

# **MEETING MINUTES**

## DRAFT COPY PENDING APPROVAL

Date:	May 26, 2022	Time Called to Order:	8:12 pm
Venue:	Zoom Conference Call	Time Ended:	9:23 pm
Meeting Chair:	Elizabeth Blackbourn	Meeting Secretary:	Tricia Williams
DACN Board Attendees:	<ul> <li>Chair Blackbourn</li> <li>Vice Chair Aldaco</li> <li>Treasurer Hove</li> <li>Comms Director</li> <li>Bucky</li> <li>Secretary</li> <li>IT Director</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>At-Large Kloosterman</li> <li>At-Large Walsh</li> <li>At-Large Movius</li> <li>At-Large Watkins</li> <li>At-Large</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Deputy Comms</li><li>Officer</li><li>Deputy Comms</li><li>Officer</li><li>Counsel Vanderpol</li></ul>
DACN Member Attendees:	Lauren Tipton	Melissa Szarowicz	William Patrick Cranley
Guest Attendees:	Heidi Burch	Jennifer von Estorff	

**Quorum:** Achieved

Meeting Called to Order by: Elizabeth Blackbourn Recording Started Time: // Time Stamp: 8:12 pm

## **Welcome & Opening Remarks**

## Elizabeth Blackbourn:

- · Welcome to the 2022 AGM!
- · Agenda Review

**MOTION** –Anders Hove moves to approve meeting agenda.

Seconded by Jacob Aldaco

Motion vote passes with unanimous vote from Leadership Board Members.

## **Chair Report**

## Elizabeth Blackbourn

This has been a year of learning.

This year has been spent building the organization up. We have had monthly meetings and occasional special meetings.

We have had many events this year and are looking forward to more, such as 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Juneteenth, and continued GOTV and Dial a Dem activities. There is a book club meeting this weekend. We will continue to operate an appropriate and compliant manner.

All events are on the calendar and Team Up page.

## Rule & Compliance

#### Elizabeth Blackbourn

Compliance:

- Membership certification is completed;
- Bylaws submission period;
- •Host an AGM scheduled for May 26 at 8pm. Tonight's meeting is the final step in annual compliance requirement.

#### **Jacob Aldaco**

After last year's AGM, a Bylaws & Rules Committee was formed. There was a bylaws collection period in 2021 and bylaws votes occurred in August, September, and October 2021.

A new submission period ran from March 15-April 15, 2022. No new submissions were received. Visit the <u>Legal & Parliamentary Library</u> to view current bylaws and the DPCA charter.

Email info-china@democratsabroad.org for more information.

## Secretary Report

## **Tricia Williams**

**MOTION** –Anders Hove moves to approve meeting minutes from April 18 Monthly Meeting, April 29 Special Meeting, May 8 Special Meeting, May 16 Special Meeting.

Seconded by Adam Bucky

Motion vote passes with unanimous vote from Leadership Board Members.

MOTION -Liz Blackburn moves to re-approve meeting minutes from 2021 AGM.

Seconded by Anders Hove

Motion vote passes with unanimous vote from Leadership Board Members.

Minutes are posted in a timely manner to the <u>Wiki</u> and are voted on and approved in future meetings. Minutes are meant to be viewed. Please contact the secretary with any comments or suggested changes.

## Elizabeth Blackbourn

We completed our member update. It was difficult this year to get everyone updated.

Members can update their information at democratsabroad.org.

If you're moving to another country, we can introduce you to your new country's group or the alumni group if you're moving back to the US.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

#### **Anders Hove**

We have swag for sale, such as buttons, cups, t-shirts.

All fundraising is now going through the webpage https://www.democratsabroad.org/donate\_cn.

DACN Exec board has decided to spend the remaining funds from the RMB account rather than transfer abroad. This why expenditures are high & income is low.

Most spending was on swag, with other funds spent on subscriptions/communications, small amount for legal fees, paper materials.

Spending should be done by the end of the month.

After the current challenge is overcome, we will determine next steps.

The tracking spreadsheet will be maintained, to record who made contributions.

Explanation for current situation – going forward DA Global will not allow individual country committees to maintain local bank accounts, all money must go through the global bank account. We are only supposed to spend this money on subsistence needs, no GOTV/Federal Election Activity. Therefore, we will have a shift in fundraising, spending activities to remain in compliance with global ExCom.

MOTION - Elizabeth Blackbourn moves to approve treasurer's report

Seconded by Adam Bucky

Motion vote passes with unanimous vote from Leadership Board Members.

## **Communications Director Report**

## **Adam Bucky**

We have had some challenges this year, but also lots of bright spots.

We built up a team of deputy directors and shared some great graphics, especially by Terry Watkins (member at large, leader of Black Caucus).

We continued our use of social media, such as Facebook and WeChat, to meet members and promote DACN.

We used platforms such as Resist bot to take action.

Hope to return to a regular newsletter to keep members updated on issues and activities.

With people in lockdown, we are not able to have in-person meetings/events. We will return to planned events, in-person events when possible again. In the meantime, we have many virtual events, such as virtual Tacobout It Tuesdays.

Cooperation with IT team will be crucial, when the IT Director position is filled.

Events will help to get people excited.

Thanks to those who have helped, everyone is welcome to get on board. Contact Adam or Liz if interested.

## **Updates**

#### Elizabeth Blackbourn

We're planning another event for Juneteenth.

Many events coming up in the caucuses, such as with the Global Women's caucus, June 18 – big event planned.

Global caucuses are looking for volunteers

https://www.democratsabroad.org/caucuses

https://www.democratsabroad.org/caucus volunteer positions

Congratulations to John Baumlin from Japan who was elected the AP Regional rep – contact him by email at jab.democratsabroad@gmail.com.

DA is working on lobbying for Covid vaccines for Americans abroad – more information available at democratsabroad.org/covid\_19.

The Taxation taskforce is dedicated to tax law and its implications for Americans living and working abroad – https://www.democratsabroad.org/open\_letter\_to\_secretary\_yellen

DA Global AGM was held this past weekend. Special speakers included Corey Booke and Jamie Harrison. For more information, see:

https://democratsabroad.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/Resolv/pages/6992068631/

Dashboard+for+2022+Resolutions

https://democratsabroad.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/DPCA2022/overview

Congratulations to Cory Lemke, DA Korea, officially named as global treasurer. Contact him at treasurer@democratsabroad.com.

## **Vote From Abroad**

#### Heidi Burch

Current Vote From Abroard (VFA) coordinator

Co-chair of GOTV since 2016, member of DA since 2012.

There is a lot that volunteers can do – voter assistance volunteer – training available to help others to learn how to vote (<a href="www.democratsabroad.org/gotv\_voter\_assistance\_training">www.democratsabroad.org/gotv\_voter\_assistance\_training</a>), post on social (digital) media, phone banking to fellow democrats.

Visit <u>www.votefromabroad.org</u> to get information on how to vote. This is a non-partisan organization, sponsored by DA, for any US citizen living abroad.

Follow on facebook - <a href="https://www.facebook.com/VoteFromAbroad/">https://www.facebook.com/VoteFromAbroad/</a> and <a href="https://www.face

Follow on Twitter: @demsabroad

@ VFAGlobal

There's a new website coming, in June, in time for the GOTV push during 4th of July.

There is a test version available to see how it works – https://sandbox.votefromabroad.org/ (will not send in form).

This is a big election year, Dems are known for not showing up in non-presidential elections. Many states allow voters from abroad to vote in all elections, check to see if your state is one of them.

Contact HeidiB@democratsabroad.org with any questions or to get more information.

#### **DA State Teams**

## Jennifer von Estorff

DA has 13 state teams at the moment.

Members can join/help even if they don't vote in those states.

#### State Teams:

- -represent the interest of key states
- -protect ballot access
- -increase voter participation
- -team to do state-specific voter assistance
- -establish connections to local election offices to support our members
- -document and address recurring issues
- -host great events, such as meet the candidates talks

Teams are focused on key elections. Down ballot races just as important as presidential/federal elections!

Let us know if interesting in joining, share content on social media

Contact states@democratsabroad.org

https://join.slack.com/t/statesoutreachdag/shared\_invite/zt-19hrkjmdv-U4v~pxhQlz~n4IKD9GQw6Q

## Wrap-Up

### Elizabeth Blackbourn

Our volunteers so important!

Especially for GOTV - tell people you know that they can vote from abroad.

We need an IT Director to help secretary, communications director. There is also a member at large position available.

Stay connected to DA China: Wechat: democratsabroadchina

Facebook: DAinChina

Instagram: DemocratsAbroadChina

Twitter: @DemsAbroadChina

Join us to help get out the vote. Email info-china@democratsabroad.org or fill out a volunteer form: <a href="https://forms.gle/kmLk2pgz9yfVpRC17">https://forms.gle/kmLk2pgz9yfVpRC17</a>

- MOTION Jacob Aldaco motions to adjourn.
- Seconded by Eileen Walsh

Motion vote passes with unanimous vote.

## Recording stops at 9:23.

Minutes Voted in Approval by:	□ Chair □ Vice Chair □ Secretary	<ul><li>□ Treasurer</li><li>□ Communications</li><li>Director</li><li>□ At-Large Member</li></ul>	□ At-Large Member □ At-Large Member □ At-Large Member
Date & Time Minutes Approved:			