

Twin Cities DSA - September Convention Agenda

September 21, 2019 2:00 pm (check-in opens at 1 pm)

Walker Church Sanctuary

3104 16th Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55407

1:00 pm	Check in / socializing time
2:00 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 3–7</i>)3. Officer reports: Operations Committee, Recording Secretary, Treasurer (<i>see page 10</i>), Political Action Coordinator, Political Education Coordinator, Tech Coordinator
2:25 pm	Candidate pitches and Q&A, voting instructions
2:50 pm	Amendments and resolutions
3:20 pm	Break
3:30 pm	Keynote
3:50 pm	Line 3 pitch
4:00 pm	Branch and working groups pitches and updates
4:30 pm	Motion to Adjourn

Community Agreements

1. **We ground ourselves in the fact that anti-capitalism demands anti-racism.** We seek to eliminate and remedy racist oppression created and maintained by white settlers that undermines working class and community solidarity. In this space, we prioritize and believe the voices of people of color and indigenous people, while also acknowledging our own complicities in white supremacy and U.S. imperialism.
2. **We keep progressive stack.** An assigned individual will keep list of names from people who wish to speak, and prioritize folks who are people of color, women, or who have not spoken at the meeting.
3. **(WAIT) Why am I talking?** When in discussion, consider what you want to say, and if it has already been said. Is there a better time or place to speak? Are there other methods
4. for you to show how you feel about the conversation, such as nodding your head?
5. **Make space, Take Space.** When finished making your point, let others speak. Respect others by recognizing how much, often, and loud you're speaking and if you might be dominating conversation. We also encourage quieter individuals to contribute to the conversation.
6. **Speak from personal experience.** Use "I statement." Speak from your perspective and experience, rather than assuming those of other peoples.
7. **One diva, one mic.** One person should be speaking at any given time. Please refrain from commenting until after they have finished.
8. **Listen (don't wait to talk).** Genuinely pay attention to what others say. Active listening is important in any discussion.
9. **Assume full humanity.** Recognize we were all raised in the same society with the same biases and prejudices, and approach each other with this in mind.
10. **Oops, ouch.** Acknowledge when you've made a mistake. Nobody is perfect and mistakes will be made.
11. **Jargon Giraffe.** Raise your hand (press your thumb against your middle & ring fingers for the shape of a giraffe head!) if you do not understand a term or phrase, and someone will explain the definition to you.

Land acknowledgement

I would like to acknowledge that we are gathered here on the traditional ancestral land of the Santee Dakhóta people, and pay our respects to the elders, past and present. We recognize and honor the Dakhóta as the past, present, and future caretakers of this land.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

Twin Cities DSA - Annual Meeting Agenda

September 30, 2018 1:00 pm (check-in opens)

JBD Lecture Hall, Macalester College

Saint Paul, MN

1:00 pm	Check in begins.
1:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Call to order and welcome, donation reminder Called to order at 1:34pm• Introductory business<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Land acknowledgementb. Community Agreements <i>(see page 3)</i>c. Adopting meeting rules <i>(see pages 4-5)</i> Switched C & D Agenda adopted, none opposed Rules adopted, none opposedd. Adopting the agendae. Volunteers: timekeeper, tellers (2 - 6), stack keeper Volunteer found for timekeeper, John Heppen will take stack, 5 tellersf. Quorum check Quorum has been reachedg. Accept minutes of last Annual Meeting <i>(see pages 6-9)</i> Motion to accept minutes, so moved and passed unanimously
1:40 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Election of Officers for 2018-2020 term<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Co-chair 2 <i>(see pages 11-12)</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Nominations from pre-select & from floor No nominations from the floor. Andrea comes to the podium to speak.ii. Q&A session Asking for folks to submit questions. No questions submitted.iii. Vote Motion to vote by acclamation, seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Andrea Palumbo is new co-chair 2b. Social Secretary <i>(see page 12)</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Nominations from pre-select & from floor No nominations from the floor Deanna speaks ii. Q&A session Question about SocSec's position description? Who works with SocSec? Favorite part of being SocSec? iii. Vote Motion for vote by acclamation. Second. None opposed. Motion passes. Deanna re-elected as Social Secretary. c. Political Activism Coordinator (<i>see page 13</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Nominations from pre-select & from floor No nominations from the floor. Isuru comes up to speak ii. Q&A session 3 questions asked iii. Vote Motion for vote by acclamation. Second. None opposed. Motion passes Isuru is the new PAC
2:20 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolutions - brief intro., debate if requested, vote <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Resolution to support creation of a statewide DSA organization (<i>see page 14</i>) Nic R presents his Resolution No speakers against. Moving to a vote. Needs 50% + 1 to pass Three Points of Information Unanimously passes. b. Resolution to adopt a proposed endorsement process (<i>see pages 14-15</i>) Kevin M presents his Resolution No speakers against. Moving to a vote. Unanimously passes. c. Resolution to begin process of creating a chapter political platform (<i>see page 15</i>) Kevin M presents his Resolution Many points of information for Kevin. So moved. Second.

	<p>Chairs calls the vote and calls it as more than a 50% majority. Resolution passes.</p>
<p>2:35 pm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Proposed By-law Amendments - brief intro., debate if requested, vote <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Amend Item 1 Section 2 Notice Requirement to conform to Item 1 Section 4 Notice Requirement (<i>see page 16</i>) Nic explains the amendment. 1 point of information Deb calls the vote. Unanimous. b. Amend Item 2 to split the current Social Secretary position into two positions (<i>see pages 16-17</i>) Anne motions for a friendly amendment to the language. Deb rules out of order Ian motions to suspend the rules Second Clear 2/3rds majority to suspend the rules Does Eugene accept as a friendly amendment? Yes he accepts it. Ready to vote. Unanimously passes as amended.
<p>2:40 pm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bylaws group presentation on future Bylaw amendment proposals (<i>see page 18</i>) Bridget speaks about Bylaw amendment proposals
<p>2:45 pm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reports from Selected Officers (3 min. each) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Outgoing co-chair (surprise point of personal privilege from the floor-bread and roses presented to Deb) b. Treasurer (plus Pitch for donations) (<i>see page 19</i>) Rob gives his report c. Political Education Coordinator Anders gives his report PA & PE having joint meeting in the future Saturday, March 2, political education day-long event d. Social Secretary 814 members in the Twin Cities chapter 91 members will expire before the end of the year 221 are currently expired Monthly dues! Make sure to make your dues are paid! Update contact info! Drop off voting cards before you leave

	<p>Come to Ops!</p> <p>e. Organizer of Grievance Process (non-elected) (<i>see pages 20-21</i>)</p> <p>Julia speaks about the Grievance Process</p>
3:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ballots to elect officers must be submitted
3:00-3:20 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Break ● Tellers count ballots for officer elections <p>Meeting reconvened at 3:16pm by Nic</p>
3:20 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Announce vote results for new officers <p>Not necessary</p>
3:25 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Address to members <p>Alexis talks about why we fight for socialism</p>
3:40 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Brad McGarr campaign for Shakopee City Council update
3:50 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Branch and Working Group Updates and Pitches (<i>see pages 21-22</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Labor Branch -Bol <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -next meeting is the last week of October b. Housing Justice Branch -Steel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Stomp Out Slumlords -working along with Health Justice (sick and safe leave for housing court) -Renter's Rights/Tenant's Rights -October 25th, 6-8pm MPLS Central Rm 202 c. Electoral Branch-Josh & John <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Endorsements -Resolutions -Need canvassers, phone bankers & researchers -putting together an election guide -campaign 101 trainings -Sunday, Oct 7, 11am Uptown Heating & Cooling in NE MPLS d. Socialist Feminists Branch-Mandy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Monthly meeting, last Monday of every month at Boneshaker Books, 6pm -Monthly reading group, movie screenings, etc. -Reading group, Oct 28th at Rondo (Emergent Strategy) -Craft Social, Saturday Oct 13th

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e. Racial Justice Branch-Anand <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -No Cages MN -Combatting ICE -making room for underrepresented -Next meeting Oct 21, 2pm -No cages meeting coming up f. Minnesota Valley Branch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -no rep here, see calendar for next meeting info g. Ramsey County Branch-Daniel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -15NOW campaign in St Paul -endorsement process -Sick and Safe time to Maplewood -Macalester students h. Health Justice (Medicare-for-all) Working Group-Jessica <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -canvassing to talk about M4A -events-talk with Tim Faust; panel with MNA & Health Equity Dept -Oct 6, DSA Social & FUnraiser at Clockwerks Brewing 4-7pm; raising money for Minnesota Indian Women’s Resource Center -Oct 13, canvassing in St Paul -letter writing campaign to representatives -future work with Housing Justice group i. Mutual Aid & Solidarity Equality Working Group-Tracy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Tuesday, Oct 2nd, North Regional Library 6:15pm -Plans to raise money for the Solidarity Fund j. Inreach Working Group-Mackenzie & Rita <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -How to get members involved in DSA K. Eco-socialism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Tuesday, Oct 9th at MPLS Central Library
4:35 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Macalester YDSA organizing update -Avik & Justin
4:40 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Song: Solidarity Forever (see page 23) ● Motion to Adjourn-motion to adjourn at 4:02pm none opposed

Steering Committee Meeting Recaps

The Steering Committee met on August 26, 2019. Here are the decisions and discussions that were had during that meeting:

- SC discusses the Grievance Process. Nic moved that we appoint MacKenzie as the Interim Grievance Process Advocate until the September Convention where we will elect full term Grievance Process Advocates. Seconded, All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.
- Electoral Branch requested a \$100 reimbursement for tabling at Open Streets for Bernie 2020 as a joint event with UMN YDSA. So moved. Seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.
- Racial Justice Branch had a party. Amy motioned to reimburse funds up to \$250. Seconded. 7 in favor, 2 abstentions. Motion passed.
- SC discussed Operations Committee's expectations for the SC, especially in regards to general meeting planning.
- SC discussed the planning of the September Chapter Convention.
- Motion that the SC not accept nominations for the position of Operations Coordinator for the September Convention, per Ops' request. Seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.
- Rita requested SC members continue to think about Political Expectations of the SC and Cultural Development Expectations of the SC.
- SC discussed up/down voting online when business can't wait until the next meeting. Often unanimous support in these votes as of late. Nic proposed creating a private Slack channel for all time-sensitive votes online so that we will be able to have better debate online; then having the Recording Secretary keep record of votes and posting a summary and results in our public SC channel; any non-time-sensitive things will be postponed until next SC meeting; all debate will be open for 24 hours before a vote is posted; adding some shorter zoom call meetings to our schedules to reduce the time we have to wait to decide on some things and reduce stress in our regular SC meetings. Majority of the SC is in favor of this.

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 09/05/2019

PREVIOUS BALANCE

TOTAL EQUITY (7/16/2019) \$12,278.54

CHANGES

DUES SHARING (paid quarterly, 1 quarter)	\$1,110.00
DONATIONS (including focused fundraisers)	\$2,939.75
TECH COSTS (Airtable, Zoom, hosting)	-\$482.16
EVENT COSTS (including ATL convention costs)	-\$2,222.10
ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS (including Boneshaker office)	-\$225.00
MEETING COSTS (including space and labor)	-\$205.84
FUNDRAISING COSTS	-\$743.23
SOLIDARITY FUND DISBURSEMENTS	-\$400.00

CURRENT ASSETS

CASH	
Held in account at Trustone Financial & attached Paypal balance	\$11,678.40
SOLIDARITY FUND	
Also held in account at Trustone Financial	\$371.57

CURRENT LIABILITIES

None \$0.00

CURRENT BALANCE

TOTAL EQUITY \$12,049.96

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*

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@twincitiesdsa.org*

Libertarian Socialist Caucus: twincitiesdsa.org/contact

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@gmail.com*

DSA for Bernie Working Group: Bernie Sanders' campaign is a historic opportunity to bring democratic socialist politics to millions of people. When Bernie says "not me, us," he's talking about an urgent political project: building a mass movement of working people that can change society. We're organizing to help get Sanders elected while also building our local capacity and skills for future projects. We'll start with

Medicare for All, a Green New Deal, powerful trade unions, tuition-free college, and an end to mass incarceration – but we won't stop there.

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*

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*

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*

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/>

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. Meetings are open to all members. *chairs [at] twincitiesdsa.org*

Election of Steering Committee Members

Co-Chair 1: The Co-chairs shall be the chief executives of the TCDSA and shall serve as spokespersons when one is required.

Tim Schaefer:	<p>This chapter and DSA have helped make me into a more skilled organizer and a reluctant leader — after many years of talking about socialism without actually practicing it. Like most of my Twin Cities DSA comrades, I’ve only been an active member for a few years. We’re a quickly growing chapter filled with newly radicalized leftists, many of whom are still finding their footing as socialists. And right now, we have plenty of talented organizers, but we need many more. I believe that DSA has become an essential part of the re-emerging American left and that Twin Cities DSA is becoming a powerful force for good locally, statewide, and regionally: as an electoral power, as an agent of rapid and radical political change, as a means to community and mutual aid in a culture where those phenomena seem to be disappearing. I want to work with our membership, as co-chair, to ensure that there are resources and space to knock on doors for Bernie, unionize every workplace, take over city councils, shut down oil pipelines, democratize our food and energy production, and seize power away from capital for good. What that looks like — and where we apply our strength next — should be decided by our chapter, transparently and democratically. I intend to help that process along, to provide guidance where needed, but have zero interest in being “in charge.” As your co-chair, I want to develop a practice of radical empathy, true democracy, and collective strength. We don’t need more bosses — we need each other.</p>
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Grievance policy coordinator(s): The GPA is responsible for supporting the initial needs of the grievance process when voted in by the general membership. The GPA cannot hold any additional elected roles in the chapter. The GPA will advocate for the successful implementation of the grievance process as written and voted on by the chapter; coordinate trainings for grievance committee volunteers and TCDSA officers/leaders; and track training completed and maintain up-to-date lists of volunteers qualified by training requirement completion to participate in the grievance committee. The GPA will provide guidance, support, facilitation, and coordination necessary to initiate the grievance process until/unless the grievance committee finds the GPA’s role unnecessary. For a complete description of responsibilities, please go to <https://twincitiesdsa.org/grievance-process-advocate/>

MacKenzie Brown:	<p>I am running for Grievance Process Advocate. I was part of the ad hoc working group that spent many hours through many months creating the</p>
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	<p>TCDSA Grievance Process. We have a lot of work ahead of us to get the committee up and running and I have stepped in as intern GPA to get the ball rolling on training for future members and leadership. With the help of experienced practitioners and coalition partners, training is planned and will begin soon! I am excited to continue to work with other folks on this process and continue to learn as we work to build the abolitionist, anti-carceral future we want to live in!</p>
<p>Julia Tindell:</p>	<p>I began working in the anti-violence field in 2014 but it wasn't until I worked with my comrades in TCDSA to draft our grievance process that I really understood what it looks like to build a future free from violence. We have a strong foundation, rooted in Black socialist feminism and steeped in the care of its original stewards. Still, there is much to be done. In the coming months, we will recruit a diverse grievance committee, invest in knowledge-building and skill-sharing, and begin the messy process of pulling together our communal response to harm. This work is political, technical, emotional, exhausting, energizing, defeating, and empowering all at once. It will draw out our own personal experiences of trauma, and it will shine a light on the ways ALL of us are capable of causing harm. As a grievance process advocate, I would be committed to sharing all of the knowledge, skills, and resources I have collected in the last 5 years of my work; investing in new relationships and opportunities to grow our community; and encouraging all members of DSA to invest in their own journeys of healing (myself included). It was an honor to shepherd the process along before it was passed, and it would be an honor to advocate for it to come alive in the capable hands of my comrades. Thank you for your consideration. Solidarity!</p>

<p>Political education coordinator: The role of Political Education Coordinator requires that a person help generate and organize regular events that help further the analysis and skills of members of the Twin Cities DSA chapter and anyone of the local community also interested in socialism and socialist organizing. Additionally, as a listed member of the Steering Committee the PolEd coordinator must be available to engage with the Steering Committee on a regular basis including SC meetings, online discussions and online votes.</p>	
<p>Debra Keefer Ramage:</p>	<p>I want to facilitate answering the pressing and expressed needs of members, both highly involved and those who are not but would like to be, for two things - knowledge, and social space-time. The latter is actually spelled out in the bylaws as a responsibility of the PEC, and almost everyone agrees we could use more purely social, chapter-wide events. I want to make that happen. Knowledge, on the other hand, is power. We have knowledgeable and powerful members and we can teach each other. Although I want to do a few teach-ins myself, I mainly</p>

	see me in this role as coordinating, seeking out, and activating the amazing teachers we already have.
Kevin McClean:	I am interested in the political education coordinator position because while talking with several other members of the chapter we have come to realize that for the TCDSA to succeed we need to create self-sustaining spaces where people can join together to discuss socialist politics. The immediate goal would be to establish monthly Socialism 101s and Organizing 101s that have a minimal barrier to entry. Once those are established, we would work on creating spaces for more advanced discussion (socialist night school, socialist imagination series, book and film clubs, etc.) that would allow us to further refine and discuss our politics. All of this would be done with an eye on creating solidarity among members of the chapter and with working people within the Twin Cities community.

Recording secretary: Duties of the RecSec include: attending Steering Committee and General Meetings on a regular basis, being able to listen and take notes on a computer, clean up documents and keep files organized in Google Drive, work with the Ops Committee and SC to provide meeting minutes or answer questions about meetings that may arise, be available for members who have questions about the meetings, and contribute thoughtful responses in SC meetings.	
Tracy Waterman:	Hello! You might know me from the socialist feminist branch, the ops committee, the check-in table, convention delegate elections, or the many announcements I've made at chapter meetings in the past couple of years. In that case, you'll have gathered that I believe in getting shit done. I also believe (firmly! I'll fight about it!) in information as a powerful organizing tool. When we make information accessible, we democratize access to power, too. That's why I think the office of recording secretary is political, and that's also why it's a job I'm interested in doing. I'm looking forward to working with our brand new communications committee to help make information flow smoothly throughout the chapter.

Technology coordinator: The TCDSA Technology Coordinator is responsible for maintaining the chapter's website, databases, email addresses, and other infrastructure. They are also responsible for implementing chapter social media and member data policies. The tech coordinator typically works closely with the operations committee. Some of the day to day tasks include making updates to the website as requested and sending email password resets. Longer term tasks include researching new software and tools that the chapter could adopt.

Eugene B.:	Hi there! I'm Eugene. I have been active in TCDSA since late 2017, and I've spent much of my time in the operations committee, where I help plan chapter meetings, among other tasks. As the TCDSA technology coordinator for the past year, I have dealt with the nitty-gritty of our chapter's recent expansions. I upgraded our email system, improved access to chapter resources, and generally made sure everything ran smoothly. If re-elected tech coordinator, I would look forward to maintaining and expanding our tech infrastructure as we continue to grow. I would also like to continue pursuing our tech-related chapter goals, including making our website more accessible to new users, improving chapter opsec, and deploying new tools that we can use to make the work that TCDSA members do more effective.
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Treasurer: The Treasurer is responsible for tying out chapter finances and providing a report on them at least quarterly, with additional reports for specific fundraising or general meetings as necessary. They will chair a budget/fundraising meeting quarterly after each of those reports to discuss and direct the future of the chapter's finances. The treasurer is also responsible for filing federal taxes and for ensuring reporting compliance on the federal, state and municipal level for any political campaigns the chapter is involved in.	
Ezra Ishman:	Socialism is ultimately about the democratic control of the economy. As Treasurer, my goal will be to maximize member engagement through participatory budgeting and fundraising. It is our dues money and labor which keeps our chapter vibrant and growing. I also aim to reinvigorate the Solidarity Fund through various means so we can more effectively embody our shared values of community and mutual aid.

Proposed Resolutions

Resolution: Resolution to Defer Operations Coordinator Election

Submitted by: The Operations Committee

Co-sponsors: Lucas H., Tracy W., Anne B., Eugene B., Debra R., Josh K.

WHEREAS,

1. The work of the Operations Committee is a vital part of successful organizing in TCDSA;
2. More than one Operations Coordinator has left TCDSA without completing a term, citing burnout and an unreasonable workload;
3. Due to these unexpected departures, the chapter has operated without an Operations Coordinator since April 2019;
4. The division of the Operations Coordinator role into Operations and Technology Coordinator in 2018 was necessary but not sufficient to make the role sustainable for one person;
5. The planned redistribution of chapter meeting planning responsibilities among Operations Committee and Steering Committee members will help mitigate, but not solve, the workload problem;
6. A Communications Committee has recently formed and plans to work with the Operations Committee and assume some of its current responsibilities;
7. The Steering and Operations Committees agreed at a joint meeting on August 15 that our best course of action is to defer the scheduled election of an Operations Coordinator;

BE IT RESOLVED,

1. There will be no election for Operations Coordinator at the 2019 TCDSA Convention;
2. The Operations and Steering Committees will reconvene before the end of the 2019 calendar year;
3. At that time, the two committees will decide whether or not it is feasible to elect a new Operations Coordinator, and will plan to either hold the election at the next general meeting or draft any necessary bylaw amendments, whichever is appropriate.

SOLIDARITY FOREVER

When the union's inspiration through the workers' blood shall run
There can be no power greater anywhere beneath the sun
Yet what force on earth is weaker than the feeble strength of one
For the Union makes us strong

Chorus
Solidarity forever, solidarity forever
Solidarity forever
For the Union makes us strong

Is there aught we hold in common with the greedy parasite
Who would lash us into serfdom and would crush us with his might?
Is there anything left to us but to organize and fight?
For the union makes us strong

It is we who ploughed the prairies, built the cities where they trade
Dug the mines and built the workshops, endless miles of railroad laid
Now we stand outcast and starving 'mid the wonders we have made
But the union makes us strong

They divide us by our color; they divide us by our tongue
They divide by our gender; they divide us old and young
But they'll tremble at our voices, when they hear these verses sung
For the Union makes us strong!

They have taken untold millions that they never toiled to earn
But without our brain and muscle, not a single wheel can turn
We can break their haughty power gain our freedom when we learn
That the Union makes us strong

In our hands is placed a power greater than their hoarded gold
Greater than the might of armies magnified a thousandfold
We can bring to birth a new world from the ashes of the old
For the Union makes us strong

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