

Minutes of ITAA Meeting
December 4, 2023

Attendees: Lea Anderton, Pearl Gill, Edlyne Sillman, Shanna Leonard, Cindy Doklan, Arlene Baker, Sara Hammond, Janet Tanner, Carolyn Zeiher, Jeanne Hardie, Mary Lisa, Linda Coit, Bobbi Zimmer, Sally Simmons, Amy Gosla, Julie Willson, Margaret Scott, Kathleen Mayer, Karen McFadden, Sandy Kaye, Karen Karl, Karen Harris, Judith Randall, Jackolyn Marshall, Claudia Miller, Joe Alexander, Di Alexander, Cindy Bordelon, Rachel Rulmyr, Francesca Martin, Jan Counts, Bets Craig, Misty Atkins, Dana Offerman, Bill Yohey, Susan Matheson, Mary Ann Graffagnino, Jacob Marson, Cheryl Whited, Nancy Stewart, Michelle Flores, Claudia Miller, Jacob Marson, Betty Harris, Thea Chalow, Chris Hawkins

Prior to the start of the meeting, Dana Offerman asked for new members to introduce themselves. Linda Coit introduced herself. She already has been involved by attending the Ciscomani protest and by working on the abortion petitions.

Karen Harris gave us a presentation on the wonderful Tik Tok clips she has created, targeting Ciscomani.

Guest Speaker

Dana then called the meeting to order and asked Jan Counts to introduce our guest speaker. Jan introduced Francesca Martin with the Keep Arizona Blue Student Coalition. The purpose of the organization is to

engage younger voters and get them to register and vote. Ms. Martin provided a power point presentation on the group's efforts, starting with the powerful story of her engagement. Her grandfather was a firefighter who, on his way home from work one day, saved a person from a burning car. Because her grandfather was not on duty, he initially was denied all benefits and help. It was only because of the firefighters' union that he received the compensation he deserved. This story, as part of her family history, made her want to help pro-union candidates.

Ms. Martin told us that there were 250,000 younger voters who were registered to vote in Arizona in the last election and who did not vote. Most of these voters are Democrats or Independents who lean toward Democrat principles. The organization engages younger people by student roundtables, canvassing, postcard writing, social media, community events and candidate workshops. Turning Point, the Republican counterpart, has a \$55 Million budget and is spending \$1 Million in Arizona.

In response to questions, Ms. Martin said that abortion right and gun control are the biggest issues with younger voters. They also are concerned about climate change. The organization does not canvass on the U of A campus but does table there. Their response to the Israeli-Hamas war is to remind people that this is an important issue and to combat antisemitism. They are a Political Action Committee.

You can reach them at <https://kabsc.com/donate> for donations; <https://kabsc.com/newsletter> or <https://kabsc.com/instagram>.

State Team: Joe Alexander email joseph.k.alexander@hotmail.com

Joe reported that they will have an organizational meeting for the next legislative session on December 11 at 1:30 by Zoom. They will discuss what issues to target this coming year.

Kathleen Mayer also will be presenting at our event at Himmel Park Library at 3:30 on this Thursday, December 7, on issues regarding the state legislature. Her presentation will cover Request to Speak (RTS) and the legislative process generally.

After the presentation at Himmel Park, we will have an informal get together at Flora's Market Run. ITAA will pay for appetizers.

Petition for abortion rights. **Di Alexander:** Diana166062@gmail.com

Di Alexander reported for the petition on abortion rights efforts. This team could use more volunteers. Di is at Beyond Bread at Ina and Oracle every Monday from 9-10 through the end of the year for people to pick up or turn in petitions. She has 2 notaries there. She reported that Indivisible has a 92% valid signatures rate. She also reported that Planned Parenthood is sponsoring a rally at the State Capitol on Tuesday, December 12, at 9 a.m.

Betty Harris, the vice-chair of LD 20, is leading the effort to collect signatures in that part of town and asked about an event at Richard Elias library (formerly known as Mission Library). She and Di will coordinate.

Social Media: **Karen Harris** kwharris@1979@gmail.com

Karen reported that although National Indivisible has suspended its Twitter account, we still are on Twitter (X). We also are on Threads and Tik Tok. She is not doing Instagram but anyone who is interested in taking on Instagram duties can contact her. Chris Hawkins does publicize Karen's work at @voteforourlives, her Instagram account. Chris and Karen coordinate efforts.

Treasurer's report

Jeanne Hardie reported that we have \$2819.52 in the restricted account and \$475 in the unrestricted account. \$160 was raised for the unrestricted account in November.

Postcards: Cindy Bordelon cleebordelon2012@gmail.com

Karen Harris has redesigned the postcards. The postcards have a QR code to register to vote. We get names for postcard addressees from Field Team 6. We sent out 9000 postcards in the last election cycle and postcards cost \$300 per 1,000 to print. Since we can't use restricted funds for most postcards, we need to raise unrestricted funds. We will pass the hat on December 7.

Unrepresented (CD 6): Kathleen Mayer. Kmayer17@gmail.com

Kathleen has been coordinating with local Democratic parties and other groups in all counties which are represented by Ciscomani. Kathleen, Karen, and Eileen will go to Safford on December 11 for an event. Honest Arizona is doing an event at Ciscomani's office on December 11 at which they will present Letters to the Editor about his votes and present Christmas coal (available on Amazon). Further details will be sent as they become available.

Kathleen has asked for more Ciscomani cardboard cutouts.

There are plans to organize events at Ft. Huachuca and Davis-Monthan on January 6, 2024, as that will be right before the federal budget continuing resolution will expire and the military will be affected directly. Kathleen also would like to have a weekly picket line at Ciscomani's Tucson office. Contact Kathleen if you wish to help.

Kathleen also reported that she is working with Field Team 6 on texting about Ciscomani. She is meeting tomorrow to get details.

Don't forget our face-to-face presentation on the legislature and how to influence legislators on this Thursday, December 7, at 3:30 at Himmel Park Library. After the presentation, there will be a happy hour at Flora's Market Run. Free food (buy your own drinks.)

The next general meeting will be January 8, 2024, at 3:30 on Zoom. The first Monday in January is New Years Day.