

Meeting Notes February 16, 2017 - Monthly Meeting Palouse Region Chapter, Citizens' Climate Lobby

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

Present: Diana Armstrong, Adrienne Marshall, Paul Spencer, Mary DuPree, Emily Treiber, Katie Gieske, Judy Meuth, Deb Olsen, Amelie Schmolke, Pete Haug, Suzanne Polle, Marilyn Von Seggern, Bertie Weddell, Brian Dietel, Al Poplowsky, Steve Flint

Review of January Minutes Note change: Mac has made contact with several University of Idaho faculty members and is hoping to give presentations at several 400 level courses.

Announcements

March 4-5 Greater Pacific Northwest regional conference, Seattle. This will be held on March 4 and 5 and will be only a half-day on Sunday. 2016 CCL results, lobbying, and new technology will be discussed. The cost is \$100, Or \$50 for students or low income attendees. However donors have volunteered to sponsor any members from our Organization who wish to attend. Also, free housing will be available.

June 11-13 International Conference and Lobby Day, Washington DC. This will include several days of inspiring talks, lobbying, and meeting members of Congress and staff. For these meetings there is always a team of CCL members rather than individuals. Please see the international CCL website for scholarship opportunities for this conference.

CCL Eastern WA Tour — this was inspired by a similar tour in Texas which was very successful. The Walla Walla and Spokane CCL organizations need inspiration and help. The Clarkston CCL is also interested in and the tour may also reach the Tri-Cities. The consensus of this meeting was that our CCL– Palouse does not need help from the tour.

Reports

Endorsement Letters to MOC's – Bertie, Ned, Judy. CCL-Palouse has decided to switch the endorsement effort to obtaining a lot of signatures from small businesses and individuals with a letter emphasizing potential effects of climate change. This letter would be addressed to congress members representing our area. The effects chosen to be in the letter should be important to both the signers of the letter, and also be important to the congress members to which the letter will be sent.

Judy distributed drafts of two such letters (one each for Idaho and Washington). A discussion resulted in many suggestions of possible improvements. The endorsement team will revise the letters and send the revised draft to Paul who will put it on the website so that people who were not able to attend the meeting can also make suggestions.

For the next CCL meeting each person should bring a list of 4 or 5 persons who might be willing to sign one of the letters.

Agriculture Outreach - Judy, Mary, and Al. The next meeting is scheduled for 10:00, Tuesday February 21 at Umpqua Bank. There are 3 confirmed attendees, and more are being encouraged to attend. One note of discouragement is that the Farm Service person, USDA

employees, and U of I and WSU experts are not able to make presentations at a “political meeting”.

Presentations –

- At the League of Women Voters of Pullman monthly meeting Judy, Bertie and Ginny talked and gave a power point presentation about climate change and the CCL proposal. There was lots of discussion and good feedback.
- Marilyn gave a presentation to the Young Democrats at WSU, and has sent a second message to the Young Republicans but has not yet received a reply.
- Mary will make a presentation to a U.I. general education class.
- Pete – Whitman County January 12, next week (Feb. 21) Neill Public Library, later Palouse Asian American Association at the 1912 center.
- Mac and Judy – Carbon pricing and CCL for a Civil and Environmental Engineering 400 level course

Action Items from January Meeting and Updates from Interest Groups

- *Years of Living Dangerously 2* at The Kenworthy Theatre, Feb. 20. Because the projector failed at one of the previous showings, this last session will include 3 film “episodes”.
- Tabling – Diana and Judy at Years of Living Dangerously II and also the Martin Luther King breakfast. Bertie at the Co-Op on Sundays.
- Lobbying – Steve had thought that there was not much new to discuss with Congressman Crapo but the new Climate Leadership Council development is an excellent new topic to discuss. He tried to meet with Cong. Crapo in April but only an appointment with the staff is possible and it will probably be in the next few weeks. This can be done at the Lewiston office. Please contact Steve if you are interested in participating.
- Judy will contact Ginny about Washington State possibilities.
- LTE’s -- Diana wrote to the Queen of England suggesting that the Queen wait to meet President Trump until after he has worked his way into doing a good job as President.
- Group Planning Worksheet for 2017 – Not discussed, but everyone should review it and suggest improvements and additions. **See Action Items Below**

National Call Katie - Sandy Reisky: How do we speed up the transition to clean energy? Reisky is Chairman and Chief Strategy Officer of Apex Clean Energy, which is developing and managing dozens of wind and solar power projects throughout the U.S. Watch the talk at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZEjt9q3C1X0> Katie explained that Rieseke is carrying out a

digital campaign to change the energy behavior of consumers. He thinks that individual empowerment could reduce Carbon usage by 21%. He thinks that with Pope Francis's announcement and the Paris agreement, the time has come and that we are near a tipping point and that this change will be good for the economy. He is starting a new social media campaign. An example is encouraging that air conditioned buildings should not have the doors left open.

Special Note: Barack Obama has written an excellent article in the Jan. 13 issue of Science magazine, "The irreversible momentum of clean energy". Private sector efforts help drive decoupling of emissions and economic growth.

Climate Leadership Council's Carbon Dividends Plan -- Mary reported that the Council has issued a statement, the conservative case for a climate solution. They say that mounting evidence of climate change is growing too strong to ignore. While the extent to which climate change is due to man-made causes can be questioned, the risks associated with future warming are too big and at least we need an insurance policy.

1. A gradually increasing carbon tax starting at \$40 per ton and increasing steadily with time.
2. Carbon dividends for all Americans equally administered by Social Security.
3. Border Carbon adjustments
4. Significant regulatory rollback of EPA's regulatory authority over carbon dioxide emissions should be phased out.

They say that this will strengthen the economy, provide a plan for the future, shrink government, stabilize an unstable world, and consolidate conservative leadership.

Mark Reynolds the leader of CCL says that this is what we wanted and that we should support and encourage this effort and NOT say that this is our (CCL's) plan. We should all ask our representatives to join this cause.

National Actions for the Month:

Write and ask representatives to join the House Climate Solutions Caucus.

Start making media and outreach plans for Earth Day (April 22).

Practice communication skills.

Review of Action Items from this meeting

- Everyone should review the CCL Group Planning Worksheet and make suggestions for improvements or changes. Available the end of the minutes for January: <http://cclpalouse.org/PDF/CCLminutesJan2017.pdf>
- Judy will revise the draft endorsement letters and send them out to all CCL-Palouse members. They will also be available on the website.

- **Everyone** should review the revised endorsement letters and suggest improvements or additions.
- **Everyone: Think who would be a possible person to sign one of the endorsement letters and bring a list of 4 or 5 people to the next meeting.**
- All - send Marilyn actions/links for her to report to national CCL (kvs21@frontier.com). Also send published items and website suggestions to Paul to post on CCL-P website (paul-spencer@pullman.com).
- Deb will check to see if “Years Of Living Dangerously II” can be obtained for the library.
- **All** – write to our representatives to ask them to join the Climate Solutions Caucus.

Next meeting March 16, 5:30-7pm, 1912 Center Senior Center, 412 East 3rd St. Moscow

Adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

(Note taker, Paul Spencer)