

# December 4 2023 Meeting (guest, Andrea Romero (no internet connection))

## New member Valerie

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Holiday Party 3-7 Jan 7
- Peter Wirth will be Dec 11
- . No meeting on 18, 25, Jan 1st. Next meeting is on the 8th, of January
- LMV On Gun Safety Tuesday the 5th. There's another one on the legislative process.
- Watch the most recent Simon Rosenberg about getting your message out. He discusses different ways through different organizations. It's called 'Getting Louder'.
- Rachel Law Enforcement focus groups. LE are not progressives, It struck her that there are other ways to communicate with them.

### Andrea Romero, District 46

- Nominating petitions will be online after Jan 1st.
- The 2023 session:
- Gun Safety -
  - This is on the gov's call, so it will be covered. She is working on a caucus to do this on gun safety.
  - Federal: will inform assault weapons ban, high capacity. The hardest thing has been to define assault weapon definition - Illinois def is working. We would be the first state in the union to pass this def. t helps to have fed initiative. High capacity and waiting period for a firearm.
  - Reena will be working on raising the age. Working on fixing def on how to get LE a temporary restraining order on getting guns out of dangerous homes.
  - Senate is okay with allowing LE to assert their experiences.
  - LE should be involved in the process. Working on better initiatives for holding manufacturers accountable. Chandler and Garrett working on it. Is it one gun passage or how many? What legislation works?
  - Is there a strategy for the Senate Judiciary Committee? It's where bills go to die.
  - Waiting period. Starting with 14 days. Compromise was 7 days. 14 days in Hawaii. Want to close the Charleston loophole. If after 3 days, a background check doesn't come in, then the gun purchase can go through. We want to make it 7 days.
  - High School Dems reorganized on this, especially the AWB. Assault Weapons Ban. These kids are meeting across the state in clubs to organize for gun safety.
- Housing
  - Vouchers - these are still being tested. Right now they can be denied. Will be another bill but none of the legislators have seen it,
  - There is a housing advocate organization and waiting to see where the Gov goes,
  - No new policy push. Most will be how we can shape the next 60 day session.

- Dollars went away with COVID - \$11m a month was spent on housing. Housing subsidies are a big help for getting kids out of poverty. The eviction period is now 3 days. We are one of the few states with such a short period.
- Andrea asking for people to help on this housing coalition
- Gov's office wants this NOW.
- The mansion tax will go into the city Housing Trust Fund managed by a board of city citizens. They can respond to needs more immediately.
- Can you get help from the fund when you are being evicted? Santa Fe C has funds for that. The Mansion Tax could be used for that.
- Eviction quest - how to access help from the Affordable Housing program.
  - The Eviction diversion program has ended but there are opportunities.
  - Santa Fe is not yet receiving the money from the Mansion Tax. It's only 90 days after the election. This \$ will go to eviction diversion. Lots of evictions are about making ends meet. A diversion program might help. This is for people with no safety nets. Read the book Poverty by Charles Desmond.
- HOUSING IS THE BEST SOCIAL PROGRAM FOR people.
- Rent control is a tough issue. Not going through the Senate. The lobby against rent control is strong. Tenants should be organized.
- Many Senators own property. Maybe that's why.

#### **Other Items**

- Canabis cleanup. People coming in who are not legitimate grow the micro plant. Limitations are needed so they can be more competitive.
  - What is the money being used for...?
  - She mentioned that the accounting in the cannabis business is held to a very high standard. It's an all-cash business. She wishes other businesses were held to such a high standard.