Meeting Notes:

Democrats Abroad China – Vote on Ammendments

12/7/19 – 2-3pm

Board

1. Aaron Kruse
2. Elizabeth
3. Alex
4. Justin Fischer
5. Patrick
6. Eileen
7. Devika

Members

1. Adam
2. Anne
3. Brian
4. Brittni
5. Grace
6. Jacob Aldaco
7. Jenny Eveland
8. Samantha
9. Soren Bergeson
10. Zachary Marcone
11. Luis BJ

Meeting Notes

Attendance

Aaron: welcome and importance of most meaningful bylaws changes – will help us represent the voices within DA China. Votes will be allotted to not just Chair and Vice Chair, but broaden.

Alex: introduction of ammendements

All posted to the wiki.

1. Housekeeping Ammendments – mostly punctuation and consistency, add subtitles, brief review.

VOTE: Aaron: move to approve. Elizabeth: motioned. Jacob: seconded. // WAIT.

VOTE: Bridgit sees one more missing apostrophe. Motion to add. Aye: Brittni, Luis, Jacob, Justin, Samantha, Alex PASSES. APPROVED.

VOTE: to approve the Housekeeping Ammendments. Motion: Aaron. Seconded: Alex. Ayes: Sam, Brian, Alex, Eileen, Patrick, Brittni, Luis, Grace. Unanimous. PASSES. APPROVED.

1. Balance Ammendments – to make gender/sex non-binary

Question: Grace – What is the difference between gender and sex.

Answer: Aaron – no official Dem Party description. But what is important previous language was not inclusive (“different sexes”) and solution at the conversation DA international level (Sex=male, female, intersex … or any legally recognized definition anywhere in the U.S.)

Vote to approve Balance Ammendments. Motion: Aaron. Seconded: Sam. Voted ayes – Eileen, Patrick, Justin, Jacob, Luis, Soren, Bridget, Adam, Grace, Sam, Jenny, Elizabeth, Devika. No opposed. PASSES. APPROVED.

1. Voting Members Amendment

Alex - Review the changes: Create a process for assigning other voting members. In addition to Chair and Vice Chair, then vote will be made to assign other voting members.

Alex spotted another typo. Remove “of”. VOTE: Remove this “Of””. Motion to Alex. Seconded: Aaron. Voted=ayes. No opposed. PASSES. APPROVED.

VOTE: Approve Voting Members Amendment. Motion: Seconded: Vote – ayes.

Question: Adam – This says that other board members do not get a vote?

Answer: Aaron – They will be a voting member if they are top vote getters.

Question: Luis – So chair and vice chair get double votes and others will be able to vote intl but not in china?

Answer: Alex – no. one person, one vote. And this is only talking about votes at international level. Aaron – more clear with larger country committees where some chairs were holding many 20+votes.

Question: Adam – Who can hold these votes? 12.4a seems to say it CANNOT be on the board.

Answer: Aaron – Right, DPCA voting members will be for those not making the board.

Question: Luis - How are alternates selected?

Answer: Aaron – see 12.5

Question: Jacob – Are non-binary candidates given an advantage by not being counted by gender parity rules?

Answer: No. It is an objection that has been raised. But we have to allow this to be a personal decision.

VOTE: Motion: Adam – instead of opposite sex, different sex. Second: Brian. //point of clarification: Luis – all the categories as above. Alex – there are two genders. But cannot alternate for votes. Aaron: Rules from DNC cannot be more male than female. And other identifications do not count toward that.//

Brian - Seconded withdrawn. Aaron – seems like we want to keep this language here.

Alex – Is it possible that we have some nontraditional

Adam – retracted motion. Aaron – it is imperfect language, but let’s continue to find a way to improve.

VOTE: Motion: Aaron. Seconded: Eileen. Ayes: Brittni, Devika, Grace, Luis, Elizabeth, Jenny, Justin, Zak, Jacob, Anne, Bridget, Soren, Eileen, Sam. No opposed. APPROVED.

1. Caucuses Ammendment

Formalizes Caucuses and anticipates ability to organize Chapters.

Question: Patrick – any language about dissolving caucuses?

Answer: Alex – caucus formation and dissolving happens at the global level. Brittni – concurs.

MOTION: Aaron.

Question: Adam – I am confused because it says DACN can create their own caucuses?

Answer: Alex – yes. Aaron – hm, how can we change that?

Question: Jacob – What does it mean “DACN sponsors caucus groups” – “sponsor”?

Answer: Aaron – we help them organize. Use wechat etc. not money.

VOTE: Motion: Aaron. Anne Seconded. Votes – ayes – Brittni, Bridget, Brian, Aaron, Alex, Elizabeth Grace Eileen Soren, Anne, Zak, Justin. No opposed. PASSED. APPROVED.

Alex will make sure an updated version of the bylaws is made available to everyone.

End of meeting.