

Minutes of ITAA Meeting November 6, 2023

Prior to the start of the meeting, Dana Offerman asked for new members to introduce themselves. Ron Feinsod introduced himself. He is interested in the abortion rights initiative and has even applied to be a notary public to help with the drive.

Guest Speaker

Dana then called the meeting to order and asked Jan Counts to introduce our guest speaker. Jan introduced Betsy Boggia, the organizing chair for Voters Choice Arizona. Voter's Choice is the educational arm of Better Ballot Arizona which is seeking to have Arizona changed to ranked-choice ballots. This method is used in other jurisdictions on both a state and local level. Ms. Boggia gave an informative Power Point presentation on the benefits of using ranked balloting to decrease partisanship and negative campaigning, to increase lawmakers' need to address issues that matter to the majority of the populace and to provide voters with more meaningful choices. There is another organization, Make Elections Fair, that also is seeking to present Arizonans with a ranked balloting initiative and Better Ballot Arizona is trying to work with them to form a unified effort.

Petition for abortion rights

Di Alexander and Tina Kilkullen head this team. All events pertaining to the petition signature drive are on Mobilize. Information can be found there on where to pick up petitions, where to sign them, where to turn filled petitions in. The website for Mobilize is www.mobilize.us.

Amy Goslar asked about a more user-friendly map to locate events for the petition drive. Tricia Sauer gave us information about the Indivisible Battleground website that has a list of events and told us that the coalition for the abortion rights petition are hiring a campaign manager and then expect to have a statewide map of events. See <https://indivisible.org/campaign/arizona-abortion-rights>

Di's email is diana616062@gmail.com

Team Leaders Reports

Misty Atkins advised us that we have had 70+ new members in the last year. Dana explained that ITAA has several teams who do much of the work of the organization. She asked each Team Leader to report.

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

This team works on state issues by contacting the legislators on various issues during the legislative sessions. They follow legislation and comment on Request to Speak on bills they oppose and support. They also ask legislators to adopt legislation that supports ITAA's priorities. Finally, they inform members and the public about the legislators' performance. In addition, they have subcommittees that work on specific issues such as the environment or water. They will have an organizational meeting for next year in November or December.

Letters to the Editor: Jackie Marshall. jacolyn@comcast.net

Since the beginning of the year, this team has had 78 letters that have been published in the Arizona Star. The team needs editors, writers, and submitters. Submitters are willing to take a letter that someone else has written, adapt it as necessary and submit it under their name since there is a limit on how often anyone can submit a letter to the

Star. Letters are also publicized through our social media outlets, and the team is cooperating with 7 other Indivisible groups in Arizona to share letters. The team meets twice a month on Zoom, on the 2nd Tuesday and 4th Wednesday.

Postcards: Cindy Bordelon cleebordelon2012@gmail.com

Jan reported for Cindy. This group works with Field Team 6 to send postcards to both unregistered voters (to get them to register) and with registered voters to on issues such as climate change and abortion rights. Field Team 6 supplies the names; postcards are provided. Each person pays for their own postage.

Texting: Joe Smith jocko34884@gmail.com

This team sends out texts for candidates and issues using Indivisible's texting platform. Joe can arrange for training. You do not use your own phone, and there are pre-programmed responses if someone raises an issue. The team sent out over 100,000 texts in the last election.

Membership: Sally Simmons sallybob75@comcast.net

This team sends welcome email letters to new members, organizes all new member orientations, and arranges happy hour face-to-face meetings.

Get Ciscomani out of Congress: Kathleen Mayer. Kmayer17@gmail.com

This team targets Ciscomani and his MAGA ties. Arizona's Congressional District 6, which he now represents, is very vulnerable. Kathleen participated in the Unrepresented session at the Indivisible

summit. She also is working with Indivisible groups and Democratic parties in counties which are part of CD 6. She has heard back from Casa Grande, Oro Valley, and Saddlebrooke Democratic groups. Casa Grande and Oro Valley want to organize activities with her after the first of the year. Saddlebrooke wants to hold a march at Ciscomani's office soon. Kathleen needs help organizing activities, forming carpools for out of Tucson events, making posters to target Ciscomani's voting efforts and general help.

Social Media: Karen Harris kwharris1979@gmail.com

Karen reported that she has a number of people helping with social media but would always welcome more. We are continuing to use X (formerly known as Twitter) but are also using the new platform, Threads. Karen can assist people with learning how to use Threads.

After all reports from teams, Dana urged members to find one or two teams they might be interested in joining. Contact a team leader at the address given for them in these minutes.

Treasurer's report

Jeanne Hardie reported that we had a successful matching fund drive in October, raising \$750 with an additional \$500 matched by national Indivisible. We have \$2478 in the restricted account.

State Indivisible efforts

Tricia Sauer, the state Indivisible coordinator, reported on the Battleground Indivisible summit. A video of the summit will be available soon.

The next general meeting will be Monday, December 4, 2023. Jan Counts is arranging for a speaker.