



These meeting minutes submitted to the leadership board and posted to the wiki by the DACN Secretary, Elizabeth Jenkins. Additional reports and documents posted as well.

Minutes Approved at the meeting on March 7, 2020 at 8:00 pm (CST).

At a regular monthly meeting of the China country committee leadership board of Democrats Abroad, held on the 7th of February 2021 at 8:00 pm (CST), via Zoom video conference, the Chair presiding, the reading of the minutes by the Secretary was dispensed with (historically notes have been reviewed and approved by voice vote at the start of the meeting).

Meeting called to order a little late (due to technical difficulties) at 8:19 pm with eight members of the leadership board and other two members (Cordy and Dr. Stowe). Quorum was met and the online video meeting was recorded.

Present (9 board members): Kim Wong, Patrick Cranley, Elizabeth Jenkins, Justin Fischer, Elaine Chow, Alexander Lee, Devika Koppikar, Faith Gary, Eileen Walsh.

Absent: Jacob Aldaco

Other Members: Jennifer Eveland (Beijing), Terry Watkins (Switzerland - returning to China later), Dr. Kymberli Stowe, Charisse (membership pending), Aaron Kruse (South Africa, former DA China Chair and current DNC member for the DPCA), Alexandra Smith (Beijing)

The meeting minutes for our last meeting for February 2020 were approved by unanimous voice vote. Alexander requested to include his legal report which was inadvertently excluded from the first version.

Kim provided an overview of DA for new members.

-

Reports presented – see slide deck, except where noted below.

- I. Special DNC Update from Aaron Kruse (2020-2024)** As DNC member, he holds ½ vote for DPCA (which functions as a state party does within the DNC). DPCA has 8 votes total and 16 DNC members.
 - a. What does the DPCA DNC team do? Meets with DNC teams in other states. For example, they have been talking with DNC in Florida to resolve issues with servers rejecting overseas traffic to access voting information.
 - b. Aaron is a member of two councils: Climate Crisis and Voter Protection.
 - c. DPCA AGM will be in May, where resolutions will be passed. DPCA Resolutions Committee governs this process and resolutions serve as guidance to the DPCA DNC team.
 - d. New: Monthly townhall meetings open to DA members to hear from the DPCA DNC team. Will be rotating through the 3 main geographies to help accommodate different timezones. Last one was in AP (Asia Pacific) time and next is Americas. Exact meeting time and details to be announced.
 - e. Anyone who wants to follow up with Aaron directly, may email him at aaronmkruse@gmail.com (He is currently in South Africa, so consider the timezone in expecting a reply from him.)
- II. Chair's Report – Kim Wong**

See report in presentation.

Review the DA Code of Conduct (see document attached).

Tons of events planned from now through June, including events organized by new volunteers: Charisse (Women's History Month) and Billy Yan (AAPI Event)
- III. Treasurer's Report – Justin Fischer**

See report in presentation.

New format. In addition to a bottom line (total funds and total pending expenses), Justin also created a report with the most recent transactions since the last meeting and summary of pin sales. These two slides were inadvertently excluded from the final presentation, but will be added to the next meeting.

IV. Membership Report by the Secretary – Elizabeth Jenkins

See report in presentation.

Membership cleanup has concluded and our verified members as of 1/31/2021 = 2682. See next steps for country compliance: membership verification form, most recent bylaws and holding our AGM.

V. Communications & Events – Alex, Faith and Elaine Chow

See report in presentation.

All events are virtual.

Alex - poetry event with 15 RSVPs, board agrees to allow South African expt to join. (Terry asked about the rules for restricting attendance. Alex and Elizabeth explained that in general DA China is careful to advertise and target Americans only, but have had some other expats join as well. But it is important not to target the local population, so as to remain focused on our mission of serving Americans and not interfering in our host country's politics. This is more of an issue for China than most CCs).

Discussion: Alex asks about policy for submitting form for new events. Elaine explained the "contact person" is the person *she* contacts for info about the event. This is different than the contact person published to the general audience. Alex is confused about the timeline for publishing events to IG, etc. Elaine says she will try to accommodate any requested deadlines and can update the form to all this information to be specifically indicated.

Faith - Movie screening "Good Trouble" and noted how this has

been part of a larger effort of creating discussion about voter protection. Reviving the wechat group for GA voters in China. (Alex asked about the Book Club and Faith said yes - the book club is a good idea and hopes that these discussions and events will lead to volunteers stepping up to lead these kinds of activities.)

Kim - DA Australia has upcoming event with the ED of GA ACLU, Andrea Young. ACTION: Can we transmit some of the questions identified by Faith and her group to DA Australia to see if she can respond?

Elaine - Need to focus on new member recruitment, specifically Caucus Leadership, Nominations and Elections Committee Members, and Leadership Board. Kim adds that at the end of the month some Global Caucuses are hosting a recruitment session in AP time. We can have volunteers involved and hosting breakout rooms during this session.

Discussion: Faith asks who/how is Caucus Leadership decided. Dr. Stowe believes she was appointed chair of the Black Caucus, but Kim says there is some confusion and will resolve this and report back to the board about official appointments to head caucuses. Also will check with Kat about requirements.

VI. New Business

- a. Jenny Eveland invited to talk about her background and why she is interested in filling the at-large position on the board. Motion (Kim) and passed by unanimous voice vote.
- b. Patrick has an idea for formulating a new caucus on economic policy. ACTION: Kim will talk to Kat about any requirements for forming new caucuses.
- c. Introductions from three members:

- i. Terry is a grad student currently in Switzerland but will be returning to finish his degree in China.
- ii. Charisse is currently in Charlotte, NC and will be returning to China in the summer. She is working on Women's History Month events.
- iii. Alexandra is new to DA and is in Beijing. From Illinois - born in Chicago, raise in souther IL, and family now in Springfield. Interested in getting involved!

Next meeting scheduled.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30 PM and the next meeting will be on March 7, 2021 at 8:00 pm (CST)