

DEC 11 Indivisible Meeting Notes (Peter Wirth)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The first meeting back is on Jan 8.
- Voter Reg Agent - you can become a person who can register people. Go here to sign up:
[Click here for Voter Registration Training](#)

The party has been changed to Jan 7 - we are dessert-heavy

Opening remarks from Peter Wirth, Senate Majority Leader

A little history:

- Legislating through COVID was tough.
- 2021 session in the Senate they did their work in person with remote committee hearings and remotely in the House (I think he said that).
- At first, the Gov didn't want to spend the money to give access to legislators vaccines because she didn't think legislators could be defined as 'essential workers. She felt the vaccines should go to others more in danger.
- As a result, they had their sessions with lots of unvaccinated people. Everyone was double-masked. All of which to say he is glad to be on the other side.
- The good thing that has come out of this experience is that now remote access is a given.

About Senator Wirth

- Served for 20 years.
- Appointed in 2004, replacing Max Coll, who was a legend. Coll was Chair of the House Appropriations Committee and Finance. He served as a Republican before.
- Peter had a five-way Dem primary in 2004. House 47.
- 2008 - big change at Federal Pete Dimineni retired. So Ran for Senate.
- After 4 years, the Sen Conservation Committee.
- Until 2021, there was a coalition in the Senate. 2021 which created a mostly status quo. But during this time, the House passed the bill to reinstate the death penalty and the abortion bill
- 2016 Gov Martinez was able to defeat Sen Majority leader and Dems picked up seats. Transitioned from Chair of the committee to run a Chamber.
- Elected by acclamation.
- The first two years of his majority were the gov's last two years. Martinez vetoed higher education and the budget for running the House or Senate and ended up in court. In 2021 had a major shift, and the coalition was defeated. As a result, Senator Mimi Stuart was elected as a Dem Pro Tempe.
- In the Senate it is a split leadership - Pro Tempe is responsible for administration and staffing and for appointing the committee's committee. This is important. **As majority leader, he runs the floor and determines what bills go into the Senate.** At the end of each day, they are sitting in the office and going through the bills and going through the next day's agenda.
- He puts together a roadmap, so people have an idea of what's happening.
- This is Peter's 7th year as Majority Leader. Senate will change. Ten years ago it expanded. Including Aldea, etc. This year - Santa Fe the population has grown. Will continue to represent Northern Eldorado. Liz the rest.
- Yesterday, State Senate Supreme Court re redistricting issued their verdict that it was not considered egregious. Good thing because this got us Congressman Gabe Vasquez.

- . Sen Cervantes has been trying to do this for three cycles.
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More

- Peter went to to talk about Rachel Feldman calling her an amazing advocate. Before he was in Legis he was on the Board of the Children's Museum which was a huge deal. He was elected chair and he was trying to figure out how to get \$ from committees. He said he couldn't figure out the process.
- But, Rachel has made a difference. She's got the buy-in from the Gov and Ben Baker who is now special advisor to the Gov.

Upcoming 30 - day Session

- There is 4B of new money coming in.
- Early childhood trust fund for this. In 2020 legislators didn't like the idea of tapping the permanent fund for early childhood so they created a permanent fund.
- There was also a diversion when there was a surplus of oil and gas going into early childhood. Doreen Gallegos (Sen) did that. It's a blessing and a curse. You can't look at this as permanent. Oil and Gas going away. - you will see lots of effort to recurring dollar funds. Things are leveling off but that happens a lot.
- With 8B will we see early childhood and pre-k?
 - When fossil fuels go away - projections are that there is a 10-year curve - meaning will go up and down.
- About Hydrogen
 - Hydraulic Fracturing changed everything. The oil is there but it depends on other things on moving forward.
 - It's also a property rights issue owned by a mineral state. Big players are buying out the smaller wildcat stuff.
 - The Permian basin is the most significant oil base in the world. The environment agencies were gutted in Martinez's administration.
 - When you have poverty at such a level property rights have to be considered.
 - Green hydrogen
 - Check out Kit Carson Electric. Visionary CEO and board. And Now Taos is 100 solar during the day.
 - Energy comes from solar and water comes from the mine and provides an energy source when the sun does not shine. Worth looking at...
- Budget sessions.
 - The only thing that remains will be the budget tax.
 - Gov puts on call and joins resolutions for constitutional amendments. The policy will be on the budget.
 - Will there be one gun bill or four different ones?
 - There will be an omnibus tax bill. Omnibus bills do a couple of things: instated 6 different votes you take one
 - Peter's first few years - NRA had a bill for 10 years to allow guns in restaurants. Up to 2019, nothing passed. Then background check and red flag bills in his session.
 - The State Senate is now more liberally than the House. There will be a bill to ban Assault Weapons.

- Jana: The head of leg finance said the legislation passed great bills but the administration of the bills don't get executed. Have you considered providing grant writing as part of the funds that are allocated?
- Peter: a delicate balance between too much information and too little. How about a coordinating structure over and above
- Jan - what can we do to get bills passed for conservation? Game and Fish is a mess.
- Peter - A bill won't be considered germane this session. Took him 7 years to get a bill to restructure stream something.
- Cindy - You just mentioned a couple of things that make your job difficult - no pay and a 30-day session. You also mentioned that this is the session to discuss constitutional amendments and there's a large part. Can't we get the modernization thing done?
- Peter: - Staff issues will be discussed and so will a constitutional amendment. In the past, they haven't had the votes. Hesitate to look ok at different lengths until the voters decide to pay legislators. And get staff. Lots of people are comfortable with the status quo. 2007 he spent time trying to get something to limit the number of bills. Turnover of the house has been extraordinary Nancy R was the only woman. Now he is the only man.

Peter Left.

Other Items

- There will be a google form to sign up to get alerts for things that we are interested in. Alerts will be to write to legislators.
- Won't be doing repro rights, but maybe solarization of public buildings,
- Yes, we will be doing Law Enforcement reform and guns.
- Rachel says
 - Rachel - Peter has always been willing to meet with her. And he managed to get our bill through legis.
 - Our bill focuses on the vacancy rate and the collapse of 911.
 - Cops are working 12 and 16-hour back-to-back shifts.
 - Need to remediate money.
 - Met with budget people House and Senate. Hope to have a bill by next week and sent out to all legislators. Will be pre-filed. Jan 2 or 3.. We will get it a low number. And send to the Judiciary committee. We have a shot of getting on the docket.
 - Two workgroups - dispatches and cops.
 - Lina - family leave bill
 - Roberta Colton needs volunteers to help pack period products.
 - DO YOUR BIOS
 - If you are interested in looking at the report produced by the Legis Finance Council, REPORT SITE GO TO THE LEGIS FINANCE. SEARCH FOR A BUDGET LINE.