

## **Minutes – Feb. 21, 2019 Palouse Citizens' Climate Lobby**

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

Present: Marilyn Von Seggern, Judy Meuth, Mary DuPree, Carlos Simms, Steve Flint, Mac Cantrell, Paul Spencer, Trish Glazebrook, Linda Jovanovich, Simon Smith, Al Poplovsky, Bertie Weddel, Aijan Meddens

**Additions to the Agenda** - None

**Review of Minutes** – No changes

### **Announcements**

- CCL International Conference & Lobby Day, June 9-11, 2019 in D.C. [cclusa.org/conference](http://cclusa.org/conference) . [Diversity Scholarships](#) and [Conservative Scholarships](#) application deadline is March 31st. Local scholarships are also available for those with a strong interest but not enough financial resources.

Judy said that this is a great meeting and is an interesting and worthwhile experience. Mac said that it is a very important chance to influence and change the minds of Congress members.

- ID & E WA CCL Conference – April 20, Moscow, ID. We are in the process of planning this. For more information, see below.
- Carlos Simms pointed out that humans have made a significant change in the climate even before the industrial revolution. An article about this is available at: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0277379118307261>  
The title is “Earth system impacts of the European arrival and Great Dying in the Americas after 1492”. The article explains that the forest regeneration after the estimated 90% population decrease in the Americas (caused by European diseases) resulted in a 7-10 ppm decrease in the world atmospheric carbon dioxide. This may have contributed the cause of the Little Ice Age in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries
- Bertie has been working on a document about how Climate Change affects us here and now. She has a rough mockup for anyone interested.

### **Reports**

#### **City/County Actions**

- Mac reported about the Moscow Sustainable Environment Commission. The City has a goal to reduce CO2 emissions by 20% by 2020. They will report on progress toward this goal sometime this spring.
- Bertie, Marilyn and Judy met with Pullman City Manager, Mr. Lincoln. Even though Pullman has goals to decrease carbon usage, they pointed out to him that there is no commission for action and urged him to start the process.
- Linda contacted Palouse Mayor Echanove. She asked him when Palouse would start climate change actions. Contentious issues such as improving the sewer treatment plant have limited the time available for considering climate change discussions. She will attend the City Council meeting on Tuesday evening and remind them. The Council has looked at the Pullman Goals to get ideas.

#### **Media - Recent editorials and letters to the editor**

- Jeff Joswig-Jones about congressional action
- Al Poplovsky CCL urgent concern

NOTE: Please send copies of published letters (or interviews) to Marilyn and to your member of congress.

NOTE: Please send anything which would be good for Social Media to Carlos Simms at

## **Presentations –**

UI classes

Carbon Series at UI: Mac Cantrell will be giving a talk on Carbon Pollution – impacts and Solutions at Campus Commons, White Water room on Feb 28 at 11 a.m. On Feb. 27 at the same time and place there will be a talk about the Carbon Cycle.

Mary will give a talk about the new Bill and the Green New Deal to the Moscow League of Women Voters Wednesday March 6 at Nook in the Fisk Room at the 1912 center.

Judy will give a talk to the LWV in May and to the WSU International

## **Lobbying**

ID – Mac and Steve presented information about the Bill and the background of CCL to Clinton Daniels, a staffer for **representative Colcher ?????**. He listened and asked questions.

For March and April Mac reported that Senator Crapo has blocked out times for visits in Idaho.

WA – Judy said that there is no schedule for local meetings with representative McMorris-Rodgers

## **ID & E WA CCL Conference Planning – April 20, Moscow, ID**

Mac, Katie, Carlos, Linda, Judy

Current plans:

- Friday April 19 6:30 p.m. – talk for local people with potluck 6:30 p.m. at the 1912 center
- Local volunteer for bedrooms for out-of-town visitors for Friday or Saturday (or both) nights.
- Sessions on Saturday will be 1 or 2 at the same time.
- Tim Giedt about advocating for the Bill and CCL action
- More depth on Energy Innovation
- Afternoon, 2 Ag sessions: Judy Olson (Past Wheat growers Assoc. and Patty Murray Staff) policy and farm view of things, how to talk to and work with farmers
- Judy suggested that the WSU Environmental club might be interested
- Question: Should we have a poster session for students?
- Someone suggested Mr. Reid, a Moscow High School Teacher who is young and enthusiastic
- Talk on Health – Kate from tri cities
- The last will be an interactive panel session with 2 or 3 members. Jim Tolbert, Tamara Statton, Gabriel Dubendorfer who is from Sandpoint
- Lunch will be catered.
- Fee \$10 for students, possibly \$30-45 for adults
- Bertie volunteered to lead the publicity.
- Tuesday Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. in Pullman will be the next planning meeting for the conference
- Casey will try to line up special rates for a block of rooms at Motels

**National CCL Monthly Call** – Arjan Meddens: Dr. Natasha DeJarnett, research coordinator at the National Environmental Health Association. Her specialty areas include climate change and environmental exposures, how the burning of fossil fuels takes a tremendous toll on public health, not only from the impact of climate

change, but also from the pollution that leads to heart and respiratory problems. These effects will have a disproportionate impact on children, elderly people, and low income communities. To watch/download/listen visit <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/monthly-speakers/>

**National Actions for February**

**1. Make a chapter action plan for 2019 using CCL’s “Levers of Political Will”**

- CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT - Recruit, train, engage and share the work
- LOBBYING - Build and deepen your relationships with your members of Congress
- MEDIA - A steady drumbeat of pieces to local papers and postings on social media.
- GRASSROOTS - Educate, recruit and build support
- GRASSTOPS ENGAGEMENT - Demonstrating support from community leaders

**2. Communication skills exercise:** Sharing information about the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 (See Below)

**Next Meeting** March 21, 5:30-7:00pm, 1912 Center, Senior Center, 412 East 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Moscow

## Sharing information about the bill

### COMMUNICATION SKILLS EXERCISE

We’re excited that the bill was reintroduced, and we’re eager to tell people about it! When coupled with good listening, these conversations can open minds and build relationships. Try slowing down to restate what you heard and appreciate the values underneath concerns you heard before responding with information.

**Practice exercise focused on the regulatory language in the bill**

With a partner, imagine a scenario in which someone expresses concern regarding the provision on EPA regulations. Try out these steps to help you balance listening with providing information. After the partners have each had a turn, reconvene and ask a few partners to replay their conversation for the whole group.

Listening	Your response might be something like this...
Reflect back the question you heard and then connect.	"I'm glad you are thinking carefully about this section. It sounds like it matters to you to preserve the EPA's ability to regulate emissions."
Listen to their response, and come back with anything you agree with them about.	"I agree with you that we need to keep as many options on the table as possible to solve this problem."

Ask permission to share your point of view.	"Can I tell you what I understand about this provision that makes me more comfortable about it?"
If they agree.	Share your perspective, perhaps using some of the points below from our "Responding to Public Questions" about the bill document.
Make a few points and then follow up with an open question to find out how well they are receiving the information.	"Do you think that a narrow restriction like this to satisfy Republican concerns is worth passage of a strong carbon fee?"
Continue listening, reflecting and sharing small bits of information. Then stop. Give them some time to think about things. Sometimes it takes a few conversations for people to change their point of view.	

From our "Responding to Public Questions" document [cclusa.org/responding-questions](http://cclusa.org/responding-questions):

We appreciate that many people want to keep every option on the table. The limits in this bill are minimal and this policy will achieve much higher emissions reductions than any regulations proposed to date. In fact, it will cut U.S. emissions in 2030 nine times as much as the Clean Power Plan would have if it had gone into effect. The bill only affects EPA regulations on greenhouse gases covered by the carbon price, and only as long as emissions targets are being met. If, after 10 years, targets are not being met, the policy mandates that the EPA implement additional regulations to meet those emission reduction targets. This gives clear direction to the EPA from Congress that would prevent the type of court challenges that have hampered policies based on the current authority of the Clean Air Act – some of which have yet to be enacted almost 10 years after that authority was confirmed by the Supreme Court. Congress (as well as state and local governments) can also always enact further legislation addressing climate change as it sees fit, or as the public demands.