

BBDEMS Sept 16 2025 Meeting Minutes

Chair, Debbie Rosenman called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm

Roll Call:

Present: Chair: Debbie Rosenman, Vice Chair: Emery Pence, Treasurer: Libby Dzurka
Trustee: Nessa Feller. Absent: Recording Secretary: Corinne Shoop, Corresponding
Secretary: Dave Goodman and Trustee: Rakesh Ramakrishnan

The agenda was accepted as posted without objection.

The June meeting minutes approved as posted and without objection. (No official meetings in July-August)

Chair Report: Chair Debbie Rosenman

We are living in a very precarious time in our country. Not a day goes by when we are not faced with challenging news of what is happening with our government, both here in Michigan and in Washington, D.C. We are at the precipice of government shutdowns due to battles over the budgets. Political violence and other acts of gun violence are regular occurrences. The hate spewed by the White House and their allies is astonishing!

And that is why it is so important that you are here tonight in our BBDEMs community. We are continuing to do the work to make our country better. We are joining together in the resistance to the breakdowns we see around us. Thanks for continuing to work on your part. We need each and every one of you!

As you can see, there are several ways to help listed on the agenda. If you are not already on our Facebook or Instagram page, please follow us there as we post events and actions in the area. Collections for the homeless are needed by Saturday for Sunday's Resource Fair for the Homeless in Auburn Hills. We are doing our last Road Clean-up of the year on Sunday as well and could really use your help. See the sign-up sheet at the back.

Amy is out of the country this month so there will not be a precinct delegate report. All precinct delegates should work in whatever ways they can to rally or volunteer. EVERYONE needs to be on the street on Saturday, October 18th for the No Kings 2.0 Rally. It needs to be the biggest rally ever! I will be organizing the one at 9 Mile and Woodward in Ferndale from 12-2.

Stay in the fight! Together our voices will be heard!

Treasurer's Report: Libby Dzurka gave a financial update. There are two accounts: the general account and the PAC account. The general account is used to pay expenses to operate the club. The PAC account is used to support political activity, especially the voter guides and precinct delegate activities. We encourage donations to both accounts, especially in an election year.

Political Action and Student Internship Committee Reports

Vice Chair Emery Pence - Finishing postcards, targeting older, GOP leaning voters and letters to thank three federal judges. Request to turn all postcards to him. 100 student interns - help to inform them and they can decide how best to take action.

Speaker: MI SOS, Jocelyn Benson - running for MI Governor, 2026

Highlights include:

- Asking us not to give up in this tough moment! Harness your power. We need to stand up and win the trifecta back.
- Restore Democratic brand - Dems stand for the people.
- Invest in the economy:
 - Housing affordability
 - Healthcare costs affordable
 - Restore school funding that was cut
 - High speed rail to connect the state (even to Chicago / Toronto)
 - Affordable daycare (streamline opening daycare centers) and expand RX Kids program (\$500/month for new parents)
- Note: Hasn't taken Corporate PAC money.

Speaker: Former US Attorney, Mark Totten - running for Attorney General 2026

Background: 4 years as Chief Legal Counsel for Gov. Whitmer, U.S. Western Region U.S. Prosecutor (appointed by Biden).

Highlights include:

- Top priority - STOP TRUMP!
- Other priorities: Protect civil rights and ensure consumer protection (including scams for seniors).

Speaker: Omar Oded- Running for Birmingham Library Board, November 2025

Background: A local dad with two small children. Works at Ford Motor Company as a senior group manager of specialty cars.

Highlights include:

- Have a welcoming and inviting library - Don't ban books, expand kids' area, fiscal thoughtfulness and more study rooms (current ones often full).
- There are three open positions with four candidates.

Good and Welfare Notes:

- Charlie Cavell (current Oakland County Commissioner). Highlights: wants strong ethics, invest in MI Kids ballot initiative passed, stop Corporate PAC money (resolution to be voted on - details sent to club one week before Oct 20th meeting).
- Don Ufford- Candidate for 11th district U.S. Senate. Highlights: Focus on workforce and education, growing manufacturing and making healthcare accessible and affordable.
- Cindi Cook - wrote book with Lori Goldman (founder of Fems for Dems) on how to be a force for change in later life. Fear, Fortitude, and the Future is about, fear, power, and accomplishment, and gaining the grit and gumption it takes to get where we want to be. Available at fffbook.net - not on Amazon). Will have copies at the October meeting.
- MEA Signs - support public school signs are available. Call MEA at the Lathrup Village office.
- Reminder to sign ballot initiative petitions (Invest in MI kids, Money Out of Politics - in back of room).

Next meeting: MONDAY, Oct. 20 at the Bloomfield Township Library ([1099 Lone Pine Rd, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302](#)) upstairs @ 6:30pm

>>> *Please note day and location change.* We'll have a fun raffle with prizes and refreshments.

Speakers at Oct 20 meeting discussing the 2026 election:

- State Senator Mallory McMorrow - candidate for U.S. Senate
- County Prosecutor Eli Savit - candidate for MI AG
- County Clerk Barb Byrum - candidate for MI SOS

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Attendees September 16, 2025

Doris Applebaum (ZOOM)

Jenny Arnold-Still

Howard Baron

Amy Barron

Liz Bauer (ZOOM)

Kathy Bayer
Nancy Bliss
Barbara Borden (ZOOM)
Susan and Joe Butkovich
Charlie Cavell
Maureen Christensen
Michael Clift
Cindi Cook
Callie Diz (ZOOM)
Libby Dzurka
Nessa Feller
Maureen Field
Wendy Friedman
Greg Gamalski
Mark Goldenberg (Ufford staffer)
Miriam Halprin
Deb Harvey (ZOOM)
Miriam Imerman
Chris Kaye
Donald Kensler
Terri Koller
Danielle Mallon
Maria Marcotte
Shadia Martini
Chris McKenna
Ariana Mentzel
Omar Odeh
Emery and Linda Pence
Patti and Steve Parks
Eric Raphael
Nina Robb
Debbie Rosenman
Arturo Sanchez
Stacey Schreiber
Harriet Shakir (ZOOM)
Pat Sheren
Gene Simms
Craig Spangler

Michelle Spreitzer

Marti Szilagyi

Sandra Thake

Don Ufford

Dennis and Dorothy Voss

Gail and Mike Whitty

Allen Wolf

Mary Wright

Linda Zlotoff

51 in person, with 6 on ZOOM