

**DFL State Central Committee
Regular Meeting- Draft Minutes
Saturday July 13, 2024
Time: 1:00 PM
Location: Sauk Rapids Middle School,
901 1st St S, Sauk Rapids, MN 56379**

I. Opening Business

- A. Call to Order
 - 1. The meeting was called to order at 1:25 PM.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
 - 1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- C. Swearing In of New Members
 - 1. State Party Chairman Ken Martin swore in the new members of the committee.
- D. Adoption of the Agenda
 - 1. Motion to amend the rules to strike Rule 35 about allowing speeches during elections, seconded, and the motion did not pass (did not reach $\frac{2}{3}$ majority).
 - 2. Motion to approve the agenda, seconded, and the motion passed.
- E. Reading of the Affirmative Action Statement
 - 1. Co-Chair of the Outreach and Inclusion Committee, Eric Won, read the Affirmative Action Statement.
- F. Reading and Approval of Minutes
 - 1. The minutes from the December 9, 2023 regular meeting of the State Central Committee were presented and read.
 - 2. Motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded, and the motion passed. The minutes stand approved.

II. Officer Reports

- A. Chair
 - 1. Chairman Ken Martin provided remarks about the state of the presidential race and reminded the committee about the work ahead. 69 more days until Minnesotans begin to vote.
 - 2. DFL Coordinated Campaign Presentation by Campaign Director Alyse Maye Quade
 - a) An overview of the Coordinated Campaign was provided. There is a need to build the Voter Protection Team and interested parties can reach out to Alyse to get involved. There are multiple campaign offices around the state and the Coordinated Campaign is building up its organizing staff to do the work around the state. There is still a need for campaign office space and the committee

is asked to assist if possible. The GOTV plan is being finalized and more information will be communicated at a later time. An apartments program will also be starting up soon.

B. First Vice Chair

1. A report was provided by First Vice Chair Marge Hoffa. She has been traveling with Vantastic around the state and is eager to assist units through Election Day.

C. Second Vice Chair

1. Second Vice Chair Shivanthi Sathanandan thanked everyone for their support with TC Pride and for their hard work organizing successful conventions this past spring.

D. Outreach Officer

1. Outreach Officer Bahea Manasra was absent.

E. Secretary

1. Secretary Ceri Everett thanked everyone for helping with the DFL In Memoriam video that was presented at the DFL State Convention in Duluth. She also provided brief remarks about how the DFL was received at TC Pride.

F. Treasurer

1. Treasurer Leah Midgarden provided remarks about the most recent MN and federal campaign finance reports, including the current financial state of the MN GOP.

III. Standing Committee Reports

A. Outreach and Inclusion

1. Eric Won, Co-Chair of the committee, provided the report of the committee. Over 120 outreach officers exist in the party across the state and a request was made for leaders to check in with their officers about checking their emails. They will be providing training for those outreach officers. Additionally, the committee is working on a retreat for these individuals in the future. Your support is needed with the mission of the committee.

B. Constitution, Bylaws and Rules

1. Co-chair Tim O'Brien provided the committee's report. There will be an upcoming organizing meeting following today's SCC meeting to elect co-chairs, set up the committee, etc. The committee reported that the state convention wasn't entirely successful with passing its proposals but there were some lessons learned that can be helpful moving forward.

C. Party Affairs

1. Co-chairs Jeffrey Strand and Phyllis Richerson reported that the Party Affairs Committee (PAC) has:
 - a) drafted, conducted outreach, finalized and published Guidelines to assist the 17 Community Outreach Organizations of the DFL

with their biennial reports, as authorized in constitution revision adopted at the 2024 DFL State Convention

- b) delivered a Coordinated Campaign Communications proposal to the DFL Chair
 - c) executed and analyzed a survey of DFLers about the 2022 election cycle experiences
 - d) collected, reviewed and published almost ninety volunteer-produced “shared practices” in a revival of the Best Practices project
 - e) adopted revisions to the existing committee work plan for 2022-2024
2. The committee encourages State Central Committee members to become informed about the recently updated information Party Affairs Committee in the DFL Constitution, in the Rule Book on page A-9 and in relation to the Community Outreach Organization reporting process on A-13
 3. The co-chairs thanked the outgoing members of the committee for their hard work over the past two years.

D. Platform and Issues

1. Co-chair Phillip Adam presented the report. 120 OUs submitted resolutions following their local conventions. 320 separate topics with around 120 resolutions put forward for consideration at the DFL State Convention. The committee thanked its members for their work.

E. Code of Conduct

1. Co-chairs Wayne Grimmer and Caitlin Nicholson thanked members for their work and provided remarks congratulating the newly elected members. . 4 open cases and no new cases since April. A reminder was given for party leaders to please sign the Code of Conduct statement online.

F. History

1. Co-chair Megan Thomas sent a statement and has been granted a leave of absence while she secures safe housing. Co-chair Jacob Grippen and member Jeffrey Strand will assist in the meantime.

G. Nominations

1. Bonnie Bina and Jim Hepworth provided the report to the committee. Co-chairs Kyrstin Schuette and Buck Humphrey were unable to make it today. The committee has been meeting and has made recommendations for today’s elections. The process was described. Candidates could self-nominate and screen for the available positions by filling out a form online.
2. Nominations recommends:
 - a) Budget Committee

- (1) Cindy Devonish, Robert Everett, Debra Ford, Ben Hackett, Glenn Jackson, Theresa Keaveny, Jeff Phillipich, Steve Quist
 - b) Constitution, Bylaws and Rules Committee
 - (1) JP Barone, Jim DeMay, Jamie Edwards, Rich Gehrke, Alicia Gibson, James Hepworth, Cyndy Martin, Latonya Reeves, Amy Savela, Kimberly Slipy, Julie Wicklund
 - c) Party Affairs and Training Committee
 - (1) Lee Cutler, Ana Folpe, Johnnie Forrest, Joel Heller, Mark Liebow, Erik Myster, Phyllis Richerson, Denise Slipy, Dave Smith, Corey Vest, Sharon Billings
 - d) Platform and Issues Committee
 - (1) Hannah Alstead, Joe Baratta, Deborah Calvert, Lee Cutler, Kris Fredson, Deanna Hughes, Kera Peterson, Bonnie Westlin, Ceri Everett, Eugenio Lopez, Alan Perish
3. The chair has stated that only individuals who screened before the Nominations Committee can run from the floor. A member challenged this.
- a) The ruling of the chair was sustained after consulting with the Parliamentarian.
 - b) There was a request for debate so there were 3 speakers in favor and 3 speakers against the ruling of the chair.
 - c) A voice vote was taken and the ruling was sustained but division was called so another vote was taken via ElectionBuddy.
 - d) The ruling of the chair was sustained.

IV. Special Orders

- A. Election of 11 Members to the Constitution, Bylaws and Rules Committee (at least 4 from outside the Twin Cities Metro Area)
 - a) The individuals recommended by the Nominations were placed into nomination: JP Barone (non-female, CD4, metro), Jim DeMay (non-female, CD4, metro), Jamie Edwards (non-female, CD5, metro), Rich Gehrke (non-female, CD8, non-metro), Alicia Gibson (non-male, CD5, metro), James Hepworth (non-female, CD2, metro), Cyndy Martin (non-male, CD8, non-metro), Latonya Reeves (non-male, CD5, metro), Amy Savela (non-male, CD8, non-metro), Kimberly Slipy (non-male, CD8, non-metro), and Julie Wicklund (non-male, CD5, metro).
 - b) Jim Spensley (non-female, CD3, metro), David Tilsen (non-female, CD5, metro), Matthew Croft (non-female, CD4, metro), David Lee (non-female, CD5, metro), Susan Woehrle (non-male, CD4, metro), Benton Bakke (non-female, CD1, non-metro), Nick Kruse (non-female, CD5, metro), Randall Tige (non-female, CD4, metro), Ivy Letourneau (non-male, CD5, metro), Hugh Gitlin (non-female, CD2, metro), Eric Mandell (non-female, CD3, metro), and Henry

Wiggs (non-binary, CD3, metro) have had their names placed into nomination.

- c) Candidates who screened were allowed to speak.
- d) A vote was held via ElectionBuddy.
- e) JP Barone (non-female, CD4, metro), Jim DeMay (non-female, CD4, metro), Jamie Edwards (non-female, CD5, metro), Rich Gehrke (non-female, CD8, non-metro), Alicia Gibson (non-male, CD5, metro), James Hepworth (non-female, CD2, metro), Cyndy Martin (non-male, CD8, non-metro), Latonya Reeves (non-male, CD5, metro), Amy Savela (non-male, CD8, non-metro), Kimberly Slipy (non-male, CD8, non-metro), and Julie Wicklund (non-male, CD5, metro) were elected.

- B. Election of 11 Members to the Platform and Issues Committee (at least 4 from outside the Twin Cities Metro Area)
 - 1. Motion to suspend the rules to strike rule 35, the parliamentarian ruled the motion in order, seconded, and the question was called with no objection (debate not allowed).
 - a) A vote was taken via ElectionBuddy.
 - b) The motion received more than the $\frac{2}{3}$ majority needed to pass.
Rule 35 is officially struck for the purpose of today's meeting.
 - 2. Motion to suspend the rules to allow someone (a new American) who did not screen before the Nominations Committee to run for a position on the committee, the motion was ruled out of order by the chair, a voice vote to overrule the decision of the chair was taken and it did not pass. The ruling of the chair was sustained.
 - 3. Names placed into nomination: Hannah Alstead (non-male, CD4, metro), Joe Baratta (non-female, CD6, non-metro), Deborah Calvert (non-male, CD3, metro), Lee Cutler (non-female, CD8, non-metro), Kris Fredson (non-female, CD4, metro), Deanna Hughes (non-male, CD8, non-metro), Kera Peterson (non-male, CD5, metro), Bonnie Westlin (non-male, CD3, metro), Ceri Everett (non-male, CD1, non-metro), Eugenio Lopez (non-female, CD1, non-metro), Alan Perish (non-female, CD7, non-metro), Brandon Conrady (non-female, CD4, metro), Sue Christensen (non-male, CD3, metro), Benton Bakke (non-female, CD1, non-metro), Briana Rose Lee (non-male, CD5, metro), Henry Wiggs (non-binary, CD3, metro), Samuel Weston (non-female, CD8, non-metro), Jim Spensley (non-female, CD3, metro), Ashley Castaldo (non-male, CD8, non-metro).
 - 4. Hannah Alstead (non-male, CD4, metro), Joe Baratta (non-female, CD6, non-metro), Deborah Calvert (non-male, CD3, metro), Lee Cutler (non-female, CD8, non-metro), Kris Fredson (non-female, CD4, metro), Deanna Hughes (non-male, CD8, non-metro), Kera Peterson (non-male, CD5, metro), Bonnie Westlin (non-male, CD3, metro), Ceri Everett

(non-male, CD1, non-metro), Eugenio Lopez (non-female, CD1, non-metro), Alan Perish (non-female, CD7, non-metro) were elected.

C. Election of 11 Members to the Party Affairs Committee (at least 4 from outside the Twin Cities Metro Area)

1. Names placed into nomination: Lee Cutler (non-female, CD8, non-metro), Ana Folpe (non-male, CD1, non-metro), Johnnie Forrest (non-binary, CD8, non-metro), Joel Heller (non-female, CD8, non-metro), Erik Myster (non-female, CD5, metro), Phyllis Richerson (non-male, CD3, metro), Denise Slipy (non-male, CD8, non-metro), Dave Smith (non-female, CD8, non-metro), Corey Vest (non-female, CD5, metro), Sharon Billings (non-male, CD3, metro), Jeffrey Strand (non-female, CD7, non-metro), Ashlie Castaldo (non-male, CD8, non-metro), Ben Hackett (non-female, CD3, metro), Samuel Weston (non-female, CD8, non-metro), Eugenio Lopez (non-female, CD1, non-metro), Darcy McKenzie (non-male, CD2, metro), and Cindy Devonish (non-male, CD2, metro).
2. Nominations were closed.
3. A vote was held via ElectionBuddy.
4. Lee Cutler (non-female, CD8, non-metro), Ana Folpe (non-male, CD1, non-metro), Johnnie Forrest (non-binary, CD8, non-metro), Joel Heller (non-female, CD8, non-metro), Erik Myster (non-female, CD5, metro), Denise Slipy (non-male, CD8, non-metro), Dave Smith (non-female, CD8, non-metro), Corey Vest (non-female, CD5, metro), Sharon Billings (non-male, CD3, metro), Darcy McKenzie (non-male, CD2, metro), and Cindy Devonish (non-male, CD2, metro) were elected.

D. Election of 8 Members to the Budget Committee

1. Names placed into nomination: Cindy Devonish (non-male, CD2, metro), Robert Everett (non-female, CD1, non-metro), Debbra Ford (non-male, CD5, metro), Ben Hackett (non-female, CD3, metro), Glenn Jackson (non-female, CD8, non-metro), Theresa Keaveny (non-male, CD1, non-metro), Jeff Phillipich (non-female, CD8, non-metro), Steve Quist (non-female, CD2, non-metro), Nick Kruse (non-female, CD5, metro), and Ashley Castaldo (non-male, CD8, non-metro).
2. Nominations were closed.
3. A vote was held via ElectionBuddy.
4. Cindy Devonish (non-male, CD2, metro), Robert Everett (non-female, CD1, non-metro), Debbra Ford (non-male, CD5, metro), Ben Hackett (non-female, CD3, metro), Glenn Jackson (non-female, CD8, non-metro), Theresa Keaveny (non-male, CD1, non-metro), Jeff Phillipich (non-female, CD8, non-metro), and Ashley Castaldo (non-male, CD8, non-metro) were elected.

V. Closing Business

A. Announcements

1. Members made announcements to the committee about relevant upcoming events and initiatives their Organizing Units (OUs) are working on.

B. Adjournment

1. Motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded, and the motion passed.
2. The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 PM.