

East Bay DSA
Steering Committee Meeting Agenda
June 20th, 2021
2:00-4:30 pm
[Zoom link](#)

Steering Committee Agenda

- I. Introductions/Opening Statements [5 minutes - Matt]
- II. Approval of Agenda [2 minutes]
 - A. Consent Agenda:
 - [Transfer of Legal Responsibilities to New Steering Committee Members](#)
 - 9 Yes; 0 nos, 0 abstentions
- III. Committee Reports [3 minutes]
 - A. Finance
 - \$31,386 in the budget
 - 144 monthly donors
 - B. Recording Secretary's Report
 - SKIPPED
- IV. Discussion items [1h 30m - Matt & Will]
 - A. Upcoming hospital strike (Aaron/Molly)
 - Yari, MV and Arron, spoke
 - working group in the operation to build solidarity; Spoke with staff; setting up meetings
 - Q&A
 - a) Annika: In the initial stages; what does recruitment chapter look like? Doing info pickets.
 - b) Luke: basics of the contract/timeline/major issues the workers care about? MV: SF is pulling the best patients into the patients affecting the workers in the Oakland children's hospital, fighting for job security, and keeping it in Oakland
 - c) Will: associate with Cal Single Payer, M4A? Aaron/MV: potential for overlap.
 - B. Returning back in person (Allie)
 - Allie: Gov opened California; temp check on people's comfort level. Wassup?
 - Luke: go in person organizing for appropriate events, and possible hybrid.
 - Allie: digital vaccine card system

- Maddy: saw a lot of new members that were looking to get plugged in, but could because of shutdown.
- Will: thought the case rate was low; liked the safety protocols.
- Benny: perhaps SC could stay online; reduces commute times
- Allie: a hybrid system was implemented; something to think about
- Arron: would SC allow for in person events by other committees? Allie: No office and is unknown what venues are currently allowing for events.
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C. California DSA (Renée)

- Update: Renee, CA state organizing committee, possible a post convention deal do to lawyer stuff
- Questions:
 - a) Maddy: Examples? Renee: some tactical/grammatical changes by the lawyer.
 - b) Hasan: Seems like they are not urgent changes; take as recommendations and save for later? Renee: will pass it on the body and the working group builds and develops

D. Open discussion with incoming & outgoing SC

- Ella: Balancing projects? Annika: not much time commitment as an at large; Allie: meet knew people with experience;
- Hasan: Making leadership project when SC makes task forces;
- LUke: As a leader, what you say you be seen as reflecting the chapter.
- Matt: its okay to disagree
- Hasan: regret not building a more informal relationship amongst SC members
- Shane: open to developing each other and to argumentation.
- Neder: the potential burnout, tips to prevent it? One burn out effect the chapter as a whole.
- Allie: current chairs had a lot to work with during the pandemic and protests. Would like to see at-large step up more.
- Shane: professional staff could really help.
- Will: Recommend saying 'no' when necessary
- Benny: recommending sharing the responsibilities within sc, outside sc, and outside the organization
- You should know what you can do and what you cannot

E. OPA bylaws (Luke and Luci)

- Luke: Oakland Progressive Alliance -
- Activist, union leaders, candidates; engaging in restorative process instead of confronting; currently focus on the budget, black reparations, police budget reform and keeping firhouses from closing, etc. They have a [website](#) now. Potential in a beneficial working relationship opportunities
- Question:

- a) Maddie: Any concerns to think about? LUke: political disagreements, how we relate to non dsa allied candidates/politicians
- b) Shane: Dues? How is the membership decided? Luke: no formal relationship with they yet; shared politics tends to be qualifier

V. New Business [20 minutes]

- A. [Resolution to Form an EBDSA Branches Working Group](#)
- B. Motivator Isaac: better to adapt to local campaigns, better to figure out the best type of branch system; have reached out to allies in Hayward and Richmond, each potential branch can aim for more local bases.
- C. Questions:
 - Neder: Who is writing the proposals? How do we quantify the member survey? Zach: With SC involvement; Town halls and online surveys.
 - Neder: qualifiers to join the WG?
 - Isaac/Zach: live it for the SC to decide; ideally would be open
- D. Amendment for Working Group proposal
 - Subtract: "Be it further resolved that after the series of forums on branch creation, the membership will have an opportunity to vote on (a) proposal(s) for the creation of EBDSA branches."
 - Adding "Be it further resolved that the Branches Working Group will bring a set of recommendations and goals for branches to the steering committee. The SC and Branches WG will work together to finalize a plan for the General Membership to vote on."
- E. Questions:
 - Benny: If the working group finds more then one solution? Annika: ideally, there would be one, other wise work to iron out the differences?
- F. Debate: called to question, seconded
 - Vote: 9 yes
- G. Adopted amendment to resolution
 - Vote: 9 yays
- H. Resolution discussion:
 - Maddy: mixed feelings,
 - Con: Luke: seems unclear about the vision; sees this more about how the east bay could better operate in other regions of the East Bay;
- I. Debate
 - Pro: Shane: would like to talk about the branches; talk about the who and where, not the why
 - Pro: Benny: there had been an attempt by the SC that stalled pretty severely, then an ad hoc WG; followed by a recent proposal. See the need to discussing the political rationale in public
 - Con: Maddy: hasn't really been discussed, seems like a lack of interest; alternate formulation could suffice.

- Pro: Neder: see the difficulty in having something to offer in other regions outside Oakland
- Con: Luke: would have had a branch working group already
- J. Vote on Branch working group proposal
 - 7 yes; 2 No

5 min break

- VI. Discussion items continued [20 minutes - Allie]
- A. Grievance discussion
 - B. Vote to enter into Exec session: 8 yes
 - C. Updates: Wave slate; a grievance filed on behalf of a victim in a previous existing organization; an article was also made against a member of the Wave Slate; the Wave slate members filed a grievance against article writers. Worked with the national grievance officer
 - D. Vote discussion
 - Luke: lets just end the grievance now; statement meant to exonerate them would be inappropriate, since it happened before they became members. Let them appeal to NPC.
 - Matt: extremely simple and broad statement could suffice for cover
 - Shane: COuldn't write a statement that could satisfy; SC made its decision.
 - Katie: We shouldn't be exonerating member, stick to our guns
 - Annika: the threat to appeal goes against the good behavior we had set for them
 - Benny: how would you let the chapter know at the end of the grievance process regardless what we decide
 - Allie; only if a serious accusation goes public, would we release a statement.
 - Will: too many people hurt and angry to reach a reasonable statemetrn
 - E. Vote to extend for 15 minutes
 - 9 yes, 0 no

Shane R, Carlos O ,Will S, Neder, Annika B, Allie, Luke T, Matt S, KatieF , MAddy GW, Andrew R, Benny Z, Ella T, Hasan, Max M, Lindsey M, Miguel B, Kat O

Shane

CONSENT AGENDA

Transfer of Legal Responsibilities to New Steering Committee Members

Submitted by Lindsey Moore

Whereas outgoing members of the Steering Committee are signatories to the chapter's bank accounts

Whereas the names of outgoing members of the Steering Committee appear on various legal documents

Whereas incoming Steering Committees should assume those responsibilities and be the signatories on legal documents the state requires for officers of 501(c)(4)s

Whereas the Treasurer has historically administered the Chapter's G-Suite and Password Manager

Therefore be it resolved that the Treasurer will coordinate the removal of existing signatories and the addition of new signatories to the chapter's bank account and to the documents described below as soon as possible.

Documents and signatories

1. Officers listed on CA Form SI-100

Resolution

EBDSA's next filing of the CA SI-100 will list the following roles and individuals:

- Chief executive officer/president: Shane Ruiz or Annika Bastacky
- Secretary: Juan Carlos Ocasio Jr.
- Chief financial officer/treasurer: Lindsey Moore

The members of the board will be also revised to match the members of the incoming Steering Committee.

Continuing Treasurer Lindsey Moore will perform this filing at the earliest convenience. SI-100 is due in the second half of the fiscal year, or after June 30th.

Rationale

Form SI-100 lists basic information about a California nonprofit corporation, including contact information and the identities of its officers and board. The following are listed as our current officers: Allie Lahey (co-Chair), AJ Acosta (Secretary), and Lindsey Moore (Treasurer).

The officer roles listed in the SI-100 don't align particularly well to our leadership structure. In particular, we have two co-chairs, and no such "chief executive officer" nor "president" role. As such, these titles have effectively no bearing on the internal operation of the chapter. There may be fine-print legal responsibilities attached to these designations, but thus far it has not been a concern except as a requirement for completing the SI-100. What's more important is that the names do reflect current leadership, as opposed to past leadership.

2. Bank signers for 501(c)(4) bank account

Resolution

Addition of new bank signers

The Treasurer, as a requirement of her duties, have access to the chapter's bank accounts. As a back-up, however, it is prudent to have an additional bank signer who can access Chapter funds in the exigent circumstances. The signers of the EBDSA chapter bank account will be as follows:

- Lindsey Moore (treasurer)
- Juan Carlos Ocasio Jr. (recording secretary)

The current treasurer, Lindsey Moore, is authorized to initiate the transition paperwork at any time and will coordinate with the incoming recording secretary.

Removal of existing bank signers

The outgoing Recording Secretary, AJ Acosta, will be removed as a bank signer as soon as possible.

Rationale

Bank signers are "co-owners" of the chapter bank account, and are authorized to withdraw money, sign checks, change signers, etc. EBDSA's bank, Beneficial State Bank, requires approved minutes in order to initiate this process. The process involves collecting multiple rounds of signatures from the incoming signers, and takes about a week to complete.

3. Administration of G-Suite and Password manager

Resolution

The chapter Treasurer shall continue to be the administrator of the chapter's G-Suite and Password Manager

Rationale

The Treasurer has historically performed these responsibilities and administration of the systems enable the Treasurer to maintain control over sensitive information, including bank account information and passwords.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution to Form an EBDSA Branches Working Group

Submitted by: Isaac H, Zach W, Michael K, Katie F, Susan S, Benny Z, Daniel E, Erica W, Jen E, Matthew L

Amended By: Annika B

Whereas our EBDSA bylaws, Article X, currently state:

"It is the intent of the Chapter to create categories of Branches that may enhance the democratic functioning of the Chapter;"

Whereas Article X was adopted in early 2018;

Whereas our chapter's membership has grown to thousands since those bylaws were written three years ago;

Whereas several of the largest DSA chapters in our country already have various kinds of branches;

Whereas there are currently multiple groups of members that have worked on visions for branches that are quite different;

Whereas members would benefit from an opportunity to discuss branch structures in a chapter-sponsored, low-stakes environment that is not centered around a specific proposal;

Whereas not everyone who wanted to speak on branches at the April GM was able to, therefore evidencing a real desire among chapter members to discuss how branches should be established and function;

Whereas branches can be formed in a wide variety of ways, and it is clear from the work that has been done so far that further discussion and membership participation is needed before a branch structure can be successfully implemented;

Whereas the whole chapter membership should be involved in a discussion on the nature of branches within EBDSA since it is a structural change that will affect all members.

Therefore be it resolved that various structures should be discussed in a series of at least two or three EBDSA chapter-wide forums on branches to conclude within no longer than a four month time frame.

Be it further resolved that the EBDSA Steering Committee form a Branches Working Group to shepherd the creation and holding of such forums.

~~**Be it further resolved** that after the series of forums on branch creation, the membership will have an opportunity to vote on (a) proposal(s) for the creation of EBDSA branches.~~

Be it further resolved that the Branches Working Group will bring a set of recommendations and goals for branches to the steering committee. The SC and Branches WG will work together to finalize a plan for the General Membership to vote on.

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Be it finally resolved that the Steering Committee appoints Isaac Harris and Zach Weinstein as co-chairs.