

# 2018-09-13 General Meeting

## Meeting Information

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- Monthly General Meeting
- Portland Democratic City Committee
- Thu Sep 13 2018 at 18:30 in Portland City Hall's State of Maine Room
- 14 members present (President present, Secretary present)

## Business

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- **Did not meet quorum. We will not be voting on anything.**
- Introduction: "Why are you a Democrat?"

## Reports

- Treasurer Report: took in \$685, balance of \$4422.22.
- Communications: Created charter, events calendar upcoming, next meeting 9/26.
- Organizing: Next Wed at 5:30p meeting w/ Block Captains for training.
  - Seth Levy: How we were going to improve our diversification, need a more concerted effort to reach out to them.
  - \_\_: Question about outreach to disaffected Democrats.
  - Robin Lea & \_\_ Macguire: added that caucus was still not very diverse. Perhaps identify people within the new Americans community to help to make sure we do it properly?
  - Sarah Rawlings: DSA hosted multi-cultural potluck before the immigrant voting hearing.
  - \_\_: former Soviet Union immigrants in her neighborhood still have some apprehension about participating. Mock election to help them out with understanding the process?
  - Seth Levy: People sharing their own stories is often a powerful mechanism to bring people in.
- Programs and Issues: Currently inactive?
  - Sarah Rawlings: Was an iterative process led by Emily Postman to narrow down on what issues we want to take action on. Would be good to bring back. Had people coming to those meetings that don't participating in regular meeting
  - Sam Tracy: straw poll for interest in membership (Bill Linell, Seth Levy, Sarah Rawlings indicated interest). Unlike candidates (we obviously support Democrats), we can decide which to endorse. Statewide initiatives are Homecare for All and bond issues.

- Sarah Rawlings: Two municipal ballot initiatives - one is 42 day finance report.
  - Ethan Strimling: Super technical question about schools working with adjacent communities, required for state.
  - Sarah Rawlings: Can we conflict w/ state party stances?
  - Mike Desjardins: DSC chose not to endorse Homecare for All
- Amendments: Gwynne Williams not present, tabling Bylaws Amendment
  - Finance: Also dormant, should revive.

## Old Business

- Tabled Bylaws Amendment as we can't vote on it without quorum.

## New Business

- Took ten minutes to **do** activism.
  - Group contacted Senator Collins and Senator Kings re: Kavanaugh nomination via email and call.
  - Sam Tracy: Fundraising call, please consider monthly contribution.
  - Sam Tracy: reminded people of our social media presence and asked for participation, let people know about our accounts and how we're trying to get more involved.
  - Sam Tracy: Candidate forum for local races?
    - Sarah Rawlings: We did it in 2017, had about 100 people show up.
    - Seeking volunteers to take it on, no one at the meeting wanted to take it on.

## Announcements

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- Izza Drury (*made earlier in meeting*): canvas launched from Sam Tracy's house from 4-7p, Justin Costa running the training.
- Izza Drury (*made earlier in meeting*): Portland on-peninsula Democratic Party office coming soon!
- Wendy Cherubini: Fundraiser for Jared Golden on Sep 19 at Rosa Scarcelli's home in the West End. 5:30p-7p. If you can't go, give him money!
- Sam Tracy: Come to the canvas hosted at my house in Oakdale.
- Sam Tracy: I have a ton of voter registration cards. If you want them, see me!
- Sam Tracy: Committee for Ranked Choice Voting is having a beer ranking event at Oxbow next Tuesday.
- Sam Tracy: Sunday 23 Sep 3p-7p Evening of Entertainment and Discussion with Janet Mills at Portland House of Music.

**Meeting adjourned at 19:59**

*Respectfully submitted, Mike Desjardins*