

INDIVISIBLE SOS SANTA FE MEETING NOTES OCTOBER 31st

The meeting was led by Ricann in Sandy's absence. Ricann made several announcements regarding upcoming events and speakers and also actions we need to take during this last week before the midterm elections. She then gave a demonstration on how easy it is to text. More people are needed to text this week.

While waiting for Representative Tara Lujan to arrive at 10, we had a free wheeling discussion on a variety of political issues.

During our discussion on money in politics, Tara arrived in costume as Jackie Kennedy, and jumped right into the discussion!

She is hoping to get legislation introduced to stop money coming in from lobbyists. She said that some lobbyists agree!

Tara said that changes need to be made to the ethics code to bring it more in line with the Federal code.

The state budget will have a 14% increase from oil and gas plus funds from cannabis sales.

Each House and Senate member gets a portion of the funds to spend in their districts.

The Revenue Stabilization interim committee is looking to overhaul the tax codes and to eliminate the medical tax.

They are hoping to put cannabis revenues into health programs addressing drug issues and education, behavioral and mental health and including better mental health help in schools.

Tara's three main issues to work on this session are:

1. Behavioral health and addressing the need for more professionals of color in the field.
2. Water!
3. Climate Change and Energy

This past summer she and Mimi attended the National Council of Environmental Legislators where renewables and developing a Southwest grid were discussed.

Tara hopes we can meet again before the session and perhaps with other legislators, to go over bills that might be proposed which might be of interest to us.

