



**WESTERN MONTANA
DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISTS OF AMERICA**

Regular Business Meeting Minutes

March 5, 2022 10:00 am

Missoula Public Library (Blackfoot Rm) & Zoom

- **Attendees:** Sandy, Robbie, Josh, Jim, Rachel, Jackie, Steven, Colette, Richard, Mark, Sarah, Dave A., Wren, Sam, Letecia, Chester, Smai
- **Openings (15 min)**
 - Native Land opening - Sarah
 - Introductions: Name and Question: “Who do you consider to be one of the most influential activists, either of today or of the past?”
 - Community Agreements for Respectful Discussion (brief)
 - Rotating Roles: facilitator – Sandy, time – Robbie, stack – Jackie, notes – Mark
 - Agenda: additions and approval - **MOTION** to approve Mark, 2nd Smai; **Approved Meeting Minutes:** correction and approval - **MOTION** to approve Sarah, 2nd Jackie; **Approved**
 - Treasurer’s Report (Sarah) - \$684.94 in bank; qtrly dues shares at \$309.00. Please renew your memberships and pay monthly for the chapter to get dues share. Encourage working groups to spend money on public education. Considering a megaphone purchase locally, which is considered an education expenditure.
- **Working Groups (30 min)**
 - EcoSocialist report – On hiatus with Dave J. out. 350 MT speakers at City Council
 - Editorial (Robbie) report – next mtng Tues Mar 8, 6 pm – Just published last week in Missoulian about Flathead Library. Next meeting will be deciding a topic, then meet 2 weeks later to finish up.
 - Electoral (Mark) report – next mtng Sun Mar 6, 6:30 pm – Working on endorsement process for legislative races. Also developing plan to reorganize Missoula Democrats. Precinct committeepeople spots open, encourage members to fill.
 - Housing (Josh) Missoula Tenants Union update, report – Josh could not go to last meeting. Lisa Davies of Common Good Missoula gave a presentation on union structure. Too conciliatory for Josh but a start. Group is still uncertain about how to do membership. Looking for help on Housing WG. April 4th next meeting. Robbie added this will be another organizing mtng and less on what we can do. Encourage chapter members to attend on April 4th. There was a critique of the Alinsky-method of organizing, and a receptivity to the McAlevee (CIO)-method in the group. Danny T. encouraged the group to offer a rent control bill in the next legis session, even if no chance at passing, as it offers an organizing opportunity. Nolan Fry and Sarah Purcell are contacts. MTU on facebook.
 - Labor (Jackie, Mark) organizing report – assisting a Missoula workplace in organizing a union, reveal who when campaign above ground. W MT Workers Alliance is the

- vehicle to support organizing more broadly. Collette shared about the UM graduate student union organizing.
- **New Chapter Projects (30 min)**
 - Anti-War Organizing (Steering Cmte) Sunday Mar 6, Noon at Co. Courthouse – Richard reported that the local churches still collaborating with the system and he is trying to hold them accountable. Meet at ZACC today from 3-6 pm to make signs for tomorrow. Education of what’s going on is primary.
 - May Day Event – form organizing working group – Group approval of bbq picnic. Rachel volunteers.
 - **Current Chapter Projects (5 min)**
 - Chapter Instagram Account – continue to contribute
 - Discussion Meeting – move to the weekend? – Rachel suggests doodle poll. - **MOTION** to approve doodle poll to find best time for Discussion meeting to regularly meet Mark, 2nd Robbie; **Approved**. Mark volunteers to carry out.
 - **Montana DSA**
 - **Regional and National DSA (1 min)**
 - Regional leadership meeting with Beni Batiste – Thurs March 17, 8:30 pm
 - **Announcements (5 min)**
 - Peace in Ukraine Rally, Missoula Co. Courthouse – Sun March 6, Noon – 2 pm
 - “Voice of the People: Radio by & for the 99%” radio show, Saturdays 1-3 pm, KFGM 105.5, 1055kfgm.org, or podcast on <https://anchor.fm/vop-montana>
 - 350 Montana at the City Council – signup to speak for 100% clean electricity
 - **Next Chapter Meetings and Deadline for Agenda items and Motions (2 min)**
 - Steering/Charting – Tuesday March 15, 6:00 pm, ZOOM
 - Discussion Group: *Socialist Manifesto*, Ch. 3 – Thursday Mar 17, 6:00 pm ZOOM
 - Deadline: Business Meeting Agenda items/motions – Wed Mar 23, 5:00 pm
 - Steering – Tuesday March 29, 6:00 pm ZOOM
 - General Membership/Business – Sat Apr 2, 10:00 am, Missoula Library & ZOOM