

May 30, 2023 - DSA Steering Committee

Present: Sarah McClain, Jackie Reimers, Arthur Endsley, Mark Anderlik, Max Cumming, Sandy Burch

Recorded by: Arthur Endsley

- **Motion to approve last meeting's minutes** (Sarah, Arthur), *approved*
- **Motion to approve the agenda** (Sarah, Arthur), *approved*

Western MT DSA questionnaire for candidate endorsement

- Max Cumming is requesting that we provide Gwen Nicholson with the questionnaire necessary for members to evaluate whether we should endorse her campaign
 - Max: Gwen is a socialist running for City Council in Ward 1; main policy plank is renter's rights, houseless rights. Gwen has lived in Missoula for all of her life(?); is indigenous and trans. Full disclosure: Max is serving as her campaign's treasurer.
- Mark: There used to be an Electoral Committee, but no more. The process may have to be handled by the Steering Committee.
- Mark: Questionnaire can be mailed to all the candidates after June 19, the closing date for candidates to register.
- *Arthur volunteers to combine everyone's revisions to the questionnaire*
- Max: So, if the questionnaire goes out June 20 is it possible to do the interview with Gwen...?
- Jackie: Do we need to have all the candidates invited to our Steering Committee meeting?
- Sandy: When we send out the endorsement questionnaire, we could invite her to the June 27 Steering Committee Meeting for an interview
- Mark: I would give half an hour to each candidate... We could say this: We have interviews on June 27 for candidates that can make it; for others, we'll figure something out.

Agenda for June 3 Business Meeting

- Facilitator? Sandy Burch
- Community Agreements? Jackie Reimers
- Note-taker? Arthur Endsley
- Timekeeper? Sarah McClain
- Progressive stack? Mark Anderlik
- *Convention delegate election...* John W. withdrew his nomination, so its Jackie and Mark that remain.
 - Sarah: Jackie doesn't really want to go... But doesn't Mark need an alternate?
- Jackie: We can put off a discussion of the convention proposals...?

- Sandy: Could go over the proposals at July Business Meeting...?
- Arthur: People who care will make time.
- Sarah: We could do it at the Union Club!
- *Native Land Acknowledgement vote*
 - Arthur sent a suggestion to the Steering Committee; is Tony going to facilitate this agenda item?
 - *Agreed to put this agenda item off to next Business Meeting*
- *Strike Ready Plan*
 - Part of the Labor Working Group Report?
- *Tabling at Pride Event, Saturday June 17*
 - Marching instead of tabling? Not sure yet about tabling
 - Bethany and Pamela also suggesting tabling at the Farmer's Market
 - Sarah: We could make a schedule and people could sign up for different weekends...
- *Common Good Missoula action on June 28*
 - Arthur: Two potential "structure tests" for our membership...
 - Door knocking in the Central Ave neighborhood to introduce people to the Gardenwalk Neighborways proposal
 - Big action on June 28, a walk along Central Ave to Montana Rail Link Park
 - Arthur: Hoping to get in touch with Josh Dekker, too, about giant puppets for June 28
- *Recruitment*
 - Sandy: I think charting is going to be very informative
 - Jackie: John W. contacted me and says he has a big flip-chart left-over from the retreat
 - *Jackie will be in charge of the charting part*
 - Sandy: Half-hour on charting, half-hour on goals, which should come first?
 - Arthur: Seems like "goals" should come first, then charting

Leadership training from DSA National

- Training is two days, June 10 and 11, from 11:00 AM to 4:30 PM both days
- Sarah has registered

New HGO Complaint

- Sandy: We have a new complaint about multiple working-group leaders "taking up too much space"
 - An anonymous complaint conveyed by Wren
- Arthur: Can you elaborate on "taking up too much space"?
 - Sandy: Wren suggested we provide a leadership training for working-group leaders; I said I thought that was a great idea.
- *Agree to announce the Leadership Training option at the Business Meeting*

- Jackie: Who writes up the agenda for the Business Meeting? One of the Co-Chairs?
 - Sandy: Yes, typically we write the agenda for both Steering and Business meetings

Big fun event for the Teamsters!

- Sarah: Tried so hard to get the event at Imagine Nation... Talked to everyone there and they are all telling me to fill something out online but... Because it is a “political organization” it has to be approved by the manager; written to him about five times but he will not respond. One of the employees suggested “Chimatic Events Center”(?)
- Sandy: I have one friend who works there...
- Sarah: Our music group has played there and they adore us...
- *Sarah is going to look into the ZACC...*
- Sandy: Still aiming for a June or July performance with *Basses Covered?*
- Mark: Just to be clear, it’s not fund-raising for the Teamsters, it’s for the Western MT DSA Labor Solidarity Fund
- Mark: Starbucks on Brooks St. has filed for an election

Quick report from Daniel Carlino

- Mark: Daniel Carlino asked if Western MT DSA has “any materials for protests”?
 - City is planning on removing people camped below the Russell Street bridge on Thursday; the people camped there are planning on protesting
- Mark: Daniel also said he was interested in attending the “DSA Electeds” conference

Motion to adjourn (Arthur, Jackie), approved