that halts the destruction of the earth.”
- “Housing policy change will affect how Missoula looks for generations.”
- “We have to support unhoused neighbors in a real way.”
- “I’d like to see more members and more money coming in.”
- “We can inspire people to join us [by being more effective].”
- “Missoula has a rich history of anti-war activism.”
- “I’d like us to advocate for socialist land-use policies in addition socialist housing policies.”
- “We need to build relationships with housing and climate groups across the City.”
- “I’m very interested in a reading group and distributing zines.”
- “Engaging with indigenous leaders about what eco-socialism means to them.”
- “A general strike in the coming years.”
- “Recruitment, recruitment, recruitment.”
- *Motion to extend the meeting by 10 minutes to accommodate new business (Rachel, Mark), approved*

Western Montana Workers Alliance (Mark)

- The first Thursdays of each month, we’ll be holding workshops on Labor issues.
- Every Thursday in May and the first Thursday in June there is an Organizing for Power (Jane McAlevey) workshop.
- *Motion to approve this proposal (Brendan, Arthur), approved*

Motion to adjourn (Arthur, John), approved