

Meeting Notes - April 2015 Monthly Meeting

Palouse Region Chapter, Citizens' Climate Lobby

Time: Thursday, April 2, 5:30 to 7 pm

Place: Daily Grind Coffee House, 230 E. Main St., Pullman

Present: Deb Olson, Ginny Lohr, Jeff Ramsey, Judy Meuth (note taker), Rob Briggs, Mary Jo Hamilton, Steve Flint, Al Poplawsky, Pat Rathmann, Paul Spencer, and Mary DuPree

Next Palouse Region Chapter Meeting

Thursday, May 7, 5:30 – 7:00 pm in Moscow (likely at One World Cafe, but venue not yet confirmed).

Action Items from April Meeting

- Mary – Share link to statement written by Madison, WI Rotary Club, which attendees felt contained compelling language which might be useful for our chapter in communicating with local service organizations.
- Rob – Share mp3 link and time segment for previous national call that describes the extraordinary success of Wisconsin CCL chapters in winning Rotary endorsements: <http://ccl.podbean.com/e/january-international-call-featuring-david-hone-climate-change-advisor-for-shell/> from 30.15 to 31.50.
- Rob – Contact Madeleine Para (CCL National Program Director) for additional information on Wisconsin rotary endorsement effort and share with Mary/group.
- All - Listen to the this month's national call featuring George Marshall, author of [Don't Even Think About It: Why Our Brains Are Wired To Ignore Climate Change](#) here: <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/monthly-international-conference-calls/>. [National calls are usually posted by mid afternoon of the first Saturday of each month.]
- All – CCL's recommended actions for April include writing members of Congress and asking them if they have seen the REMI report yet. Detailed instruction can be found in the April 2015 Action Sheet (attached).
- Al – Write an op-ed for the M-PDN to appear during Earth Week. Jeff, someone else, and Rob agreed to review Al's draft.
- Jeff – Write a letter to the editor to M-PDN commending them on their April 2 editorial "Time to start looking for summer homes in Antarctica?" Ginny agreed to review Jeff's draft.
- Al – Look at the canned PowerPoint presentations available on CCL Community and communicate impressions and recommendations to Mary, Rob, and Jeff on their suitability for use in presentations to local business and service organizations.
- Mary – Compile a list of local business and service organizations and contacts for CCL presentations in Moscow/ Latah County.
- Judy – Compile a list of local business and service organizations and contacts for CCL presentations in Pullman/Whitman County.

- Paul – Contact people you know who work for Schweitzer Engineering to determine whether the company sponsors any kind of forum that might provide a venue for us to present.
- Pat – Check with the Kenworthy (or alternative venues) to see if we can show the new film *Merchants of Doubt* in late August or early September with Palouse CCL as major sponsor.
- Mary and Jeff – Table for CCL at Moscow Hemp Fest, Saturday, April 18th, East City Park.
- Rob – Submit request to event organizers for table at WSU Earth Day event on Terrell Mall.
- Rob – Coordinate with Mary to convey tabling materials to WSU Earth Day event.
- Pat – Table for CCL on Earth Day (Wednesday, April 22) at U of I.
- Deb and Ginny – Table for CCL on Earth Day (Wednesday, April 22), Terrell Mall, WSU.
- Al – Arrange for the display of CCL tabling materials at Friends of the Clearwater/Palouse Group Sierra Club booth at Moscow Renaissance Fair, May 2&3, East City Park, Moscow.
- Paul – Check with the Palouse Discovery Science Center to see if there is potential for a CCL presentation there.
- Paul and Ginny – Resolve technical issue related to maintaining the chapter web site so we can diffuse responsibility and expand web site usefulness for chapter communications.
- Rob – Send photograph from Palouse Region Group Start to M-PDN to mark our chapter’s one-year anniversary.

Other Notes from April Meeting

- Congratulation to Ginny Lohr and Steve Flint for excellent letters in the Moscow-Pullman Daily News in March that clearly conveyed CCL’s positive solution.
- Mary reported on the Madison Wisconsin Rotary club’s efforts to push endorsement of climate action. The effort has run into resistance from the national Rotary organization, whose bylaws prohibit involvement in “political” issues. The Madison chapter is pushing for a national vote of Rotary members on that bylaw. A key strategy of WI CCL advocates seeking Rotary club endorsements has been to highlight the role of climate change in negating the benefits of Rotary service projects—a theme we also might want to consider when approaching local service organizations.
- The featured April national call speaker, George Marshall, may have some useful ideas for our public communications. His book *Don’t Even Think About It* was released in August 2014. Pat Rathmann has a copy available for lending. [You’ll find a longer interview with Marshall by the amazing Alex Smith here: <http://www.ecoshock.info/2014/07/a-world-burns-in-silence.html> starting at 12:14 and running through 50:03.]
- Rob reported on the Blunt Amendment, which triggered the first ever Urgent Action Alert from our chapter. The Blunt Amendment did pass 58-42 but is not expected to impeded CCL’s efforts for several reasons. CCL felt that the bad news on the Blunt Amendment was offset by good news on the Sanders Amendment, which advocates Congressional action on climate change, because it lost by only a 49-51 margin with five Republicans in support.
- Pat reminded us that in our last discussion with one of Senator Crapo’s aides Tony Snodderly, we were told that the senators first question would be, “which local business leaders support CCL’s legislation?” The question caused us to identify a series of action items that will lead to a capability to present to local business and service organizations.
- Discussion – Mary posed the question: how important is it to CCL’s messaging that we assert that global warming is anthropogenic? We all seemed to agreed that doing so was unhelpful with

conservative audiences. Human agency in global warming is fundamental to the rationale for CCL's proposal, however, as REMI shows, there are other benefits from the proposal. There appeared to be a consensus that we should emphasize the non-climate-related benefits from the policy, frame any climate-related benefits in terms of risk mitigation, and avoid asserting that any particular individuals or groups have gotten this one wrong. We need to make it as easy as possible for those on the opposite side of this issue to acquiesce and join with us.

- Pat's recommendation that we sponsor a showing of the recently release movie *Merchants of Doubt* soon after students return for fall semester was met with wide agreement. We will discuss details and consider final approval at our May chapter meeting.
- Steve, as liaison to Rep. Raul Labrador and Senator Mike Crapo, is updating bios and requesting appointments for meetings in June in conjunction with the CCL International Conference in DC. Those expecting to attend from our chapter include Steve, Ginny, Rob, and maybe Jeff.
- Rob provided an update on the CarbonWA ballot initiative. As a result of the failure of WA Democrats to embrace Inslee's carbon cap and trade proposal, CarbonWA's initiative has taken center stage. Rob has secured commitments for us to gather 500 signatures by November. You need not be a Washington resident to gather signatures, so let Rob know if you can help. Dr. James Hansen has stated that effort in WA and OR to get a price on carbon are nationally significant in the fight to save creation for the grand kids.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned to Ricos at 7 pm.