

CCL Palouse Region Monthly Meeting

5:30 – 7:00 pm, Wednesday, October 8, 2014; Daily Grind, Pullman

Present: Mary DuPree, Deb Olson, Ginny Lohr, Paul Spencer, Rob Briggs, Al Poplawsky, Steve Flint, Judy Meuth, Jeffrey Ramsey, Cherry Stadler. Note taker Judy Meuth

Agenda & Review of Minutes

Marry called for any changes to last meeting's notes.

Updates on Local Chapter Issues

Website – Paul has site up with Go Daddy as host for two years. He asks members to go look at it [here](#) and provide comments and suggestions. He'll also give password to other members needing access to the site. He'll put content up if members will email it to him. Rob asked about learning how to alter the site, and Paul described the process, which requires an editor and file transfer using ftp.

Discussion was held on changing the meeting date and time. It was suggested that we start meetings at 6:00 rather than 5:30 because it is difficult for people who work until 5 to arrive by 5:30 and because traffic is quite heavy at 5:30. We decided to move to a fixed day of the month rather than tying to the Saturday CCL meeting time (which changes when there is a holiday weekend), because of the confusion and resulting schedule conflicts. We identified four possible times: the 2nd Monday, the 1st Tuesday, the 1st Thursday, and the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Rob will set up a Doodle Poll to determine what time works the best.

Announcements

Deb announced that *Years of Living Dangerously* is now available at the Pullman Library. Al thought it was also available at U of I Library. Mary will check to see if the Moscow Library has ordered it.

A candidate forum is being held tonight (October 8) in Moscow.

Deb asked for a volunteer to do a CCL presentation to the Pullman League of Women Voters from noon to 1 pm on Thursday, October 16 at the Congressional Church. Rob agreed to do the presentation or find someone else who would.

Reports

- CCL's entry in the MIT Climate CoLab competition "The Little Engine That Could" took first place in the popular vote for its category, which will mean some good publicity for CCL.
- CCL is beginning a national fundraising initiative, which they are calling the "Tutu Much CO2 Challenge." Each chapter is encourage to raise \$2500, although participation is strictly optional.
- There is a [new Laser Talk](#) on the CCL web site on the border tax adjustment. Questions related to carbon fees and how they might affect trade relations and whether CCL's

proposal is compatible with existing trade agreements are issues frequently raised by members of congress and others.

Highlights of October National Call

Ginny Lohr provided highlights from the October call, which can be listened to [here](#).

- CCL's assessment of the positions of members of congress on CCL's legislative proposals is that there are 55 senators that fall into the two of four most favorable categories and that there are 188 house members in those categories.
- The featured speaker for the call was Adam Browning, executive director of Vote Solar. The organization has two initiatives: 1) to encourage citizens to generate their own energy and 2) to get states to enact solar energy rebates and other incentives. Browning cited several encouraging developments among them a Georgia Utility building utility-scale solar PV installations because they found them cheaper than natural gas or coal generation and Georgia Tea Party Republicans becoming active politically to fight utility impediments to home owner rooftop PV installations. Browning also pointed out that there are a variety of reason for supporting solar and carbon-free energy, and it's best to not assume that allies are motivated by climate concerns.
- While CCL National is focused on the US Congress, there is an international initiative being launched under the banner [Pathway to Paris](#). The motivation is recognition that the "bundle of everything" strategy for global treaty negotiations has failed and that pricing carbon could be an alternative that could motivate congress to pre-empt the deal Obama may make in Paris.

Actions for the Month

1. Send letters to members of congress asking them to attend House and Senate REMI briefings in November . – Rob will send out a notice encouraging members to write letters on this topic.
2. Plan activities for your group to participate in the "Tutu Much CO2 Challenge" fundraising campaign for CCL. – We decided that we probably do not have the time and resources to pull off a fund-raising event. Instead Rob will send out an appeal for members to contribute to CCL with these minutes and notice about this month's letter-writing action.
3. Schedule an outreach event to enroll new members and generate letters to Congress. – Rob agreed to contact Pat Rathmann about a possible future event at the McConnell Mansion.

Updates from Interest Groups

Tabling/Outreach – Mary and Jeff agreed to table next Saturday (10/11) at the Moscow Farmers Market. Mary also plans to table on Saturday (10/18). Others who can help table are encouraged to join them at Friendship Square. The market runs from 8 am to 1 pm, and continues for three more Saturdays in October.

Jeff Ramsey brought more than a page of names on sign-up sheets, which he collected at the September 21 March for Survival and potluck that followed. Mary will add these names to our chapter mailing list and send them an introductory email. Rob went to the march in Spokane on September 21 and collected names of people interested in learning more about CCL. He also

found one good candidate for leading a new Spokane CCL chapter. Rob asked that anyone who knows someone in Spokane who might be interested in CCL or leading a new chapter there to provide contact information. Al agreed to contact an individual active with Spokane Sierra Club and ask the same question.

Newspapers/Media – Rob passed around an op-ed published Oct. 5th in the Spokesman Review that he had co-authored with Alex Amonette of the Tri-Cities CCL chapter and will send electronically to Paul for posting to the chapter web site.

Rob suggested that we develop a team approach to increasing our presence and the effectiveness of our messaging on the Daily News opinion page. This could involve a variety of roles: reading the paper and notifying the team of news stories or opinion pieces that invite our response, drafting responses, reviewing and copy editing, fact checking, and submitting. Rob offered to host a get-together at his house in Pullman to strategize on this idea and to socialize, and several people expressed interest in attending. Rob to follow up via email.

Presentations – There is an ongoing four-part series of webinars on CCL Community Thursday evenings at 5 pm on how to give a presentation on CCL. PowerPoint presentations can be downloaded from the CCLU tab on Community, and you can also watch the recordings of past webinars.

The one currently-planned CCL presentation to the Pullman League of Women Voters will be moved up to Thursday, October 16 at noon at the Congressional Church in Pullman.

Lobbying – Mary contacted a staffer in Shirley Ringo’s campaign office, who showed little interest in the climate issue suggesting that people are not interested in climate, even though polling by CCL allies shows that positions supporting climate action make candidate more electable.

Steve, Pat R., and Rob met with Scott Carlton of Raúl Labrador’s office and Tony Snodderly of Mike Crapo’s office on Tuesday, October 7 at Cafe Artista. Tony asked what local groups like the Chamber of Commerce and the Moscow mayor and city council members thought of the idea. He suggested that the question of where local grassroots organizations stood on an issue was often one of the first questions that he would be asked by Senator Crapo.

Scott asked several probing questions about the REMI study results and said that Representative Labrador was interested in learning more about CCL’s proposal. He also indicated that a major concern would be assurance that all fees would go back to the people and not be diverted to other purposes. What we asked of both staffers was that they send a representative to the Senate and House briefings on the REMI report scheduled for November 19 and 20 on Capitol Hill. At the request of CCL’s Washington delegation, Senator Cantwell agreed to sponsor the Senate briefing and Rep. John Larson (D-CT) is sponsoring the House briefing.

New Business – We briefly discussed efforts to engage U of I and WSU students. Results from outreach by Mary and Rob to the Argonaut and Evergreen remain pending.

Suggested Topics for November Meeting – A discussion of friendraising—gathering new members and responding to people’s interests—was deferred to the next meeting in the interest of time.

The next meeting will tentatively be held at La Madrid Restaurant in Moscow with the date and time pending results of a new Doodle Poll.

Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 7 pm.

Summary of Action Items

- All – Take a look at the chapter web site [<http://www.cclpalouse.org/>] and forward any comments to Paul at [paulrrspencer at gmail dot com].
- Rob – Conduct Doodle Poll to establish new date formula for monthly meetings.
- Mary – Check on whether *Years of Living Dangerously* is available at Moscow Library.
- Rob – Include national CCL fund-raising appeal with next announcement to chapter mail list.
- Rob – Send request for letters to MOCs to encourage attendance at November REMI briefings with next announcement to chapter mail list.
- Rob – Check with Pat Rathmann regarding possible fund-raising venue at McConnell Mansion.
- Mary – Send welcome messages to list of potential new members harvested by Jeffrey at March for survival.
- Al – eMail Spokane Sierra Club contact regarding potential leads for new CCL Spokane chapter.
- Rob – Forward Spokesman Review op-ed to Paul for posting to web.
- Rob – Organize media team brainstorming get-together.
- Rob – Find speaker for Pullman League of Women Voters lunchtime seminar on October 16.