

## Indivisible Meeting Notes May 22 2023

### DISCUSSION

### CANVASSING

On the canvassing project (HYPE) which we heard from AJ from Indivisible National last week, we are canceling it. We're up to our eyeballs and that we are probably unless somebody is passionately devoted to helping to organize canvassing and recruiting, some of our members to do it and get trained to do it, we're not going to do it. We might do it later in the summer or the fall when it's part of the citizen overall stuff, but I don't think we're up to it.

We do canvassing for candidates all the time. We do primary and we do regular elections. Canvassing is a deep conversation with people about what they might know or care about about: energy, renewable energy in particular.

It requires a lot of training. This kind of training is different from what we've already done, and we would need somebody who knew what they were doing, or was willing to learn what they were doing to lead it, and so on.

So we're bowing out of that.

### BLUE CD 2

They have a redesigned website. It's [www.bluecedetunm.com](http://www.bluecedetunm.com). And what it is is a map of the district with the 50 counties and a little red dot in the middle of the 15 counties of each county. When you click on the dot, you get all the information about what is going on in that county, from the inflation reduction act, infrastructure act from chips, American rescue plan, etc. So that like right that bridge you just drove over that's been redone.

Compliments of Democrats. So that's the whole point of it and we will keep it updated. So you can check that out now.

### PRIDE PARADE

We are marching. It's June 24th. I think it starts. We'll start at 11. If it follows usual procedure, it will be a gathering at the Para parking lot. We are marching in our t shirts with Teresa, our congresswoman who is leading the parade as the marshal. But we will be right up front. So that announcement will be on every agenda that you get from now until June 24th. And if you join, you get a t-shirt.

### VIOLENCE PREVENTION.

So Meredith is here to tell us about a violence prevention coalition that is forming with quite a number of different groups, including they hope us now Santa Fe, obviously. The mother's

against, you know, all the anti violence groups. And there is going to be a meeting on June 29 at the first Presbyterian Church fellowship hall to get this organized.

This has been an effort from the League of Women Voters but now it's a Santa Fe initiative. They are lots of groups who want to prevent gun violence. And mostly we're trying to build such awareness that legislation actually gets through this time.

Most of you are familiar with Miranda Viscoli. She will be talking about some of the bills. And so we're talking about what can we do to raise awareness. A lot of the youth are feeling very hopeless. And you probably know that there are more suicides than there are homicides with gun violence. So there are different strategies of properly facing the suicides that may be more palatable to the second amendment. That right people, they've gotten some legislation passed.

And the idea is to get together to see what we can do collectively to build awareness and to get legislative action.

And there are a lot of things like conflict resolution that used to be done instead of having people grabbing guns. And they might be instead of having asking for a 14-day waiting period, Colorado just passed a three-day waiting period.

Even that in a firearm sale can prevent violence. There are a lot of different things legislatively and we just like to have everybody who wants to be involved.

So June 29th at 5.30 we'll have some snacks, first best bacteria in downtown on Grant Avenue near the courthouse and then we'll start the meeting at six.

And it's together to strategize, to get to know one another, to and see what we can do. Together we can do it.

## GIRLS INC

Please sign up for the August breakfast when the girls ink book is being presented, revealed and so on. Date is 8/24 at Bishiop's Lodge. It would be very nice if we had some representatives there. We will work with Cynthia to solicit SOS members to pay the \$50 for the breakfast ticket to see our nominees honored.

## PEGGY KLAUS' HOUSE

August 27th late afternoon, 4:30

## GUEST SPEAKER DIMIT HAYES ABOUT YOUNG ARTISTS

Maybe some of you remember, I was here two years ago when I read about the same time when I moved back from Truth of Consequences back up to Santa Fe.

And that was when Blue CD2 was in its infancy and we were just launching our whole campaign to elect somebody to take care, to take out, or to renew a bit of that hair from our position.

And so Blue CD2, along with your incredible, generous help over the following two years, I know SOS made it a project responding and really, really responded.

And I'm hoping that you'll get as excited about this project. Maybe not necessarily make it one of your top two or three because you have a very full calendar and agenda as it's obvious from today's meeting.

But it's something I think is very, very crucial right now. And it's around the topic of youth and youth turnout and youth engagement. And so I also proposed as part of that agenda for us to have a presentation given to the group by a young woman who lives now in Truth or Consequences. Yoselyn Ryo-Hass. She's a recent transplant from Austin, Texas. She and her partner during COVID were looking for a new place as many people in Austin, Texas are now looking because it's got so expensive.

And they ended up settling in TorC and they've opened a co-working space. It's the only one south of I-40 in New Mexico. A co-working space is where particularly young people love to come together and work on their laptops and be with a group of people maybe who don't relate to each other. But they're in a communal situation and they can share the expenses.

So, Turtleback Co-working space is what Yoselyn her partner, have founded. And she and I have just really hit it off with people talking about it, some wonderful collaborative energy.

I suggested to the Blue CD2 steering committee that we have a presentation given by her because her primary work is she's an artist, a visual artist, but she's also an activist. And I don't know if she's coined the term, but the word that she uses is **artivism**, using art and activism, and she's her primary work right now is she works with an online group called **Next Gen America**.

Jocelyn is first generation trans transnational. She was born in Mexico. She's a Winkapoo descendant Mexican American. Her parents are here. They're both lawyers, actually civil rights lawyers in the United States. And so she has really come to this through her family.

One of her artwork pieces is actually in the Smithsonian now. It's been entered into American culture. So she's very accomplished and she has murals in Texas and over in Arizona.

We're hoping to have her do one in ToC.. So she gave this presentation and it's the group that's called Next Gen American.

And so she and I have been working on this project. Three people that are kind of a committee right now are myself, Yosselin and Lauren Otell of a regional or regional coordinator.

This whole project was born and basically came to Blue CD2 and said, this is how we'd like to do it. They gave their blessing. Lauren helped with we got a growth grant of \$8,000 based on it being a statewide project.

I've been continually going to the NIMIC conferences or Zoom calls, and I'm going to be doing this presentation to more of the other groups in New Mexico, because there are opportunities for your participation that don't require a lot of time, but it's good to be knowing about it and knowing his possibility.

So I'm going to diverge a little bit about something. I think many of you know Simon Rosenberg. He's a commentator.

I believe he was in the Obama administration. He's a wonderful podcast. It's on YouTube and he does a blog and he's remarkable. He's very encouraging. He calls his endeavor hope and optimism. And so the another link in the document you'll get is his website is specifically him interviewing a woman named Laura Brill, who is a Californian mother of teenagers.

And she has launched a project to register 18-year-olds across the country. Many, many states allow 18-year-olds to vote in New Mexico as one of them.

But in New Mexico, if you once you turn 17, as long as you're 18 by the election, primary or general election, you can register in person or through a registrar.

So her project is to partner with local groups around the country. And they've been doing this for a couple of years.

Most of us, one of the myths is young people don't vote. It's not true. The statistics in the last few midterm elections, young people have been voting at the percentage of 22 to 26 percent, which is not encouraging.

But as she points out, don't look at that figure, look at the percentage of young people who are registered to vote, and they vote in the high 80 percent title, better than we as the older population that are the best voters.

So young people, once you get them registered, they are committed and they show up. And we also know, statistically from the last national election, young people voted two to one for who?

Democrats. So every vote you can book of a young person is a two to one vote for progressive issues.

In New Mexico, the Las Cruces, Albuquerque, and Santa Fe, what they do is they find local young people in the high schools to be the interface, to be a peer-to-peer conversation.

So it's a little bit of a work that's again kind of the weak bridge of this whole project. And so Blue CD2 is doing that and I'm hoping that we all might consider at some point doing something like that. You know, trying to find young people, young activists who are in high schools that would then the Civic Center group could partner with.

The long-term goal is to get young people registered who become them, as we know, lifelong voters. And if you vote democratically, you tend to stay Democratic.

So that's a quick aside, but it fits in with this whole project.

So the project, the name of it is New Mexico Indivisible Young Artists Fellowship.

And what it is, we got the \$8,000 grant, the grow grant based on participation and involvement from all the chapters in New Mexico.

SOS was designed on as one of those groups. What we're doing in the process right now of seeking applications.

We have about 12 young people who have applied from across the state. And I'm very, very excited. Within the very first five applications, the diversity I was really hoping for showed up beautifully.

There's an application form, you go on, young person goes and fills it out, then it's a Google Doc, feeds into a spreadsheet that we then get so we can quickly, they're all together.

Yoselyn did a high-shaped chart of the responses when we had five. And of the five, would you graphically that diversity?

Every one of those five people had a different pronoun use. Everyone was different, it was five different colors in that pie shape. And then geographically reflected that and the mediums that they're offering to do their work in.

So we extended the deadline, it was May 15th, but we knew we would have to extend it knowing that this is the first time we've done it, there's a lot of outreach.

And so that we knew that we would be extending it. I have a flyer that will pass around to minutes, for those of you who are physically here.

Just see if it shows up a little bit there. There's a QR code. corner and this is a hard copy and I'll pass it around for each one to have.

It goes over some of the material I'm sharing today. We have a different flyer that we're using in the digital media, some more colorful videos that we came up with.

Next, an example of yes, one's art. So, and on some of these I wrote that that has been extended to the 31st.

So, right now we're in the phase of outreach to young people applying and it's been interesting and challenging and I've many times felt like I'm at my real, my comfort, edge of my comfort zone, even maybe extended out beyond it because of several things.

One is we are attempting to outreach to young people and we're attempting to reach out to cultural diversity. All of those are our weaknesses that we have culturally as you know, older angle predominantly baby boomer generations.

But the reason this project has happened, is to strengthen that bridge is to make the contacts. And one of the things that I'm hoping individuals and individual groups in New Mexico we do is to see this as an opportunity for you to have a conversation with young people and young organizations, the youth network here or some of some of the people of Soneidos you have a relationship with.

Because the thing is we as generationally, you know most of us here in New Mexico as individual members, indivisible members are a baby boom regeneration and predominantly Anglo.

But what we have is we have experience, we have some time maybe if we're not overextended as the visitors are, and we have resources.

These are all three things that young people can use and need. And this program is designed to do that is to bring financial resources, to bring attention, to bring mentorship, to bring experience to young people.

**Not with us saying, and saying, well, you really should be voting, to put a guilt trip or a judgment on it, but to say we want to uplift you, we want to uplift your visions and your experience to create messaging that will be digitized, directed toward other young people to become involved civically and in issues of their choice and their desire and their passion.**

So the direction, the assignment, these young artists when they're picked will be given is to take your creativity, your art and your passion and to wed that into messaging that can be digitized and that digitized messages will be made available to all the individual groups in New Mexico to use on your website or in your social media outreach going forward now between when a program is finished in October, when it's all revealed into the presidential campaign into next year.

So that's where is part, there's two asks in there. The one is to consider what you might be able to do personally.

Do you have a teenager? The age group is 18 to 30, or a young person that you know in your life is an artist, or maybe they're not an artist, but they're a young person who lives next door, or is in some other group that you're involved with to show them the flyer or bring it to their attention.

There are social media platforms. So the ask is to consider ways that you might bridge yourself to a young person or a young group.

And the other will be then in the fall when the material is made available to take it. You'll be given digital versions of everything to then incorporate into your own digital presence, you know, if you do it in social media or any campaign, digitally, going forward.

We will be selecting five artists.

We're in the process right now of finding a judging panel. We have three right now. I'm hoping to have about five, maybe the seven, and then we will have mentors.

So the five who are awarded will be given \$1,000 cash. Some of that will be given probably 500 of it right away.

As long as they have Venmo, we have to do it through Venmo. And then they'll be given the rest of the money at the end of the session.

They will be paired with a mentor. We are in several conversations with different established artists to be mentors. We're waiting to actually select who the mentors would be until we know what awardees are so we can match either medium or culturally or gender so there's a good match.

Then that matching the awardee and their mentor will be asked to meet either in person or via Zoom, but once a month from July through October to just develop a relationship and talk about being an artist or I can't get the message or someone to have some need to bounce off what their interests are with an established artist.

We'll do something with maybe all come together when the awardees and the mentors initially, one time and they'll be introduced to their mentor and then they'll be sent on their way for the summer.

So in October, they'll be there. We'll get them. Gas money will give them per diem for food for the three days that be lodged for two days in a pelican spa, which has got its own hot water that they can soak in.

There will be a Friday night reception that will be also open to the public because you all are invited also to attend for the weekend.

And then on Saturday, Saturday morning, there will be a question and answer open to the public panel discussion between mentors and new awardees with the topic being basically something, how does one find one's voice in challenging social times?

It's something like that. That afternoon, there is a secret assignment where we're basically going to take the five awardees who will have in person just met the day before.

We're going to put them in a room somewhere with a lot of art supplies and tell them to create some more messaging, you know, and to collaborate. And I think this can be very exciting because that generation, they love to do that. And the fine figured out and you know, how do we want to do it?

And then that evening there will be a gallery show, we have a gallery in truth or consequences already, committed to giving us one of their gallery rooms where the pieces will be exhibited.

This gallery already does a high school art project, they just have their second year with a, it's an art contest, they have from 7th to 12th they're already geared toward it.

We hope to invite those high school kids to come and participate in the Q&A and the showing and that kind of thing also.

And we're hoping to the artists who have already applied are muralists and they have a mural, like mural ready to go and share the consequences that would be if one of the awards go to muralists, we would fund them to come and stay for a week and share the consequences.

Paint the mural, have support from the community of either other artists or the high school kids to help complete that mural with that same imaging and then we'll digitize that for using socially. Then their work we will do some kind of licensing agreement with the five artists so that we can use their work so that Indivisible can use it giving them recognition where it's used but they will still retain ownership of the artwork as a plastic relationship with an artist and then they'll get as soon as the five are awarded if they're on social media we hope that they will start posting on our Facebook and Instagram site if you go to those and again those addresses are on the digital flyer you'll get there's not much content there we've got some graphics and a couple of comments but we're really waiting to reveal the story once we have the artists to start generating some images and things like that and linking I would ask if you are on social media either Instagram or Facebook to please go to our site and friend it and like it and share it if you can this for those of you who want to do it the handle or the two sites

So I think that tells you what what the package that they'll get. Hopefully it's it's a development. It's exposure.

It's opportunity to participate in the showing. I'm finding actually some of the people who are applying are already pretty well established artists.

So they may not need necessarily as much as they may not feel they want to be mentored. That is there's an option.

I think it does have a legs to stand on that it could be replicated. In two years, I think doing it right away next year wouldn't quite make sense.

We've already got the stuff done. But I know Lauren is very excited about this program and has talked about with her.



So I am looking for anybody that is interested in this project to do more of this outreach. The other is to me, it illustrates the weakness of this bridge that we're trying to create is the intergenerational is okay.

It's the same as racial bridges. It's can be awkward or it can be uncomfortable or it's in non-existent and yet we need to do it.

So let me just check a few more of my last notes. So, go ahead. Well, I just want to, yeah, what I'm going to read what I put in broad bold letters here.

Young people are the future and they are getting ready for it as we see in how they turn out to vote.

And what can we do to help? This gives you such a chance to dialogue with and bring resources, not just chastise that young people don't vote.

They do better than we do, as I said, statistically earlier, it proves that once we get young people registered to vote, they vote at higher percentages than we do as senior school, baby boomers. My ask for today is to consider donating to the app Blue Page and again, it's on the digital sheet that will be emailed to everyone.

And to spread the word, we've talked about that in several options here today, both about the application process and about the event itself.

And when we get the digital media in the fall and into the new year to use that media. And you're all invited to come to the weekend this October, Friday the 13th, which I think 13 is an actually lucky number in my cultural background and through Sunday the 15th.

And we'll just ask people plan and on the data sheet, it lists several of the lodgings into the consequences, all of which are downtown and have hot springs as an option to stay there.

You can Google all the names of it as it says I'm here and find them to make reservations. And TRC has.