

Notes from February 5, 2015 Monthly Meeting

Palouse Region Chapter, Citizens' Climate Lobby

5:30 to 7 pm at home of Rob Briggs and Ginny Lohr, 837 SE Edge Knoll Drive in Pullman

Introductions

Each person introduced her/himself. Members present: Rob Briggs, Mary DuPree, Pat Friel, Ginny Lohr, Judy Meuth (Note taker), Deb Olson, Sheila O'Rourke, Jeff Ramsey, Carlos Sampaio, Rich Wesson

Agenda/Minutes

Rob forgot to send out the minutes from our last meeting, but will do so prior to the next meeting.

Reports

Ginny reported on the January National CCL Call featuring David Hone, Climate Change Advisor for Shell. Hone stated that we can't continue adding to carbon consumption. Shell supports carbon pricing, especially through a carbon trade system. As a second choice option, Shell supports the CCL proposal because it gives the government flexibility and would cost the least to reach compliance. Since 2000, Shell has been calculating a probable carbon fee of \$40 per ton.

The next CCL call will be on Feb. 7 and feature Keya Chatterjee, executive director of the US Climate Action Network. You can listen to the call anytime after about mid-afternoon Saturday here:

<http://citizensclimatelobby.org/monthly-international-conference-calls/>.

Rob reported on some of International CCL's accomplishments in 2014, including:

- By year's end, 11,000 people had signed on as supporters of the CCL proposal.
- 80 new chapters were established during the year.
- More than 2,050 letters to the editor were published.

Rob played an excerpt from the weekly address of Mark Reynolds, the CCL executive director, where Reynolds noted that influential people on both the political right and left are speaking out in favor of the CCL proposal. George Shultz, Reagan's former Secretary of State, is a strong supporter for decisive action to contain climate change. His philosophy is that if we want change, we have to make the status quo more expensive. He supports a carbon tax balanced by tax cuts in other areas and government funding for clean energy.

Activities for month

- LASER TALK practice – We split into pairs to read and practice two laser talk scripts, “2015: A Decisive Year for Climate Action” and “Fraud and the Dividend”.
- We discussed the new CCL two minute video and ways we can share it with a wider audience:
 - Show the film at Neill Public Library and have a discussion of it (Deb).
 - Have a monitor with the video continuously showing at a Farmer's Market table (Mary).
 - Share the video on Facebook (Rich).
- Volunteers are needed to update or create bios for members of Congress outside your area, which will be used for our lobbying efforts in June.

Goals for 2015

Rob presented a one-page summary of our January discussion on chapter goals for 2015. We reviewed the summary, making several points for honing the objectives and the actions to achieve them. The suggested amendments included:

Media:

- Include our local and international CCL website addresses in media communications.
- Add the *Whitman County Gazette* and perhaps agricultural publications to the list for op-ed and letter to the editor target publications.

Outreach:

- Provide speakers to local civic organizations.
- Continue/grow our tabling and information dissemination efforts.

Chapter Development:

- Triple the number of Idaho residents in our chapter.

Rob requested that everyone email him before the next meeting with their additional suggestions and any other edits for this Goals for 2015 document.

Updates from Interest Groups

- Tabling/Outreach – Pat Rathmann/Jeff Ramsey
 - Upcoming opportunities – Renaissance Fair, Hemp Fest, Farmer’s Markets, WSU campus (sponsored by the student Environmental Task Force)
- Presentations
 - Potential events/audiences – WSU Center for Civic Engagement Roundtable Topics/Panels, civic organizations
- Lobbying – Steve Flint/Rob Briggs
 - Steve is willing to lobby additional members of Congress.
- Newspapers/Media – Al Poplawsky/Rob Briggs
 - *Moscow Pullman Daily News* is recruiting new Op-ed members. Is anyone interested in taking on that role? Rich and/or Jeff will write a letter to the editor addressing today’s *MP Daily News* editorial noting that most scientists believe in global climate change while many non-scientists do not.

Updates on Chapter Activities

- American Farm Bureau – Mary will be talking with state-level Farm Bureau representatives to begin a conversation on climate change, the CCL proposal, and the REMI report. The goal is to start a national Farm Bureau movement in support of the CCL proposal. The CCL Community website has a laser talk on how climate change affects farmers and the impacts of the CCL proposal.
- CarbonWA - Rob will talk with this organization soon about a revenue-neutral carbon tax ballot measure. He asked if anyone would like to volunteer to collect signatures for the measure.

Announcements/Local Chapter Issues

- Greater Pacific Northwest Regional CCL Conference in Seattle – Saturday and Sunday, March 7 & 8. Conference Theme: *Fisheries, Farms and Forests: Connecting with Concerned Harvesters* Details and Registration here: <https://donate.citizensclimateeducationcorp.org/seattle/events/greater-pacific-northwest-regional-conference/e41679>
- International CCL Conference in Washington, DC – 2015 Citizens' Climate Lobby International Conference - Washington, DC, June 21- 23 - *1000 Volunteers, 535 Congressional Meetings, One Goal*. <http://citizensclimatelobby.org/2015-international-conference/>
- International Divestment Day [<http://gofossilfree.org/divestment-day/>] - Friday and Saturday, February 13 and 14. Global Divestment Day Moscow, Administration Building University of Idaho, Moscow, Friday, February 13 2015, 12:00pm
- Darwin on the Palouse, Feb. 7, 6:30pm, UI Admin Auditorium
- **Next Meeting of CCL Palouse Region chapter - March 12, 5:30-7:00, location TBD**

Adjournment