

SAW Joint Program Monthly meeting notes, April 13, 2021

There were 26 SAW members, candidates and some staff who attended the joint meeting. The only candidate present this week was Hala Ayala, running for Lieutenant Governor. The main issues she discussed included:

- Her unique ethnic background (Afro-Latino principally) and life story - from gas station worker to cyber security expert
- How Obama's visits to Prince William county during 2008 campaign activated her, as well as Trump's horrible victory
- Legislation she's championed in HOD - teacher pay raise, ERA, vaccine funding , justice reform (not just criminal justice) - she has a 71% effectiveness rating as a legislator.
- Her conviction that it's time for a woman of color to hold state wide office and the fact that she's totally dedicated to this, not concurrently running for HOD as her opponents are.
- How as chief deputy whip she has deep relationships across state government.
- Issues she'd prioritize - health care inclusion, equity, reestablishing Chief Technology office, climate justice

Hala Ayala's website <https://www.halaforvirginia.com/>