



WESTERN MONTANA DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISTS OF AMERICA

Business Meeting Minutes

April 2, 2022 10:00 am

Missoula Public Library (Blackfoot Room) & Remote on Zoom

- **Openings (15 min)**
 - Native Land opening - Sarah
 - Introductions: Name, Pronouns, and Question: “What are you looking forward to this Spring?”
 - Community Agreements for Respectful Discussion (brief)
 - **Rotating** Roles: facilitator – Dave, time – Sandy, stack – Sarah, notetaker – Mark
 - Agenda: additions and approval -- Meeting Minutes: correction and approval
 - Treasurer’s Report (Sarah)
- **Guest Presentation: Decriminalize all entheogenic plants and fungi (15 min)** (Larry Evans) – Representing Decriminalize Nature Montana. Nationally 14 government units have passed this. It’s not legalization, but decriminalizing, making it the lowest level of priority for police. Trying to follow the marijuana paradigm shift precedent in Montana. It mainly affects psilocybin mushrooms and mescaline. Psilocybin has been successful in treating PTSD, depression and other ailments. Three levels administered: micro dose which is not recreational; museum dose (~1 gram) for PTSD, recurring violence; and laughing dose (~2 grams) therapeutic use which creates long laugh among other things. This is an understated portrayal of medical effects. Seattle, Detroit, D.C., Ann Arbor have passed decriminalization. Colorado has decriminalized for the longest time which has shown an increase in micro dosing but not more recreational use. There is a meeting Friday to plan a strategy for passage with the Missoula City Council. Daniel Carlino supports.
- **Working Groups (30 min)**
 - EcoSocialist (Dave) report – Aiming to building power with Daniel Carlino and City Council on climate action. Meets 1st and 3rd Mon on Zoom at 7 pm.
 - Editorial (Robbie) report – aiming for an editorial to be printed on May Day. Open to suggestions. Also taking on newsletter. WG is open to all. Meets the Tues. following the Business Meeting and then 2 weeks after that. Dave’s editorial just published. Sarah asked for WG blurbs to be sent to Sandy and/or Sarah on WG activities. April 5 at 5 pm is deadline this month.
 - Electoral (Mark) report – Legislative questionnaire was sent out to all candidates in Missoula, Ravalli, Lake, and Sanders Counties. One response back so far. Plans developing on attempt to reorganize the Missoula Dems. Still need to develop campaign strategies with City Council.
 - Housing (Josh) Missoula Tenants Union update, report – Next meeting is April 4th at 6 pm. Invite 5 other tenants to meeting.
 - Labor (Jackie, Mark) organizing report – Third Wave Workers of Missoula we have been actively supporting. Write letters of support to Black Coffee owners. Upcoming Bread and Roses Campaign to support Third Wave: bring in roses to Black coffee. Jackie has DSA paper roses to deliver too. Need to email membership to join in support. Also, huge alt labor victory at Amazon, Staten Is, NY.
- **New Chapter Projects (15 min)**
 - **MOTION** - Steering Committee proposal: We move that to concentrate on our priorities and to maintain a good reputation, outside non-DSA postings be vetted by working group chairs. If not appropriate, then the Steering Committee vets it. If there is a time limit, then it’s up to the co-chairs to vet. – Discussion: this can be seen as a seed of a protocol. **APPROVED**
 - Recommitment Campaign (Mark, Steering Cmte) – Rachel volunteered to be the point for this campaign. Upcoming trainings April 9, 16 @ 11 am; April 27, May 9 @ 6 pm.

- Social Media – Discussion tabled.
- May Day Picnic – Rachel reserved Northside Park from 12 – 5 pm. Invite friends and family – not a public event. Sarah and Rachel will arrange.
- **Current Chapter Projects (1 min)**
 - Chapter Instagram Account – continue to contribute
 - Discussion Meeting Doodle Poll (Mark) – inconclusive. Retry with adding more evening times. Also look at meeting at Library, ImagineNation and Union Club.
- **Montana DSA**
- **Regional and National DSA (1 min)**
 - Regional leadership meeting with Beni Batiste – Thurs April 21, 8:30 pm
- **Announcements (5 min)**
 - “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
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- **Next Chapter Meetings and Deadline for Agenda items and Motions (2 min)**
 - Steering/Charting – Tuesday April 19, 6:00 pm, ZOOM
 - Discussion Group – *Socialist Manifesto, Ch 4* Thursday Apr 21, 6:00 pm ZOOM
 - Deadline: Business Meeting Agenda items/motions – Wed Apr 20, 5:00 pm
 - Steering – Tuesday May 3, 6:00 pm ZOOM
 - General Membership/Business – Sat May 7, 10:00 am, Missoula Library & ZOOM