

Minutes - June Monthly Meeting

Palouse Region Chapter, Citizen's Climate Lobby

Time: Wednesday, June 11, 2014 at 5:30 pm

Place: Hecht Room of the Neill Public Library at 210 N. Grand Ave, in Pullman.

In attendance: Mary DuPree, Judy Meuth, Rich Wesson, Zoe Cooley, Jim Cooley, Rob Briggs, Paul Spencer, Deb Olson, Jeff Ramsey, and Dori Brume.

Thanks to note taker Judy Meuth. These minutes were prepared by Rob Briggs.

Local Chapter Logistics

Rearrangement of lead roles - Mary DuPree has agreed to take over the role of Moscow co-leader from Pat Rathmann, and Pat will become the chapter's treasurer.

Plan for monthly meeting locations - Monthly chapter meetings will alternate between Pullman and Moscow. They will be held on the Wednesday immediately after the first Saturday of the month, except when Saturday falls on a holiday weekend, in which case they will be held one week later. The July meeting will be held on **Wednesday, July 16 at 5:30 pm at Bucer's Coffeehouse & Pub** at 201 S. Main St. in Moscow.

Finances - A resolution was unanimously approved for Pat Rathmann to open a checking account for chapter finances. Pat Rathmann, Mary DuPree, and Rob Briggs will have signature authority. We are in the process of registering the chapter as a non-profit organization in Idaho, which is necessary to obtain the desired bank account.

Banner - Rob passed around the proposed design for a vertical banner for use in tabling and other events. He will place the order for the banner. The expectation is that it will be available in time for use in tabling at the PCEI Sustainability Fair in Moscow on June 28.

Announcements

Years of Living Dangerously - The final showing of the nine-part Showtime series will be on Monday, June 16. Deb Olson agreed to check to see if the Pullman Public Library will agree to obtain the series on DVD, and Mary DuPree agreed to do the same for the Moscow Public Library.

CCL Book Club for June - The CCL Book Club selection for June is *The Cartoon Introduction to Climate Change* by Yoram Bauman and Grady Klein. The conference call discussion with Yoram Bauman is expected to occur on Sunday, June 29 at 5 pm. Bauman, who describes himself as a standup economist, heads a group called Carbon Washington, which is planning a revenue-neutral carbon tax ballot initiative.

Climate Change is Real! Rally and Dance - A rally and dance in Friendship Square from 6 to 9 pm, Thursday, June 12 was announced. The event is intended to draw attention to climate change and invite discussion with delegates attending the Idaho State Republican Convention, which begins on Thursday. Rob Briggs has been asked to speak at the rally about Citizens' Climate Lobby, along with representatives of other local environmental groups.

Highlights of June 7 National CCL Call

You can listen to the national call [here](#). Anthony Leiserowitz, Director of the Yale Project on Climate Change Communication, was the featured speaker. Rob reviewed several highlights from the call.

- Leiserowitz's research shows that "global warming" is a much more concerning and motivating term than "climate change." By very substantial margins, people are more likely to express concern and willingness to take political action if the first term is used rather than the second, hence the recommendation is to use the term "global warming" in lieu of "climate change" in any context in which the terms would otherwise be considered equivalent.
- Leiserowitz found that voters reported by a three to one margin being more likely to vote for a candidate who takes a strong stand on policies to combat climate change than to vote against such a candidate. This was a nationwide result, and there are significant regional variations in his findings.
- In his polling on support for a carbon tax, he found good support as long as the tax is "revenue neutral." He suggested that the term "dividend" may not be as effective as something like "refund."

ACTIONS: There are two recommended actions for the month of June:

- Write letters to members of congress about the REMI Report released on June 9 and the economic benefits it found from a carbon tax. Ask your members of congress to support revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend.
- On **Monday, June 23**, call your members of congress at their offices in Washington, DC and ask them to support revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend. This action is intended to amplify the message that will be sent by CCL members at the annual convention who will be meeting with members of congress beginning the following day, Tuesday, June 24.

Updates from Interest Groups

Tabling - Mary will be tabling at the final episode of *Years of Living Dangerously* on June 16. We will also have a table at the Sustainability Festival; Saturday, June 28, 3 - 7 PM and are looking for volunteers. Contact Mary if you can help out. We plan to table occasionally at the Moscow Farmer's Market once we have our banner available.

Newspapers/Media - Al Poplawsky and Rob Briggs had a meeting with the Editorial Board of the Moscow-Pullman Daily News on June 2 and provided them information on the REMI report. The Daily News ran a very positive front-page news story about the report's findings on June 9.

If any chapter members are readers of the Whitman County Gazette, we would like to enlist their assistance in monitoring coverage of climate issues, so that we can identify opportunities to engage

readers with our positive message. There may be other local news outlets that would be useful to monitor. We are currently actively monitor the M-P Daily News and the Lewiston Tribune.

Presentations - Pat Friel (not present) had made the suggestion that we have someone do a brief (e.g., 20-minute) presentation on CCL and revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend at our next meeting. The purpose would be both to learn about CCL, practice and refine the presentation, and discuss local opportunities for education and outreach. A presentation is scheduled for the Pullman League of Women Voters in November.

Outreach - Jeff Ramsey wrote four letter to members of congress. Jeff also suggested book titles, etc. for Republicans and others, leading to Judy's suggestion that these resources be put on a local CCL website along with brief descriptions of the materials.

Rob suggested that we should all be thinking about ways to connect with people know who would be good candidates for CCL membership. For example, Rob posted to his high-school Yahoo site about his participation in CCL and received two responses from classmates already involved and words of support and interest from others.

Lobbying - CCL needs volunteers to track and research the records and activities of members of congress. CCL prefers to find volunteers that reside within the states and congressional districts of the MoCs. If anyone is interested in taking on this role, particular for ID MoCs, please contact Rob.

Rob, along with 17 other CCL members from Washington State, will be attending the annual CCL convention in Washington, DC, which runs June 22 - 24.

New Business

Mary presented a draft of bylaws for the chapter (attached). The bylaws were voted on and accepted unanimously.

Paul Spencer agreed to construct and maintain a web site for the chapter. We briefly discussed content for the site. In addition to contact information, information about chapter meetings, and climate resources, we plan to post meeting minutes to the site. Rob agreed to assist Paul in identifying content for the site.

Mary suggested that we have business cards printed that provide a blank space for members to write in their names. This will enable members involved in outreach to provide prospective members and supporters a web address, email link to our chapter, and instructions for the weekly introductory calls at far lower expense than to obtain personal CCL cards. The suggestion was met with approval.

Rob asked if there was anyone willing to take on the role of filing field reports. CCL likes to track chapter accomplishments and wants one person to be responsible for filing the online reports to ensure thoroughness and avoid duplication. Anyone willing to take on this easy, low-effort task is asked to contact Rob.

Jim Cooley, a retired chemist, offered to present information on climate science based on information he receives from the American Chemical Society. CCL's efforts are primarily political, although there will be situations in the future (e.g., presentations, preparation of printed materials) where having climate science expertise will be valuable.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.