

Notes of Indivisible SOS Santa Fe meeting of 4-11-22

Notetaker: Marti Burt

This was our once-a-month no-speaker Indivisible SOS internal business meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. New member orientation. Dottie and Jana described what will happen at this event, Tuesday, April 12th, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Dottie Indyke and Jana Theis will host. (It went well; 11 new members attended.)
2. Our first discussion group, hosted by Trudy O'Toole and Peggy Klaus, is scheduled for April 27th from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. There was some discussion of moving it one hour later so members who work might be able to attend. Topic is an article by Jill Lepore in the March 21, 2022 *New Yorker* titled "The Parent Trap: How School Fights, From Evolution to Anti-Racism, Pit Parents Against the State."
3. There are still a few open slots for the New Mexico United Conference 2022 on Friday evening April 29th (optional) and Saturday, April 30th. The conference will be held in Albuquerque. Let Sandy know if you can come (no need to respond if she already knows you are going to attend).
4. Reminder: our May 2nd meeting will be at the Community Center starting at 9:30 and going until noon, with food. Monica and Ginny are coordinating it. Our guests will be Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver, followed by our Indivisible regional organizer Lauren Oertel.
5. Remember, hold July 28th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for our next in person social. This will be funded by Indivisible National and will be quite lovely! Stephane will be organizing it. More later.

Reports from any Indivisible or outside meetings

Candidate Support: We are supporting 3 women candidates—Andrea Romero, Kristina Ortez (Taos) and Susan Herrera (Rio Arriba, Los Alamos, a tiny bit of Santa Fe Counties—who are being primaried by conservative Democratic men. Were they to defeat our candidates in the primary, they would be adding anti-choice Democrats to the Legislature, with potentially disastrous results.

1. Gloria has been in touch with the Ortez and Herrera campaigns. Both would like help—Susan with phones and postcards, Kristina with postcards. Gloria will follow up.
2. Andrea Romero's campaign is doing pre-primary canvassing on May 7-8. We will be helping. The campaign will assign us to one precinct. We will go in pairs, maybe threesomes with one person driving. The canvassing time commitment is usually 4 hours, but volunteers may do 3 or 2 hours if that is all they can do. Andrea will also be attending our April 25 meeting in person as our guest speaker so you can hear more about canvassing then.
3. Sandy will ask Patricia to poll members on Survey Monkey about their willingness to work on these campaigns and what types of tasks they are willing to do.
4. There is a fundraiser for Susan Herrera on Wednesday, April 20 at 5:30, at a private house. The announcement/invitation will go out to our whole membership.

Website Show and Tell

1. Jana did another show-and-tell for the website, this time focusing on where to find minutes of general meetings, scheduled speakers, calendars, and action alerts.
2. Currently there is no search function on our website. The various pathways to the information Jana was describing brought up the question of whether we should have one. There is probably some expense involved, and maybe also additional coding. Monica will look into it.
3. Gloria and Cindy suggested that when announcements or invitations go out through email, the email contain hyperlinks to the specific place on the website where members can find more

information, so the people getting the emails can easily find the material to tell them more about the issue/event/organization.

4. There was discussion of whether to put announcements of group activities like canvassing on the “members only” page or on the part of the website that anyone can see. The case for “members only” has to do with security and maybe making us vulnerable to disrupters. The case for “general” is that more people will see it and maybe people in addition to our members will connect with campaigns and events we support. No decision was made.

Committee reports

1. Democracy/Roberta: lots of things going on but nothing to report. Roberta also brought up issue of what IndivisibleSOS should do about Daniel Ivy-Soto, if anything. Decision: Roberta will write a letter to the editor of *The Santa Fe New Mexican* and submit the letter to Sandy and Dottie for review. Once it is final, Sandy will circulate it to all members requesting their approval. The letter will be submitted to the newspaper if 50%+ of the membership approve it.
2. Behavioral Health/Pam:
 - a. Substance abuse and the criminal justice system (CJS). Pam has spoken with Tara Lujan and Reena S. about lack of access to treatment, no harm reduction approaches, misinformation about SA, need for Drug Court and Mental Health Court. Basically, at present behavioral health issues are criminalized and then people are left to fend for themselves in the CJS.
 - b. NM courts treat cases involving DV in ways that indicate either total lack of information or deliberate ignoring of the reality of DV. Often no record of criminal charges exists because the abused person withdraws them, so judge assumes this is first time, etc. Complete invisibility of PTSD-related behavior associated with abuse. So the woman frequently gets ruled against as unfit parent because of her PTSD symptoms. She loses custody or is punished for leaving and ends up with shared custody of children—an extremely dangerous situation.
 - c. Sandy is on the County’s Behavioral Health Leadership Team, which is currently doing a gap analysis—BH services needed in the county. She listed probable top gaps identified as lack of housing; lack of staff; services for people leaving jail, prison, hospitals; and adolescent services. All needed, but none will hit the judges upside the head.
 - d. Approaches—maybe laws, certainly education, also advocacy.
 - e. Sandy will begin sitting in on our BH committee to help with these issues.
3. Civil Rights/CJS Reform
 - a. Big blow to one of this committee’s campaigns—trying to get new curriculum and much-improved training on use of force at the Law Enforcement Academy, which trains police officers for the state. The administrator we have been working with was abruptly fired with no explanation—quite possibly because she had supported the reform efforts and had been working with our committee. Not clear what comes next but the committee will pursue.
 - b. We also need to decide whether we are going to endorse Adan Mendoza for Sheriff in the contested primary.

Calendar for remainder of month -- Jayne reported on dates for which we are still missing speakers and asked for suggestions. Also asked for notes on who was being note-takers for which meetings.

Other announcements—reminder about BlueCD2NM messaging at monthly meeting Monday night and need to focus on countering Republican misinformation.