

SOS meeting minutes
September 19, 2022

Speakers: NM Senator Nancy Rodriguez and Lauren Oertal, Indivisible

Announcements

1. Sandy is absent because Geoff is in the Heart Hospital in Albuquerque after complications of a procedure. He's healing and Sandy should be back in action in a couple of days.
2. Our group's three priorities from now through midterm elections are:
 - Writing Vote Forward letters for CD2 and other states
 - Writing CD2 postcards
 - Canvassing for Gabe Vasquez in Albuquerque

The goal is to have all members participate in at least one of the above. Let Ricann know what you're able to do. (ricannb@icloud.com)

3. The Hold the House/Senate committee is offering times for group letter/postcard writing. This Wed, from 2-4 at Jana's. Contact Jana if you want to attend. (jmtheis33@gmail.com)
4. CD2 postcards should be arriving soon. The deadline for mailing them will be second half of October.
5. Cindy and Marty canvassed in the South Valley (ABQ) this weekend. They used a very helpful app called Minivan. Cindy shared their experiences; many voters do not know that they've been redistricted into CD2.
6. Canvassing is taking place every Saturday and Sunday from 1-3 and 3-5 between now and the election. Once members let Sandy know when they want to canvas, she will pass this info on to the Vasquez campaign and detailed info should follow. You'll be checking in at 1625 Rio Bravo Blvd.
7. Ricann mentioned an LGBTQ event at the community college on October 15 and a reading of "Save the Bees" (about politics) at SF Prep on October 9.

Senator Nancy Rodriguez

1. Sen. Rodriguez serves on nine committees and has been in the senate for 29 years. She is one of the first women elected to her district, which covers most of central southwestern Santa Fe city and surrounds, including Aldea.
2. Her main work has been on the legislative finance committee (LFC). She is also very involved in health, disabilities, water, broadband, and animal welfare.
3. The state has \$2.5 billion more in income this year. Rodriguez believes in having a good amount in reserves and but doesn't think money should be hoarded. She wants to spend on the housing crisis, increasing crime and behavioral health. She said she wants to see holistic, comprehensive mental health and substance use programs for patients and their families. Six million dollars has been allocated to the Recovery Center.
4. She talked about the L.E.A.D. program, which provides comprehensive services for people who commit low-level crimes. About 200 people in Santa Fe have been served by this program with only a 1 percent recidivism rate.
5. Rodriguez has sponsored legislation every year for funding affordable housing, including weatherization and rehabilitation of homes. Beginning in 2024, the state will carve out 2.5% of bonding capacity for affordable housing, which should generate an average of \$25m per year and leverage \$29 for every \$1 spent. Between now and '24, \$33m in funds are available.
6. Regarding reproductive health, she said that the Senate doesn't plan to codify any laws since all states of abortion are legal in the state and if they start tinkering there can be unintended consequences.
7. Regarding professionalizing the legislature, Rodriguez said she is particularly concerned that the sessions are too short to conduct the state's business. She also said that NM is the only state in the country that doesn't pay its legislators.

Lauren Oertal, Indivisible

1. Indivisible national has officially endorsed Teresa and Melanie. Gabe will not be officially endorsed because of some questions he answered, i.e. about taking PAC money, however he will be informally endorsed.

2. Lauren mentioned the “Give No Ground” initiative to hold and expand the House and Senate. Also “laughivism:” – efforts to bring humor and surprise to GOTV and elections that will capture media attention.

3. She led a brainstorming exercise to generate such ideas. These are things that we are currently doing or have done in the past and things that others are doing:
 - Yvette Harrell 2022 – an URL that leads to a parody site
 - Our drum corps/parades
 - Importance of positive messaging
 - Monica’s signs at previous rallies

These are ideas for themes/memes/slogans/events that we might consider:

- Street Theatre
- Dogs against Yvette/Dogs for Gabe
- Gabe is Hot with picture of chile
- Red, Green and Xmas: Gabe is for everyone
- Gabe sizzles
- Aliens for Teresa (Roswell is in CD3)/“out of this world”/Don’t Alienate
- Trump for Herrell
- Halloween cat parade
- Witch costumes: my power is voting, what’s yours?
- Hot air balloons/opponent is full of hot air
- Pumpkin carving contest
- GOTV signs in SF
- Banners on I-25

- Wear button, T-shirt or hat that says “VOTE” or “What’s Your Plan to Vote?” or “Vote Early”
- Stay out of the closet/Ronchetti
- Target high schoolers/first time voters
- Celebrate first time voters/”the future can be yours”
- “Somebody you love needs your vote”
- Friends don’t let friends vote alone

If we decide to execute any of these, there could be some funds from Indivisible but act quickly before the money runs out!