



**WESTERN MONTANA**  
**DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISTS OF AMERICA**  
**Regular Business Meeting Minutes**  
**January 8, 2022 10:00 am**  
**Missoula Public Library (Blackfoot Rm) & Zoom**

○ **Openings (15 min)**

- Native Land opening - Mark
- Introductions: Name, Pronouns, and Question: "In one sentence, what one change in society would you like democratic socialism to bring?" Zoom: Mark Anderlik, Chester Seitz, Simon Dykstra, Andi Hoezlel, Leticia Romero, John Wolverton, Smai Fullerton: In-person: Brian Richardson, Daniel Carlino, Robbie Liben, Jackie Reimers, Josh Decker, Rachel Calderon-Navarro.
- Community Agreements for Respectful Discussion (brief)-Jackie
- Rotating Roles: Facilitator – Mark; Time – Josh; Stack – Robbie; Notetaker – Jackie
- Agenda: additions and approval -- No additions to agenda, Robbie moves to accept, Chester seconds, unanimous approval
- Past Meeting Minutes: correction and approval – no past minutes available
- Treasurer's Report (Jackie) – Balance of \$652.21 in bank, no expenses or income in December.
- Membership Stats (Jackie) – 2 new members in December, Welcome to Kristen Jordan and Stuart Barney; 14 new members in year 2021, 69 members in good standing.

○ **Working Groups (50 min)**

- EcoSocialist WG report (John) – Meetings on hiatus, Dave J out of town for month or so. Want to stay engaged with ad hoc group of local climate groups, create solidarity with climate groups, 350 rep asked folks to sign up to show up at Monday City Council meeting and continue to bring plan for 100% Clean Energy forward and keep on council radar. Want DSA folks to sign on to list to comment at city council, emails would be confidential. Spreadsheet to sign up for specific weeks so they have comments/representation at every meeting. Email to be sent out asking for participation.
- Editorial WG report (Robbie, Rachel) – contacted Missoulian, asked for monthly column, answer no to strict schedule, but definitely want contributions, Editor Jim Van Nostrand wanted to talk to them, will meet second and fourth Tuesdays at 5-6pm zoom, (Jan 11 and Jan 25) first meeting of month choose topic/idea - open to all for contributions, second meeting edit and hone down submission, do not need approval from steering committee
- Electoral WG report (Mark, Daniel) Goals: 1.) Working with politicians on pushing for DSA-endorsed policies; 2.) Vet candidates and help with electoral endorsement processes; 3.) Provide support for DSA candidates to win their campaigns; 4.) Prove that DSA is a relevant force and competitive endorsement for candidates to earn; 5.) involve DSA in school board elections (talk to Grace Decker about districts and open seats), then work primary elections. Need to find regular meeting time; Mark to plan organizing workshop
- Housing (Josh) - Missoula Renters Union update, meeting Jan 18, 5:30 pm, MPL Blackfoot Board room. Regular meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of month, need DSA support and show up; John W. - Larchmont housing project, NIMBY golfers, not enough positive support, too short of comment period, County Commissioners have tabled it before any traction, although not gone away completely

- Labor (Jackie, Mark) organizing report, have a retail organizing opportunity, started organizing campaign and moving forward; call to anyone who is in a workplace that wants to organize, also can advise individual workers, call us, meet every Weds. 9 am breakfast
- **Current Chapter Projects (2 min)**
  - Chapter Instagram Account – continue to contribute
  - Smai and Rachel suggest Google Calendar for group, and post WG mtgs on social media, Smai volunteered to do calendar, Jackie to give access to Smai, Rachel and Daniel volunteered to work on Instagram
- **New Chapter Projects (15 min)**
  - Leadership election nominations (Robbie) - No one has volunteered, he will ask again!
  - 5 officer positions: 2 co-chairs, Secretary, Treasurer, Communications Coordinator
    - Co-chair Responsibility: 2 SC meetings/month, plan agenda, take care of background and budgetary issues, aid and oversee Working Groups, decide on official statements,
    - Secretary: Takes notes at meetings, could have some membership tracking duties
    - Treasurer: Manage bank account, Pay chapter expenses, Document and Track income and expenses, Report finances to membership, Annual report to State of MT and Fed IRS (very simple submissions)
    - Communications Coordinator: Create monthly newsletter, Manage chapter email, Moderate Facebook page and social media, update welcome packet,
- **Montana DSA**
- **Regional and National DSA**
  - Regional leadership meeting with Amy Zachmeyer –
- **Announcements (3 min)**
  - “Voice of the People: Radio by & for the 99%” radio show, Sat 1-3 pm, KFGM 105.5, 1055kfgm.org, or podcast on <https://anchor.fm/vop-montana>
- **Next Chapter Meetings and Deadline for Agenda items and Motions (2 min)**
  - Steering/Charting – Tuesday January 18, 6:00 pm, ZOOM
  - Discussion Group – topic to be decided, Thursday Jan 20, 6:00 pm ZOOM
  - Deadline: Business Meeting Agenda items/motions – Wed Jan 26, 5:00 pm
  - Steering – Tuesday February 1, 6:00 pm ZOOM
  - ELECTIONS!!! General Membership/Business – Sat Feb 5, 10:00 am, Missoula Library & ZOOM