

Twin Cities DSA - January Meeting Agenda

January 20, 2018 1:15 pm (check-in opens)

Wentworth Library

199 East Wentworth Ave

West St. Paul, MN 55118

1:15 pm	Check in begins.
1:45 pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Call to order and welcome, donation reminder2. Introductory business<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Land acknowledgementb. Community Agreements (<i>see page 2</i>)c. Adopt the agendad. Volunteers: timekeeper, tellers (2 - 6), stack keepere. Quorum checkf. Accept minutes of last Meeting (<i>see pages 3-4</i>)3. Officer reports: Operations Coordinator, Recording Secretary, Treasurer (<i>see page 6</i>), Political Action Coordinator, Political Education Coordinator, Tech Coordinator
2:00 pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Election of Tech Coordinator<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Explanation of vote counting: tally first votes, if no majority, goes to ranked-choice runoffsb. Nominations from the floor, if anyc. Candidate pitchesd. Membership Q+A and discussione. Votes will be counted after the meeting
2:25 pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Resolution: Solidarity Fund<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Present and vote
2:35 pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Bylaws Amendments (<i>see p 8</i>)<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Explanation of procedure & how voting works, supermajority ruleb. Presentation of Consent Calendar + votec. Vote & Debate on amendments 8 through 18
3:25 pm	Break
3:35 pm	Group Discussion: Building Power in 2019
4:00 pm	Branch and Working Group Pitches

Community Agreements

1. **Progressive Stack** – *The Facilitator keeps a list of names from people who raise their hand*
 Progressive Stack is a form of leading discussions which involves a facilitator keeping a list of names of people who wish to speak. The facilitator scans the group during discussion and if someone wishes to speak, they raise their hand and catch the facilitator's eye. The facilitator nods and makes eye contact to indicate the person is now put on the list to speak, and then the person can put their hand down so it does not distract other discussion participants. However, the facilitator does not simply write a list of names in the order that people raise their hand. Rather, if someone who has not spoken raises their hand, they go to the top of the list. If someone who is of an oppressed group raises their hand, they go to the top of the list unless they have already contributed significantly to the discussion.
2. **Why Am I Talking** – *When in discussion, please ask yourself "Why am I talking (WAIT)?"*
 We have a limited amount of time for discussion and to accomplish the tasks before us. When in discussion, please ask yourself "Why am I talking (WAIT)?" Consider whether or not what you want to say has already been said, whether what you want to say is on topic or if there's a better time and place to say it, and other methods for showing how you feel about the conversation (nodding your head, etc.)
3. **Step Up, Step Back** – *When you speak, after you make your point, let others speak*
 Help create a safe and inclusive space for everybody. Please respect others by recognizing how often, much, and loud you're speaking and whether or not you're dominating conversation. Step back to leave space for others to voice their opinions and feelings. If the facilitator of the meeting asks you to wrap up, recognize that you should step back. This especially applies to participants who have privileged backgrounds. On the other hand, if you don't often speak up, we encourage you to do so now!
4. **Use "I" Statements** – *Speak from your perspective, rather than assuming that of other people*
 Speak for yourself and from your own experience
5. **One Diva, One Mic** – *One person speaks at a time*
 Many of us will have different opinions on matters. However, speaking while others are talking or adding comments when they cannot respond appropriately does not build community. If you have a disagreement, wait for your turn to address it. This is basic politeness.
6. **Listen (Don't Wait to Talk)** – *Genuinely pay attention to what others say*
 Actively listen to others. When someone makes a point, repeat what you heard, and summarize.
7. **Assume Best Intentions, But Challenge** – *Give people the benefit of the doubt, but don't be afraid to challenge others when they say something you disagree with*
 Assume good faith in each other. Ask clarifying questions like "did you mean X" or "what makes you say that" to get more information. Encourage yourself and others to maintain a positive attitude, honor the work of others, avoid defensiveness, be open to legitimate critique and challenge oppressive behaviors in ways that help people grow. We want to "call each other in" rather than calling each other out — in other words, if you are challenging someone's ideas or behavior, do it respectfully, and if you are being challenged, receive it respectfully.
8. **Oops, Ouch** – *Acknowledge when you make a mistake*
 Remember, mistakes will be made, nobody is perfect.

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Twin Cities DSA General Meeting

13 December 2018

6-9pm

Southdale Library

1. Call to Order and welcome
Meeting Called to order at 6:30pm
2. Introductory business
 - a. Land acknowledgement
 - b. Community Agreements
 - c. Adopt the agenda
Motion to adopt the agenda. Second. Passes.
 - d. Volunteers: timekeeper, tellers, stack keeper
Kevin = timekeeper, 2 tellers, Ian = stack keeper
 - e. Quorum check: **haven't met quorum yet, still counting**
 - f. Accept minutes of last meeting
Motion to accept minutes; second; Passes.
3. Officer reports
 - a. Ops Coordinator-**893 members; officially over 900; 293 members have expired memberships; TCDSA.org; Ops meeting is on Monday at 7pm at MPLS Central**
 - b. Recording Secretary-**no report**
 - c. Treasurer- **Approx 3600 in chapter funds and around \$800 in Solidarity fund**
 - d. Political Action-**absent**
 - e. Political Education-**planning a larger event on March 3rd, all day educational event, recruiting folks from various branches and committees**
 - f. Tech Coordinator-**couple changes to the website, making it easier for members to find resources; exploring ideas of a member portal; discussing tech things in the Ops meetings**
 - g. Co-chairs-**2018 TCDSA Year in Review: over 200 meetings in our chapter this year; added over 400 members this year; we are getting an office in 2019 in Boneshaker books**
4. Vote on revised bylaws
-Tracy presents bylaws; will be voted on at the next meeting; find them on the website
5. Update on Grievance Process
-Amy talks about the process
6. Announcement regarding Tech Coordinator position
-we will be having an election for the Tech Coordinator position in January
7. Teach-in: Ecosocialism & Saving the Planet from Capitalism
Break at 8:01pm
8. Break
Meeting called back to order at 8:14pm
9. Branch and Working Group Updates and Pitches
 - Racial Justice branch-Feb 21st Erik Loomis event at ESFL; next meeting on January 6th 12-3pm; January 13th Rondo Library**
 - Left Social Democrats-Thursday, Dec 20, 7pm Barnes and Noble in HarMar; Screening of Young Marx in January at ESFL**
 - Religious Socialism-currently an Interest Group; will be setting up a meeting soon**

Mutual Aid-resolution to extend the Mutual Aid Solidarity Fund; planning a Brake Light Clinic; next meeting is January 8th, location TBD

Housing-upcoming event, movie showing in January or February, The Florida Project; also working on Stomp Out Slumlords campaign; new initiative with the Health Justice Branch, trying to get eviction trials into the sick leave ordinance; December 20, meeting in MPLS Central library

Electoral Branch-

Health Justice WG-next meeting January 10th 7pm MPLS Central will be brainstorming and goal setting for the next year ahead

SocFems-smashing the patriarchy; Clinic Defense sub-Working Group; SocFems Reading Group, new book is Why Women Have Better Sex Under Socialism, date and location TBD; next meeting is Tuesday, Dec 18th 6:30pm at Boneshaker Books

Ops-Newsletter-please send us stuff

Labor- Amazon fulfillment center rally Dec 14th, 2:30pm; Dec 18 4pm Solidarity March with construction workers of CTUL; working with IWOC

UWRF-organizing YDSA on campus

Ramsey County/East Metro- City Council elections; Labor Unions in St. Paul

Eco-Socialism-next meeting 2-4pm Sunday afternoon at MN350 offices; action coming up on Tuesday, Dec 18th, downtown STP, 1pm

In-reach-get connected!

Next Membership meeting January 20th, location TBD, afternoon

Singing of Solidarity Forever

10. Motion to adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:43

July 2018 Meeting Minutes

1. Call to order

Meeting called to order at 6:50pm

2. Introduction

- a. Introduction to DSA

Nic gives an intro about what DSA is

- b. Community agreements & Meeting Rules

Deb gives an intro about meeting rules and introduces the Community agreements

Nic motions to approve the agenda. So moved. Second. Passes.

3. Reports from Officers

- a. Treasurer

Total equity is at 2,133.51

- b. Social Secretary

Nic reads the Soc Sec report as Deanna is absent.

718 members in the chapter; 217 need to renew out of that number

- c. Recording Secretary

Read the voting record of previous meeting's minutes.

- d. Political Education Coordinator

Overhaul meeting for Pol Ed Committee: Thursday, 7pm MPLS Central Library Room 202

E. Co-chairs

4. Quorum Check

Quorum announced, we do have quorum. Close to 100 members in attendance.

5. Election of Political Activism Coordinator

Nic will flip a coin for who will debate first; Heads for Noel and Tails for Isuru

Coin toss is heads so Noel will speak first

Noel speaks:

3 reasons:

1. do the job, do it well, focus on coalition building and outreach; Racial Justice; immigrant Justice; Gender justice
2. Internal organizing and in-reach; elevate those in the chapter to help them become leaders within the chapter
3. Transparency and visibility

Isuru speaks:

Here to start a socialist revolution.

This is a political moment and an ideological fight.

10 years as an organizer; currently working with the DFL; Black Lives Matter MPLS; St Paul Federation of Teachers (Educators); rank & file member working to unionize

We need to be in the streets and create a rank & file

Experience, knowledge, and belief in people

We will need a 50% plus 1

Nic asks members to vote with their ballots, either select a nominee or select the empty box for absentee

6. Announcement: YDSA Conference in Minneapolis

Ian speaks about what YDSA is and that the Convention will be here this fall. They have asked for help with housing YDSA members coming in from out of town. Thursday August 2nd-5th. Also looking for volunteers during the conference-marshalls, technology, ASL interpretation, etc.

Housing: bit.ly/YDSAhousing

Volunteering: bit.ly/YDSAvolunteer

7. Announcement: Run for Leadership in September

Our annual convention happens in September. Interested in running for leadership:

-Co-chair

-Social Secretary

-PAC

8. Announcement: General Meeting regarding Endorsements

a. Afternoon of July 29th, tentative location North Regional Library

July 29th North Regional Library in the afternoon; exclusively for the purposes of endorsing candidates for public office; questions from the floor

9. Updates from Branches, Working Groups, and Caucuses

SocFems: next meeting will involve branch manifesto; discuss fundraisers; reading group

M4A/HealthJustice WG: hosted the Natl Single Payer strategy conference; two upcoming events: 18th July meeting: will be discussing which local campaigns to work with; 4th August will be a makeup canvas in NE MPLS

Electoral Branch: working on creating Electoral Guide; providing training for members who want to be active in electoral politics; next meeting is July 15th

Socialists of Color Caucus: group in progress; creating a comfortable space for people to raise concerns;

Labor: building unions & advancing workers in struggles; next meeting Weds. July 18th at 5:30pm; event in August with SPFE

Ramsey County Branch: focusing on the 15NOW St. Paul campaign; working on ways to utilize neighborhood district councils to use them to get a more socialist voice

Housing Justice Branch: Gotta do something about these landlords; don't move, fight back; building coalition with other orgs; having an event, taking over the street Tomorrow evening at 6pm in Corcoran N'hood; monthly meeting is on Thursday, July 26th from 6-8pm MPLS Central Library room 202-talking about MPLS 2040 plan, events in past and future; Stomp Out Slumlords campaign

Bylaws WG: taking a look at the bylaws for our chapter and making sure we can get ahead of possible problems before they happen; tentative meeting for August 7th & August 25th

Minnesota Valley Branch: SW suburbs; next meeting will be a virtual meeting; August 18th Memorial Park in Shakopee, Branch Picnic, all are welcome.

YDSA: students, educators, grad students, TAs, etc are welcome and looking to help organizing on all campuses in MN

MASE: believes in cooperation not competition; officially launched the solidarity fund; Brake Light Clinics and more

Left Social Democrats Caucus: infiltrating the DFL; also work on an international as well; July 29th 7pm at Barnes and Noble in Roseville, MN

Anti-ICE mobilization team: next step is to develop a strategizing meeting for our moves for the future

Eco-Socialism: devoted to studying and acting on the facts that capitalism and climate change are interlinked; next meeting is August 14th

Racial Justice WG: de-centering whiteness

10. Short Break

Recess until 8:05pm

Meeting called back to order at 8:10pm

11. Breakout & Discussion: Socialist Feminism and the Combahee River Collective

SocFems branch present about the Combahee River Collective article

Breakout discussion

Meeting called back to order at 8:40pm

12. Pitches from Candidates and Campaigns Seeking Endorsement

-Kevin reads statement for Brian Abrahamson: MN State House District 22A

-Jen Kader: MN House District 62A

-Ilhan Omar: Congress

-Haaris Pasha: MN House District 60B

-Brad McGarr: Shakopee City Council 2019

-Jake Cassidy: State House 57A

-Jennifer Nguyen Moore: Ramsey County Commissioner, District 3

-Mitra Jalali Nelson: St Paul Ward 4 City Council

Political Activism

50 for Noel

47 for Isuru

Noel is the new Political Activism Coordinator

13. Motion to Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:58pm

Basics Behind Robert's Rules of Order

MAIN MOTION

You want to propose a new idea or action for the group.

- After recognition, make a main motion.
- Member: "I move that_____."
- All motions must be seconded or they expire.
- Unless not debatable, motions are debated until ready for a vote (see below)
- A new motion is *not in order* when another motion is "on the floor" ie being considered, *except* a motion to amend the motion *or* moving the previous question.

PREVIOUS QUESTION

You think discussion has gone on for too long and you want to stop discussion and vote.

- After recognition, "I move the previous question."
- Must be seconded.
- Not debatable. Immediate vote on call of previous question, and if successful, immediate vote on the present motion.

EXTEND DEBATE

Rules say the debate is over, but you need more time.

- After recognition, "I move to suspend the rules to extend debate by _____."
- Must be seconded.
- Not debatable. Immediate vote, and if successful, debate continues on the present motion.
- Not in order if the previous question has been called (above.)

ADJOURNMENT

You want the meeting to end.

- After recognition, "I move to adjourn."
- Always in order.
- Must be seconded.
- Not debatable. Immediate vote and if successful, the meeting is over.

The following are Points of Order rather than Motions and are always in order.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

The noise outside the meeting has become so great that you are having trouble hearing.

- Without recognition, "Point of personal privilege."
- Chair: "State your point."
- Members: "There is too much noise, I can't hear." (Example)

POINT OF ORDER

It is obvious that the meeting is not following proper rules.

- Without recognition, "Point of order."

POINT OF INFORMATION

You are wondering about some of the facts under discussion, such as the balance in the treasury when expenditures are being discussed.

- Without recognition, "Point of information."

TWIN CITIES DSA Balance Sheet as of 1/5/2019

PREVIOUS BALANCE

TOTAL EQUITY (11/13/2018) \$4,332.55

CHANGES

DUES SHARING (from national) \$909.10
DONATIONS (including IBEW & SEIU donations for Loomis event) \$1,716.46
TECH COSTS (Zoom acct) -\$32.24 EVENT COSTS (for Loomis event) -\$457.40
ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS (including new Boneshaker space) -\$262.22

CURRENT ASSETS

CASH \$5,342.29

Held in account at Trustone Financial & attached Paypal balance

SOLIDARITY FUND \$863.93

Also held in account at Trustone Financial

CURRENT LIABILITIES

None \$0.00

CURRENT BALANCE

TOTAL EQUITY \$6206.25

Bylaw Amendments

Please note: If you are reading this document online, the clickable item headings below link to the item under discussion in the proposed new bylaws.

Consent Agenda

This is a list of small changes to the bylaws that the TCDSA chairs and Bylaws Working Group expect to be non-controversial. There will be one vote to pass the entire contents of the consent agenda. Before the vote, members may request to move any item from the consent agenda to the set of amendments for discussion. Requests must be granted and are not debatable.

Amendment 1:

[Item I](#)

Section 1: Clarify language

Section 3: Delete language, no change

Section 4: Delete language, no change

Section 5: Delete language, no change

Amendment 2:

[Item II](#)

Section 1: Language change

Section 2: Delete words

Section 3: Clarify language

Section 6: Change language + establish Budget Committee, which has begun meeting already

Section 8: Change title and clarify language

Section 9: Change language and defining voting by acclamation

Section 11: Clarify language

Amendment 3:

[Item III](#)

Section 4: Clarify quorum definition for Steering Committee

Amendment 4:

[Item IV](#)

Section 1: Delete language regarding a Youth Section of TCDSA (which does not currently exist) to reflect the current status of local YDSA chapters.

Amendment 5:

[Item V](#)

Section 1 Subsection c: Delete. Item III, Section 6 reflects current chapter practices for definition and formation of committees.

Amendment 6:

Item VII

Section 1-3: Clarify language

Section 6: Delete language about Steering Committee's ability to delegate responsibilities to subcommittees. This language appears instead in Item III, Section 6.

Amendment 7:

Item VIII

Section 1-3: Clarify language

Section 6: Clarify language

Amendments for Discussion

Amendment 8

Item I Section 7 (link to existing PDF of bylaws as of March 2018)

- Delete this section
 - Eliminate required minimum number of program meetings
 - Eliminate Political Education Committee responsibility for hosting program meetings to meet the minimum

Amendment 9

Item II Section 7

- Add Subsection b to include chairing the Outreach Committee in the Political Action Coordinator's responsibilities

Amendment 10

Item II Section 10

- Add this section
 - Allow the recall of any Steering Committee member by $\frac{2}{3}$ majority vote of the chapter as follows:

a. Any member of TCDSA may initiate a recall of any Steering Committee member at any time and for any reason. To do so, the member must present a formal written Petition for recall signed by 5% of dues paying members in good standing, or 15 members, whichever is greater, to the Operations Coordinator. If the Operations Coordinator is the subject of the recall petition, the petition shall be presented to the Recording Secretary.

b. Upon presentation, the Operations Coordinator shall verify the signatures on the petition and shall immediately provide notice to all TCDSA members that a recall election shall occur.

c. The recall election shall occur at the next regular membership meeting. A two-thirds majority of votes cast at that meeting is required to recall the elected Steering Committee member.

d. The Steering Committee member shall be permitted to resign before the recall election occurs. If the member resigns then the recall election shall be cancelled. The vacancy shall be filled according to Item III, Section 5.

Amendment 11

Item III Section 1

- Prohibit members who hold public office, or are candidates for offices, from simultaneously serving on Steering Committee
- Prohibit members who sit on the National Political Committee of DSA from simultaneously serving on Steering Committee

Amendment 12

Item III Section 2

List examples of Steering Committee functions:

- Approving expenditures of chapter funds
- Implementing decisions made at membership meetings
- Proposing policies and actions to the membership for consideration
- Receiving reports from committees and branches
- Advising committees and branches on policy
- Calling emergency membership meetings when deemed necessary

Amendment 13

Item III Section 3

- In Subsection a, require publishing Steering Committee's meeting schedule quarterly
- Add Subsection c, requiring disclosure of Steering Committee actions at membership meetings
- Also in Subsection c, allow members to recall decisions by the Steering Committee

Amendment 14

Item III Section 5

- Add Subsection d, allowing any Steering Committee member to request a leave of absence for 1 to 3 months without losing their Steering Committee seat or triggering a special election.

Amendment 15

Item V Section 1

Rewrite for clarity and to reflect current chapter practice. Define branches, working groups, and caucuses as follows:

a. Branch – Branches are based upon a shared political concern or geographic location. Members will not be excluded from participation in a branch based on identity or political tendency. Branches have a member representative on the Steering Committee.

b. Working Group – Working groups are based upon a specific task, action, campaign, or political strategy. Members will not be excluded from participation in a working group based on identity or political tendency. Working groups do not have a member representative on the Steering Committee.

c. Caucus – Caucuses are based upon a common identity, affinity, and/or political tendency. Caucuses may limit their membership based upon their shared identity or tendency. Caucuses do not have a member representative on the Steering Committee.

1. Recognized caucuses have the right to publish statements and proposals in public forums for TCDSA, subject to the moderation of the moderation team of that forum.

2. The right for a caucus to establish formal or informal relationships with other caucuses composed of TCDSA or National members shall not be infringed or regulated by the Steering Committee.

3. Caucuses shall have the right to determine their own internal structure, except where it is in violation of any bylaws or policies regarding member conduct.

Amendment 16

Item V Section 2

- In Subsection c, require 10 members for branch recognition
 - Intended to limit number of Steering Committee members so that quorum for meetings continues to be achievable
 - In Subsection d, minimum for working groups and caucuses stays at 5 members

Amendment 17

Item V Section 3 Subsection e

Add the ability for the Steering Committee to reclassify a branch as a working group. Intended for the case in which a branch does not regularly send representatives to Steering Committee meetings, which impedes the Steering Committee's ability to make quorum.

Amendment 18

Item VIII Section 5

Delete extraneous language about class consciousness. Rewrite to read as follows:

TCDSA shall strive to make all of its meetings, forums, and actions accessible and safe spaces for all. This consideration will extend to such things as the accessibility and safety of a venue, the type of food offered, accommodations for differences in sight, hearing, mobility and stamina, child care offerings, the avoidance of high cost venues that will essentially exclude some members, and religious and other identity considerations.

Resolution to make the TCDSA Solidarity Fund permanent

December 13 2018

WHEREAS socialist and social justice organizing and activism can interfere with one's ability to make a living;

WHEREAS Twin Cities DSA (TCDSA) members, as well as comrades in allied organizations, sometimes experience misfortune that could be alleviated with simple and direct material support;

WHEREAS socialist organizations like DSA have had a long and rich tradition of mutual aid, self-organizing outside of the confines of the Nonprofit Industrial Complex in order to meet the needs of our communities;

WHEREAS the Twin Cities DSA Mutual Aid and Solidarity Economy (MASE) manifesto reminds us that:

“As socialists, we know that capitalism alienates us from the products of our labor and from each other. Through mutual aid we combat this alienation, connecting directly to our community by responding to its immediate material needs. These acts enrich and deepen the human relationships and exchanges that sustain us, as people and as a class.”

WHEREAS the TCDSA MASE Working Group has completed a successful pilot for the Solidarity Fund, raising \$1,073.97 to date and disbursing \$538.00 to combat housing and food insecurity and ICE detention among our local comrades;

BE IT RESOLVED that TCDSA shall continue to operate a Solidarity Fund that shall be spent to meet single and/or emergency requests for members of TCDSA and activists in allied organizations, funded through a combination of independent fundraising and 5% of donations to TCDSA.

Eligible assistance requests shall abide by the following guidelines:

- The request should aid members of our community who are experiencing personal hardship;
- The requester must reside in the counties covered by the TCDSA;
- The request amount may not exceed 15% of the total monies in the fund, or \$200 (whichever is greater); and
- Requests cannot be made by the same requester more than once per year.

Grievance Process Update

Since our last update, the ad hoc grievance process working group has developed a fresh new draft of our proposed grievance process. It's available here:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1CH6uXHf5irBumebS0ff2splemUbc0IDMm3bY-X62xlg/edit?usp=sharing>

The content is largely the same as our previous drafts, but we've made some big changes to the structure of the document.

Part 1, Policy, is an overview of the intentions and values that underlie the way we propose to handle harassment and grievances in our chapter. Here you'll find definitions of terms we use throughout the document, discussion of readings the working group did together to put our work in context, and suggestions for relevant political education.

Part 2, Process, is a concrete, step-by-step outline of the process we propose for addressing grievances.

We expect to present this document to the chapter for voting in March. Thanks for reading. We welcome your feedback in the #grievanceprocess channel on Slack.

Technology Coordinator Candidates

Name	Eugene B.
Briefly describe your involvement with DSA and the Twin Cities chapter.	I have been a member of DSA since August 2017, and I started attending Twin Cities DSA meetings later that year. I'm active in the operations committee, where I've been helping with tech-related issues. This summer, I redesigned the TCDSA website, giving it an updated look, while making access to things like the calendar easier. More recently, I worked with D, the TCDSA operations coordinator, to set up a shop on the TCDSA website for shirts, buttons, and pint glasses (which are great, and you should definitely buy them). After the tech coordinator position was created in the fall, I was appointed as the interim tech coordinator by the steering committee. I am also active in the DSA National Tech Committee.
If applicable, please describe below any experience you have in data management, administration, tech, and IT)	I have experience with installing and running websites run on software such as WordPress, Spoke, and MediaWiki on platforms including Heroku, DigitalOcean, and shared hosting. I also have experiencing building web services in PHP, Rails, and Vapor. As a mobile app developer, most of my work consists of building iOS and Android apps in Swift and Java. I also have a special interest in personal privacy and data security, and I've given a few personal privacy talks in the past.
Please write below a short candidacy statement on why members should vote for you.	If elected as the tech coordinator, I look forward to continuing to maintain the TCDSA website and other tech infrastructure. Some of the things I'd like to explore doing in 2019 are: 1) create a member portal so that TCDSA members have easier access to our chapter resources resources, 2) find better ways to organize our chapter documents such as meeting minutes, 3) maintain and improve the TCDSA website, 4) develop guidelines on how TCDSA handles sensitive data, and 5) research what other tools we can use to make the work that TCDSA members do more effective.

Name	Michael H.
Briefly describe your involvement with DSA and the Twin Cities chapter.	Ive been a member for approx 5 years now.
If applicable, please describe below any	I've worked in IT for over 20 years. I have experience in desktop support, project coordinator, high impact incident management and I am currently

experience you have in data management, administration, tech, and IT)	a scrummaster
Please write below a short candidacy statement on why members should vote for you.	I'm a dedicated socialist and with my experience in IT, I feel i can bring the passion that I bring to my professional life into my political life.

Name	Brad M.
Briefly describe your involvement with DSA and the Twin Cities chapter.	IOriginal webmaster, chapter delegate, NPC Candidate, Formerly Interim SC Rep of MN Valley Branch
If applicable, please describe below any experience you have in data management, administration, tech, and IT)	Certified in Security Specialist holding CompTIA Security+, Network+, and A+ certs; Microsoft Certified Professional, familiar with administration of Linux systems and high security cryptography implementations, as well as activist oriented Security practices.
Please write below a short candidacy statement on why members should vote for you.	When the chapter first founded, I volunteered to take on the task of building and securing the first chapter website, with all expenses paid out of my pocket to support our fledgling chapter. I would like to formally return to the role I joined the chapter with helping out with.

TCDSA Branches, Caucuses, Working Groups, Interest Groups, and Committees

Ecosocialism Branch: The ecosocialism branch is organized around this idea: current ecological crises facing the planet can only be addressed through anticapitalist means. Discussion of policies, depressing climate change news, and inspiring local actions through a socialist lens. *ecosocialism [at] twincitiesdsa.org*

Electoral Branch: Working on utilizing electoral activities (election campaigns and outreach, pressure campaigns on elected officials) to push forward a socialist agenda. *electionguide [at] twincitiesdsa.org*

Housing Justice Branch: We believe housing is a human right, but right now there are over 130,000 low-income renter families in the Twin Cities Metro who struggle to pay for housing. The Housing Justice Branch seeks to better understand the housing crisis and address housing instability through direct action and by influencing local public policy and planning. *housing [at] twincitiesdsa.org*

Labor and Economic Justice Branch: Discussion of the labor movement and workers' fights against injustice – no union experience expected. Join us to discuss organizing in your workplace, show solidarity with struggles in our community, and plan events for the broader chapter. *labor [at] twincitiesdsa.org*

Minnesota Valley Branch: Working families and working farms in the Southwest Metro, from 494 Southwest, including Bloomington, Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, and all of Carver, Scott, Le Sueur, and Sibley Counties. Contact the group at *tcdsaswmb [at] gmail.com*

Racial Justice Branch: The racial justice branch seeks to de-center whiteness and center racial equity, communities of color, womxn, poor & the working class, with the specific understanding that issues and identities are intersectional. We are currently active in the political education of TCDSA and involved externally in fighting ICE with a broader coalition of community organizations. All are welcome to join us. Contact us at *tcdsa.racialjustice [at] twincitiesdsa.org*

Ramsey County Branch: Focusing on local issues affecting the densest county in the country. *ramseycounty [at] twincitiesdsa.org*

Socialist Feminist Branch: The Socialist Feminist Branch believes in building solidarity and power at the intersections of gender, race, and class. We meet monthly for political education and action planning, hold occasional socials and chapter events, and host a reading group open to everyone. *socfem [at] twincitiesdsa.org*.

Left Social Democrats Caucus: We believe in the inherent goodness of the American people, and that if given a choice between actually-existing capitalism and a socialism that respects their values, beliefs, and rights, they will choose socialism of their own free will. We are DSAers who are also part of the new national North Star Caucus devoted to socialism and democracy. <http://www.lsdcdsa.org> and <https://www.dsanorthstar.org> *lsd [at] twincitiesdsa.org*

Refoundation Caucus: the Refoundation Caucus is a group of Marxists who wish to see DSA grow, flourish, and become a mass, independent socialist party in the United States. Visit dsarefoundation.org for more information and contact *alexanderwross [at] gmail.com*.

Socialists of Color Caucus: A space exclusively for people of color to meet each other and discuss common interests, values and goals as they relate to the current white supremacist, patriarchal, capitalist, imperialist state of the world. Contact Nazir Khan, *nazirmkhan [at] gmail.com*

Health Justice (Medicare-for-all) Working Group Through education and action, the Single-Payer/Healthcare Issues branch will work to promote a Medicare-for-All system both in Minnesota and across the nation. Only by totally and completely removing the private insurance industry from the picture can we bring fairness and justice to the provision of health care. *singlepayer [at] twincitiesdsa.org*

No Cages MN Coalition: No Cages MN is a coalition of socialist organizations - comprised of members from TCDSA, General Defense Committee (GDC) and International Socialist Organization (ISO) - dedicated to preventing ICE expansion into Minnesota. The group plans actions that resist the Trump administration's current acts of violence against immigrants (particularly families at the border), as well as the United States's long anti-immigrant, white supremacist, colonialist, imperialist history. For more information or to get plugged in, follow us on facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NoCagesMN/>

Grievance Process Working Group: A volunteer task force to create a proposed grievance and harassment process to implement transformative justice within the chapter. *Chairs [at] twincitiesdsa.org*

Membership Stewards (Inreach) Working Group: Inreach seeks to build connections between new members and experienced comrades, while also deepening the capacity for leadership with members who are just starting to get more involved. *Chairs [at] twincitiesdsa.org*

Mutual Aid Working Group Mutual Aid involves comrades coming together to work as equals for the common good by assessing what people need and what people can provide. This working group coordinates projects such as brake light replacement clinics and the chapter solidarity fund. *mutualaid [at] twincitiesdsa.org*

Religious Socialism Interest Group: Not just Christian, will be part of a national DSA Religious Socialists section. For members interested in integrating faith group social justice work into the struggle against capitalism. Contact Debra Ramage at *deborama [at] gmail.com*

Fundraising & Budget Committee: Come help set TCDSA's 2019 budget! We plan fixed and variable expenses, manage chapter assets and income, and set fundraising priorities for the coming year. All members welcomed and encouraged to participate in this vital democratic process. *treasurer [at] twincitiesdsa.org*

Operations Committee: Works on keeping the chapter running smoothly. Helps to organize member meetings, logistics, communications, and other chapter business. *operations [at] twincitiesdsa.org*

Political Education Committee: Brainstorm and organize political education events, the Chapter Library, and more. *anders.bloomquist [at] gmail.com*

Steering Committee: Consists of elected chapter officers and elected representatives from branches. *chairs [at] twincitiesdsa.org*

ALL YOU FASCISTS BOUND TO LOSE
by Woody Guthrie

I'm gonna tell all you fascists, you may be surprised
People all over this world are getting organized
You're bound to lose
You fascists are bound to lose

Chorus:

All you fascists bound to lose
All you fascists bound to lose
All you fascists bound to lose
You're bound to lose, you fascists
bound to lose

People of every nation marching side by side
Marching across these fields where a million fascists died
You're bound to lose, you fascists
bound to lose

CHORUS 2x

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twincitiesdsa.org
A better world is possible.