

# Agitation, Deliberation, Education: A Radically Democratic General Meeting

**THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED** the text of R8 be amended as such (Red struck through texts is removal of original resolution language, green text is additions to the original resolution language)

## **WHEREAS**

1. Monthly general body meetings are the highest attended meetings that MD-DSA holds, and present an excellent opportunity to get new members involved in the work of MD-DSA;
2. MD-DSA's scope of work has grown to include multiple types of organizing, including electoral work, labor work, international organizing, membership engagement, and political education, etc.;
3. MD-DSA membership, and attendance at general body meetings, has at least doubled over the past two years, creating a need for a more formal meeting structure to ensure that all areas of chapter work are covered;
4. Members of the working class will grow more radicalized in response to the accelerating rate of the global crises now unfolding. In order to retain these new radicalized members of the working class as they join DSA, we must show them that socialism is the solution to capitalism's endemic crises;
5. The goal of MD-DSA general body meetings shall be to get members involved in ongoing organizing work, committee work, ~~with a secondary emphasis on~~ political education and ~~organizing skills trainings~~ deliberation;

## **THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED**

1. Monthly general body meetings shall be two hours in duration and have the following structure:
  - ~~Up to 30 mins for political education, including at least 10 mins for breakout sessions or small group discussion whenever possible;~~
  - 45 minutes for political education on topics selected by the Political Education Committee;

- 10 minutes for announcements, updates, or report-backs that require more thorough explanation than can be made through a newsletter;
- 30 minutes for updates from working groups and committees, which can take the form of breakout groups;
- 35 minutes for deliberation on adopting resolutions, endorsing campaigns, establishing new working groups etc., or agitation for new campaigns;
- ~~60 minutes for campaigns and/or resolution discussion and debate;~~

Except in the case where the NPC has directly contacted steering committee and issued talking points about a current event, in which case, the General Meeting will have the following structure:

- 30 minutes for discussion of the event in question with a focus on NPC statements and a generative conversation among members for action to be taken by the chapter in response;
- 10 minutes for announcements, updates, or report-backs that require more thorough explanation than can be made through a newsletter;
- 20 minutes for working group and committee project updates or breakout groups;
- 30 minutes for political education on topics selected by the Political Education Committee;
- 30 minutes for deliberation on adopting resolutions, endorsing campaigns, establishing new working groups etc., or agitation for new campaigns;

~~2. Political education topics should be relevant to current events, or relevant to existing campaign or project work happening in MD-DSA;~~

~~3. Priority will be given to chapter endorsed campaigns;~~

~~4. The meeting agenda is subject to change at the discretion of the Steering Committee.~~

2. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that political education General Meeting (GM) topics will be selected by the Political Education Committee in service of further developing the chapter in socialist thought and generating discussion among the general membership;

3. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the meeting agenda is set by the Steering Committee, acting in its capacity to oversee the implementation of the decisions of the membership convention and membership meetings.

**Author:** Chris Wasung

**Signatures:**

1. **Rodney Coopwood**

2. **Amanda Matyas**
3. **Theresa Hovey**
4. **Caleb Lalinsky**
5. **Collin Palmer**
6. **Madeleine Ringwald**
7. **Dan Whelan**
8. **Aaron Stark**
9. **Susan Steigerwalt**
10. **Jon Mukes**
11. **Mohamd Zaini**
12. **Anthony Dellicolli**
13. **Alissa Brady**
14. **Gregory Deady**
15. **Hank Kennedy**
16. **Yash Khaleque**
17. **Hailey Sowa**
18. **Micah Johnson**
19. **Amber LaRowe**
20. **Peter Landon**
21. **Sean Mullins**
22. **Ashley Limgrave**
23. **Vince Carducci**
24. **Erin Tabor**
25. **Alexander Nebbergall**
26. **Lee Aylward**
27. **Matt Cummings**
28. **Jane Slaughter**
29. **Sophia Lorenzetti**
30. **Ian McClure**
31. **Dianne Feeley**
32. **Benjamin Hinsey**
33. **Eleanor Naud**
34. **Zach Prax**
35. **Lauren Trendler**