

Indivisible Tucson Action Alliance
Zoom Meeting 3:30 p.m.
March 7, 2022

Addendum: old organizational documents were rescinded by 2/3 vote. All of the subsequent votes were by majority and were advisory.

- **Sign on and welcome to participants by Dana Offerman.**

Dana asked those who are attending the meeting for the first time to identify themselves. The new members are Diane Paglione, Judith Randall and Patricia Wiedhopf.

- **Eileen Hollowell – Incorporation of ITAA**

Why incorporate?

1. The current structure offers no liability protection for Steering Committee/Directors.
2. Current structure may expose members to liability as well.
3. Incorporation limits liability and provides indemnification.
4. ITAA is incorporating as a non-member/non-profit taxable corporation. This makes it easier and cheaper for ITAA to file annual federal and state tax returns rather than seek an exemption under 501(c)(4). It is unlikely that ITAA will generate taxable income.

See Eileen's PowerPoint presentation which is attached.

Bottom line is that policies and procedures of ITAA will remain the same. The old organizational documents need to be rescinded to implement new articles of incorporation and new by-laws.

Motion to rescind ITAA 2019 organizational documents made by Sally Simmons and seconded by Joe Alexander. Motion passes by a majority.

Motion to approve incorporation made by Joe Alexander and seconded by Eloise Gore. Motion passes by a majority.

Motion to approve articles of incorporation and by-laws made by Di Alexander and seconded by Sally Simmons. Motion passes by a majority.

Motion and advisory vote to retain current leadership of ITAA until January 2023 made by Beth Smith and seconded by Jan Counts. Motion passes by a majority.

The next steps are to develop policies and procedures for ITAA and submit the incorporation documents to the lawyer Sam Coppersmith who will file them with the state.

- **Team Updates**

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Eileen Hollowell – State Team

1. There is an opponent to Vince Leach which is very exciting. His name is Mike Nickerson.
2. Eileen and Dana are meeting with Vince Leach to discuss water issues.
3. Call to action is sent to state team members on Mondays asking them to contact legislative assistants to ask for a particular vote on an issue before the legislature.

Jacolyn Marshall – Letters to the Editor

1. There are currently 34 members of the team including 5 new members. One of the new members (Norm Epstein) had his letter published in the Daily Star on Sunday.
2. 17 items have been published since January 2022. 15 LTE and 2 editorial cartoons. There are also 3 LTEs in the cue to be published.
3. All letters are amplified at least 4 times; Facebook, ITAA website, Twitter and to Arizona Indivisible team leader, Tricia Sauer who shares them with national and other Indivisible organizations around the state.
4. Group meets twice a month. The first Wednesday of the month is a happy hour from 4:00 to 5:00. The third Sunday meeting is a coffee at 10:00 in the morning and last an hour. The group discusses hot topics and what is the best approach to address those topics. The meetings also serve to inspire one another to keep writing.
5. If you would like to join the group, you can contact Jackie at Jacolyn@comcast.net.

Jan Counts – Post Cards/Voter Registration

1. We are partnering with Field Team 6 to do voter registration postcards and eventually in-person voter registration for Arizona. Field Team 6 donated 400 artist-rendered postcards with QR codes that the individual can scan which will take them to the Field Team 6 Voterizer website to register to vote. We will also have QR codes attached to the ITAA postcards.
2. Field Team 6 does the research, chooses the topic, and provides a script for the card. ITAA will have names and addresses sequestered specifically for our group. The target audience is non-voting Democrats, Independents, and possible converts. Each postcard packet will have a total of 20 postcards (16 FT6 cards and 4 ITAA cards). Postcard writers will have 2 weeks to complete the task.
3. Upon completion of the postcards, the names and telephone numbers where available will be shared with the ITAA text banking team who will utilize the FT6 system to follow up with the prospective voter.
4. This initiative will be ongoing and information regarding in-person voter registration will be coming later. Sandy Kaye has volunteered to assist me when we begin in-person voter registration. I expect to receive our list from FT6 within the next week or so. I will then arrange to meet the volunteers at Riverfront Park to distribute the packets.

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Joe Smith – Text banking

1. The most effective way to reach the most people, get our message out and accomplish the goal.
2. Training is provided by Field Team 6. Training dates are every Thursday at 4:00 Arizona time. The link for the training will be sent to you. You will receive a script and can text 200 people at a time. Some may respond to you and the next step would be to reach out to the individual with a pre-prepared response.
3. Right now, there is no texting for Arizona. There is texting going on for other states and you are encouraged to participate in those at this time. This will ensure that you had an opportunity to try the system and become familiar with it. It will also help nationally to support the other states. (California, Texas, North Carolina)
4. Group training may be scheduled in the future. Text banking may involve partnerships with other groups as well. (Indivisible National)

Misty Atkins – LD 11/LD17 Transition Team

1. The transition team has identified 4,000 democrats to contact regarding signing the petition for Mike Nickerson who is running against Vince Leach. Signatures are needed to get him on the ballot and can be done at azsos.gov/equal. After March 11th those petitions will be paper and will need to be presented for signatures by canvassers.
2. The group is texting to contact those identified voters and Misty needs two more texters. The texting will be done on Thru text. Contact Misty if you are interested, mistymellor@gmail.com.

Elizabeth Packard – House Parties

1. House parties are a fun activity and a useful way of engaging people to do things. One session has been held at Elizabeth's and 15 people attended. Packets were distributed outlining things to consider when hosting a house party.
2. Parties can be held to support candidates, engage speakers, and petition signing. Several other Legislative districts are hosting house parties. Parties also enable people new to the area to meet other Democrats. If interested in learning how to host a house party you can contact Elizabeth at lizpackard3232@gmail.com.

Chris Hawkins – STOP DARK MONEY

1. Chris has volunteered to train people on how to canvass and interact with voters.
2. Currently have 249,000 signatures on the petition and need 300,000 to counter those signature that may not be valid. That means here in southern Arizona they need 20,000 which is doable.
3. Chris is asking for volunteers to circulate petitions. You are also invited to attend her Zoom meetings at 5:30 on Tuesday. You may contact Chris at chrisazorganizer@gmail.com

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Dana Offerman

1. ITAA will contribute \$100. From the Distributed Funds account to aid the people of Ukraine. Members are encouraged to donate as well. A list of possible organizations can be found on the NPR website, npr.org. National Indivisible also has information on how you can help, indivisible.org.

ITAA 2022 Plan and Priorities

1. Maintain and build on Democratic majorities in the United States Senate and House of Representatives.
2. Focus on the Arizona legislature and statewide offices (Governor, Attorney General, Corporate Commission).

Timeline

1. Now thru June
 - Meet with candidates for state and regional offices
 - Build capacity and community: increase membership, create teams, and get them trained and prepared.
 - Increase monetary resources through the National Indivisible distributed funds April 1 thru May 31. National will match dollar for dollar contributions. ITAA website will activate the contribution button for members to donate.
 - Support Biden and his executive actions.
 - Monitor the Arizona legislature.
 - Participate in voter registration drives and petition signature gathering.
 - Engage neighbors at house parties.
 - Get the word out on what the Biden administration has accomplished so far.
2. July thru November
 - **Get out the vote.**
 - Energize Democrats
 - Reach out to Independents through phone and text banking, postcard writing, canvassing and literature drops.

Breakout Rooms Questions

1. What energizes people to act versus what burns them out and how can we manage that?
2. Should ITAA support local LD's or competitive ones outside of Southern Arizona or congressional races outside of Arizona?

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3. Is having face to face meetings and/or happy hours of interest to the membership? The Oro Valley library has started to open meeting rooms and the May meeting has been tentatively scheduled for the library.

Response from Groups:

1. Having specific assignments and meeting with people helps to keep people energized.
2. Yes, to support competitive districts outside of Southern Arizona.
3. Most members support Zoom meetings. Having face to face happy hours was also supported. The main concern regarding Hybrid meetings was the difficulty it could pose to member interaction during the meeting.

Thea Chalow – Festival of Books

The festival opens on Saturday, March 12, 2022, and runs through Sunday, March 13, 2022, on the University of Arizona campus. The speakers of interest to ITAA are congressman Adam Schiff from California who is on the Foreign Affairs Committee, Tim Mack from NPR who is currently in Ukraine, retired Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Vindman, Philip Rucker and Carol Leonnig who wrote “A Very Stable Genius”. Standby tickets are available. 40% of tickets are held back for those who want to attend. You must arrive early and stand in line to access those tickets.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 4, 2022, at 3:30. The speakers will be Nancy Gutierrez who is a candidate for the Arizona legislature from LD18. Additionally, Claire Knipe from the Arizona List will speak. Claire is part of a PAC which supports pro-choice women.