

Indivisible Tucson Action Alliance  
Zoom Meeting 3:30 p.m.  
September 13, 2021

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

Dana asked those who are attending the meeting for the first time to identify themselves. First timers are Jean Meconi, Scott and Jennifer Stapp and Joanie Craig.

ITAA will continue to utilize Zoom for meetings because the Oro Valley Library has not opened its meeting rooms at this time. Margo suggested an inquiry to determine if the patio is open. ITAA could possibly use the patio for future meetings. Dana will investigate.

- **Karen Harris, Steering Committee Member**

Karen welcomed and congratulated Gabriella Cazares-Kelly on her win as the new Pima County Recorder.

- **Gabriella Cazares-Kelly, Pima County Recorder**

Gabriella was a co-founder of Indivisible Tohono O'odham whose focus is on the Native American community. In addition, she was one of the initial founders of Indivisible Southern Arizona.

The past election had the biggest turnout and rate of return of ballots. As a result, Republicans initiated numerous voter suppression bills (125), most of which were not successful. As a result, voters are anxious about the voting process and whether their vote will count. The recorder's office is responsible for oversight of voter registration and early voting as well as document recording (property maps and home deeds). Because the recorder's office validates voter signatures, the office cannot discuss or participate in petition drives. One of the bills introduced would prevent the recorder from hosting voter registration off government land. Many of these initiatives would criminalize election officials and voters.

SB1485 known as the PEVL (Permanent Early Voting List) purge bill was introduced and Cazerres-Kelly was the only recorder in the state to oppose the bill. The bill would change the name from PEVL to AEVL (Active Early Voting List) and was signed by the governor. The recorder is waiting to see if the outcome of petition challenges to the bill. As it stands, the bill only affects a small number of people. If you wish to continue to receive a mail-in ballot, you will just need to vote by mail once in the 2022 to 2024 election cycles and you will continue to receive a mail-in ballot. If you do not mail in your ballot, you will receive a 90- day notice to allow you to elect to continue to receive a mail-in ballot. Removal from PEVL does not remove you from the voter rolls. You will still be able to vote in person. You can also sign-up to be on the PEVL list again.

The Recorder's office is currently waiting to receive the elections procedural manual which the Secretary of State and the other 14 recorders throughout the state develop. The public can comment on what is in the manual.

Another concern is the State Supreme Court ruling on out of precinct voting. If you vote out of your precinct, your vote will not count. This will not be an issue in Pima County which is moving to vote centers as opposed to precinct voting along with the other 14 counties in Ari-

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zona. With vote centers, you can vote at a vote center anywhere in the county. Moving to this model will reduce the number of polling locations on election day. These vote centers will be more centrally located where there is a higher number of voters.

Paper rolls will be eliminated. The county will be using E-Poll books which allow the voter to scan their drivers' license or identification, sign in on a tablet and their ballot can be printed instantly. The recorder will be piloting this technology in November for the City of Tucson election as well as the city of Vail. Anticipate a full rollout in 2022. Equipment has been tested by Homeland Security with many safeguards. Vote Centers make the process more secure and cost effective. Remote voting sites and early voting sites are being established with the help of a grant from Help America Vote for rural areas. Currently working to determine where those sites will be. The Recorder is also looking into internet access for remote communities. Access will allow voters to receive voting information on-line. Vote centers will also be located along bus routes to enable people of color to have access to voting.

SB1819 is a concern because it addresses the ability of Game and Fish to automatically register voters when they apply for a license. Gabriella did not see this as a problem.

There will be a push on voter education.

Gabriella was in D.C. to support the John Lewis Voting Rights Act and the For The People Act. She met with Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. They discussed voting access, the homeless and the evictions moratorium. Those issues are directly related to voting.

Voter intimidation will be addressed with the For The People Act. It would make voter intimidation a federal crime. The county is also working on safety protocols. If you would like to receive additional information the following websites will assist. [www.recorder.pima.gov](http://www.recorder.pima.gov), GabriellaForRecorder.org, social media sites Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @pimarecorder.com.

- **Jean Meconi**

SB 1819 is a terrible bill that would undermine the Secretary of State's authority. It puts in the hands of a Senate committee oversight of elections, gives them money annually to conduct a fraud investigation whenever they want.

All referendums are due in Phoenix on September 28<sup>th</sup>. Arizona Deserves Better referendums are due September 18<sup>th</sup>. They are doing the three voter suppression petitions. Invest In Ed is due September 26<sup>th</sup>. Voters Right to Know (Stop Dark Money) is due July 27, 2022.

Some of the additional initiatives out there are the Arizona Spartan Amendment which requires all ballots be hand tabulated with no extra mail-in provisions. The Voter ID initiative would require ID on all mail-in ballots with a signed affidavit. Additional ballot signing information can be found on the ITAA website.

- **Sally Simmons – Information on the Independent Redistricting Commission**

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Grid maps will be presented on September 14<sup>th</sup> to the Commission. The grid maps are based on population and contiguousness. There will be public hearings and final maps will be presented in late November to December. There is additional information at [www.IRC.gov](http://www.IRC.gov), which will help individuals draw a map. There have been public hearings but none have occurred in South Tucson, near South Tucson and anywhere people of color are located.

Arizona Ground Game is putting together petitions to ask the Commission to hold hearings where people can get to them. This is particularly important when it comes to the final maps. You can go on the IRC website to make comments.

- **Dana Offerman – Indivisible National Social/Community Building Event**

Indivisible National will reimburse a chapter of Indivisible for up to \$1,000 if we wanted to sponsor a community building event. Members can get together safely and comfortably for the purpose of building our community. Attendees were placed in breakout rooms to brainstorm what and how you would envision using these funds. Are you comfortable doing an activity at this time? Keep in mind that the funds cannot be used for alcohol.

**Ideas From the Breakout Rooms**

1. Outdoor event at either a park or the patio of a venue.
2. Incorporate a food bank event.
3. Help Afghan refugees.
4. An activity on the weekend from 4:00 to 6:00 and have unopened packages of food such as nuts and chips.
5. Reach out to members to bring someone who could be a potential member of ITAA.
6. Have a motivational speaker and/or comedian.
7. Steering Committee will meet and determine what would be best.

- **Margo Nichols, Treasurer ITAA**

ITAA now has an ID number to open an account at the credit union to facilitate donations and pay bills. Margo and Eileen Hollowell will work on getting the account established by next month. Once the account is active, ITAA will be requesting donations.

- **Karen Harris Information on Facebook**

Everyone is encouraged to go on the ITAA Facebook page to keep up to date on what is happening with the group. You can also make comments and support one another.

- **Important Websites**

[www.IndivisibleTucson.org](http://www.IndivisibleTucson.org)  
[www.recorder.pima.gov](http://www.recorder.pima.gov)  
[www.IRC.az.gov](http://www.IRC.az.gov)  
[www.GabriellaForRecorder.org](http://www.GabriellaForRecorder.org)

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The most current Facebook page for ITAA is: [www.facebook.com/groups/179770817226870](https://www.facebook.com/groups/179770817226870)

The next meeting is scheduled for October 4, 2021.