

## Tucson NOW General Chapter Meeting Minutes

Sunday, September 9, 2018

Himmel Park Library

Chapter President Bonnie Aaronson introduced Connor Higgins from AZ Dems to speak about voter registration.

**Connor Higgins** spoke about how AZ Democrats would like to “Close the vote gap” as there are more registered republicans than dems in AZ, but their voter registration efforts reach people of all parties and Independents. They train small groups of people on voter registration and send them out to various places to canvass (neighborhoods, shopping centers, events, etc). Then they take the forms and deliver to them to the County Recorder.

Ask: **“Are you registered to vote at your current address?”** (This way people are less ashamed to admit that they might not be registered because they can just say they forgot to update, and also some don’t know they have to update when they move.)

Follow up if they are registered: **“That’s great, do you want to get your ballot by mail, too?”**

Hold your clipboard with registration forms where people immediately see you have it. Have to be assertive to get people to pay attention to you. Get the clipboard in people’s hands as soon as possible-makes them more likely to fill it out. There is a checkbox on the form to be added to the Permanent Early Voter List (PEVL). To get registered, they need an AZ driver license or ID card, Alien Registration Number, or appropriate Indian Affairs/Tribal number. If they don’t have one of these numbers, they will need to submit additional documentation to prove their citizenship, such as SS#, copy of birth certificate, or passport. Try to get the additional proof needed to pass on to the County Recorder, but the County Recorder will contact the person to try to get the info needed if it is not included. Oct 9, is the deadline to register for the upcoming election.

Connor passed around his sign-up sheet for people who wanted to be contacted later, and hung around to help people at the end of the meeting. His info: 623-810-5649 [chiggins@azdem.org](mailto:chiggins@azdem.org)

**Dorothy Barth** spoke about the Tucson Women’s March. March will be on Sunday Jan 20<sup>th</sup>. They are planning on having speakers and entertainment. They are working with the city right now to get the route approved. Working with YWCA as fiscal sponsor. Working hard to be inclusive. Looking for volunteers for logistics, fundraising, marketing. Please contact her if you are interested in helping. They have a webpage [www.tucsonwomensmarch.com](http://www.tucsonwomensmarch.com) and a Facebook page. Dorothy Barth can be contacted at 520-490-8335, or [dmbbamboo@gmail.com](mailto:dmbbamboo@gmail.com). The next planning meeting will be on Sept 25.

**Discussion of action on Equal Means Equal/ERA-** There is an event being planned in Flagstaff at NAU. “Equal Means Equal” director, Kamala Lopez, will be there. Phoenix NOW chapters are doing a lot with NAU event. Hollywood NOW and Native Nations are involved as well. Would like to have volunteer(s) to work on this. Meetings have been over the phone. We would like someone to see if we can also get something together for Tucson. Kamala Lopez has a short video to show legislators about the ERA. They helped get it passed in Illinois, and they are focused on AZ specifically right now. If 3 seats in our senate, and 4 in house flip, ERA can definitely pass. There is also a script to call the House to get them to commit to supporting the ERA. They get free advertising in the commit to support. Talk to Jami or Bonnie if interested in helping with these things.

Nicole Miller is setting up a meeting of the **Ending Violence Against Women Committee**. Will be two weeks from now. There will be a showing of a filmed interview with U of A president, and discussion of this interview and UA's handling of situations. She will get us details of time and location.

**Oct 8 panel discussion**- will be at The Loft from 6:30-8pm. They will hand out purple bracelets. Bonnie and Rene (Moms Demand Action and TucsonNOW member) are helping with planning. Candidate lineup is not finalized yet. Wear NOW shirts, or Purple. Tabling planned.

**2020 Women's Equality Day event**- fundraiser event at Dusty Monk was a success. They are hoping for more similar events to raise money.

Watch our website ([tucsonnow.org](http://tucsonnow.org)) and facebook page (Tucson National Organization for Women) for updates and info on things.

**Social Empower Hour**- looking for someone to set up these events. Elizabeth will work on setting one up at LaCocina. Contact us if you want to put one together.

**Pamela Powers Hannley and Victoria Steele**- from district 9, both won their primaries! Each district has 2 reps and 1 senator. Pam is running for House along with Randy Friese. Victoria is running for Senate. Both work for the ERA. They spoke about how the legislature passes things in the middle of the night, and people need to pay close attention. Invest in Ed and Dirty Money initiative have been kicked off the ballot, but there are other things on the ballot that deal with these same issues. You can vote NO on 126 (From the Arizona Assoc. of Realtors; would exempt all services from taxes), no on 305 (school vouchers), NO on 306 (makes clean elections candidates non-competitive by keeping them from buying powerful election tools. Weakens campaign finance watchdog tools.) These props get at these same issues (Ed and dirty money) If Kavanaugh gets on court, abortion access will get chipped away by states, so we need to elect people who will protect this right. AZ had a law that criminalized abortion on the books pre-Roe, which could end up law again. Pamela Powers Hannley would like people to work on building a Twitter presence for the ERA, and also we will need our National Reps to extend the deadline once we have enough States on board.

**Beryl Baker**- candidate for LD3. Supports ERA. Gathered over 1000 sigs for each Invest in Ed and Outlaw Dirty Money. Has been involved in the community for over 30 years. Hoping to be endorsed by NOW PAC.

Caroline Tompkins- **Constitutional Equality Committee**- we should all write to and call Senator Flake about the Kavanaugh nomination. Flake is unlikely to be swayed by the reasons we'd like. Appeal to his ego- he want to be seen a solid guy. It may be more effective to use different reasons to convince him to change his mind. Encourages people to appeal to him on other grounds- executive power, honesty, lgbtq rights, voter suppression. He is not the most vetted Supreme Court nominee. Kavanaugh has revealed that he will lie and cheat. Flake doesn't care about our NOW issues, but it is important to try to get him to switch his vote. We don't want a president who is above the law.

**Our website**- Persisting Tab- there is info to write or call about Kavanaugh. Letters take a lot longer to get there, but are still good. Calling daily is important.