

Agenda – April 19, 2018

Palouse Citizens' Climate Lobby

5:30-7:00pm, Umpqua Bank Meeting Room, 225 N. Grand Ave., Pullman

Introductions and Additions to the Agenda

Review of Minutes

Announcements

- Hydro One and Avista merger agreement in WA; Colstrip coal mines to close early.
- Living in the Garden event
- National CCL Conference June

Action Items from March meeting and updates from interest groups

- Media - Op eds and letters to the editor
- Presentations
- Tabling - Earth Day, Moscow Farmer's Market (entire season)
- Lobbying - in district during Congress' spring recess

Communications Exercise

Campaign for letters to Members of Congress

- Sign up for "grass tops" contacts
- Moscow and Pullman City Council update
- Help identify and contact groups to whom we can make presentations

Your Interests and Expertise

National Call – Mary: The guest speaker is Amber Sullins, who is working to communicate about climate change from her position as a meteorologist, the only type of scientist most Americans hear from. CCL is having technical difficulties so they don't yet have a video of the call online, but they do have a transcript of the meeting and her Powerpoint slides at <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/monthly-speakers/>

Fact of Interest

Actions for the Month

1. Grasstops Engagement Tracker - ask influencers to take impactful actions
2. Campaign season activities - engage with candidates
3. Communications exercise - get ready to have effective conversations at Earth Day tabling

Next Meeting - May 17 at the Senior Center in the 1912 Center, Moscow, 5:30-7pm.

Effective conversations with table visitors on Earth Day

During the month of April, many CCL volunteers will set up tables at Earth Day events and talk about climate solutions with table visitors. This will offer a chance to practice our speaking skills AND our listening skills! To have an effective conversation with people who visit your table, you may want to try using the [Motivational Interviewing](#) (MI) approach as described on CCL Community. MI is a collaborative communication style for helping a person to strengthen their own motivation and commitment to change.

Three MI techniques are to (1) ask open questions, (2) reflect the answer you heard, and (3) give an affirmation. The goal in the communications exercise below is to help a table visitor discover how they might like to be engaged in CCL.

Pair up with another volunteer, picture yourselves at an Earth Day fair, and take turns reading the two roles below. After you've practiced, feel free to modify the dialogue and develop your own affirmations, open-ended questions, and reflective listening!

Passerby: I've heard about Citizens' Climate Lobby and find it interesting, but I'm not into lobbying.

CCLer: I'm glad to hear you've heard about us! It sounds like you could be interested in getting involved if you could volunteer in a way other than lobbying. Is that true? [reflective listening]

Passerby: Yeah, I guess. I really care about climate change and just don't know how I should be helping. I recycle and drive a hybrid, but that's about it.

CCLer: Well, you've made a great start, every bit helps [affirmation]. One of the great things about Citizens' Climate Lobby is that there are many ways to get involved. Members of our chapter help at outreach events, like tabling here or giving public presentations, or writing letters to the editor and op-eds for the newspaper, or even getting endorsements for our legislative proposal from businesses and community leaders who are influential in the district! What do you think about those options? [open-ended question]

Passerby: Well, that last one still sounds a little like lobbying, ... but I think I might enjoy writing to the newspaper. I used to write for my university's paper back in college.

CCLer: Fantastic! We could use someone with your skills [affirmation]. Would you write down your email or phone number so I can follow up and get you connected with our local chapter?

Passerby: Sure, I can do that.