

Notes of IndivisibleSOS October 3 general meeting  
Marti Burt, notetaker

### Announcements

1. Our Oktoberfest social is scheduled for October 17th at Betsy Porter's home from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Hope many of you can attend! This is a potluck so please email Jayne Nordstrom at [jaynenord@aol.com](mailto:jaynenord@aol.com) and let her know if you'll be bringing an appetizer, entree, side dish, dessert and/or wine! Directions to follow.
2. Postcard Update: Sandy announced that we would be assembling postcard packets at the Community Center immediately following the leadership team meeting—12 until we're done. Packets will be ready for pick up on Wednesday. Please let us know where you want to pick up your packet—at Sandy's or Marti's. If we don't hear from you, we will go by what you have usually done. When Marti gets the packets for her house, she will send an email to notify the people picking up at her house. If you don't get that email, pick up at Sandy's.
3. Sandy has material on “canvassing for introverts” that she will distribute.

### Agenda

1. Canvassing—we took a moment for those of us who have been canvassing for Gabe in Albuquerque's South Valley to describe and discuss our experiences. They have been very interesting, sometimes challenging, but overall quite positive. As we are often the only ones at the campaign office when we pick up our material, it appears that they need us, and the more the merrier.
2. Reports from committee chairs—**Civil Rights/CJS Reform Committee**. This committee has been incredibly busy with a huge project—basically, totally reforming the training and structure of NM law enforcement, now and in the future. Note that this includes what is known as “telecommunications—basically the 911 function as well as what most people think of as law enforcement (LE). Telecommunications encompasses almost half of the people employed by LE agencies. This started with Rachel's work several years ago with Santa Fe County Sheriff Adan Mendoza aSandynd has now spread to the whole state and the NM Department of Public Safety. The committee had a meeting on September 30 with public safety officials from all over the state, which went *extremely* well!! Committee members and attendees reported on it, stressing its emphasis on relationship building, trust, and openness. These notes will not summarize the committee report because the committee will be writing its own report once it sorts through its experiences and the tens of pages of notes taken by attendees. Suffice it to say it was a huge success and the committee, together with representatives from the agencies represented at the meeting, will be working on legislation for the upcoming 2023 session to start the state moving in the desired direction.

Sandy summed up the impact of the meeting as follows—What the assembled LE folks appreciated the most was what a difference a citizens group can make. A knowledgeable and well-prepared citizens group can become a liaison with the Legislature to get things done—something that state and local LE agencies cannot do. We can propose and advocate for legislation that can fix the problems identified in a meeting such as this, and maybe move the state to a whole new level.

3. Reports from committee chairs—**Reproductive Rights Committee**. Cynthia reported briefly on the odds of having the Legislature consider a “women’s right to choose” law during the 2023 session. It looks pretty certain that this will NOT happen—basically because our state constitution ALREADY guarantees this right, completely unrestricted, and the fear is that any new law would leave us with less choice than we have now. That being said, Cynthia described scope of “reproductive rights” as including freedom from coercion in all sexual behavior. She noted that there has been a notable increase in date rapes using “roofies,” the date rape drug, and that our committee should be concerning itself with rape, sexual harassment, other forms of coercion, and the meaning of “consent” as well as reproductive health. Cynthia reported that she has been asked by Girls, Inc. to work together on the meaning of “consent.”
  
4. Future directions—Noting the remarkable initial successes of the Civil Rights/CJS Reform Committee in working with state and local law enforcement, Sandy asked for ideas about where else we could mount such an effort—what other agencies or issues we could begin to make such a difference in. Marti suggested affordable housing, where we have some expertise – Marti and Sandy, any others?—and connections.

If any of you have any suggestions and the expertise to begin an effort on a particular issue, please let Sandy, or anyone in leadership, know.

5. Future speakers: We need suggestions for speakers for November, December, and on into the new year. Suggestions offered include:
  - a. The Chair of the Board for the Indigenous [Council? Center? ??]
  - b. Eliza Sulton on what, if any, further efforts are going to be made re child testimony
  - c. The governor—to let her know who/what WE are, and what we would like to see happen
  - d. Matthew Mc

- e. Queen (NM House representative from the Eldorado area and 5 other counties going south), on water, natural resources (the committee he chairs). Jan Cohen will contact him about availability
- f. Andrea Romero—about what’s coming up in the House for 2023
- g. Paul Gibson and Roxanne Barber of Retake Our Democracy about Retake’s priorities for 2023

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6. Final Bits:

- a. If you have written VoteForward letters and are wondering what to do with them—**give them to Jana or Ricann**
- b. Jana announced that two of our members had My View items published in the October 2 (Sunday) New Mexican Ricann Bock and Marti (Martha) Burt. Ricann’s on listening and hearing people who potentially disagree with you, and Marti’s on PNM’s perfidy and the need for legislation to enable public power development.