

Minutes – March 15, 2018 Palouse Citizens’ Climate Lobby
5:30-7:00pm, 1912 Center, Senior Center, 412 East 3rd St. Moscow

Present: Judy Meuth, Marilyn Von Seggern, Mary DuPree, Paul Spencer, Linda Jovanovich, Amelie Schmolke, Kathy Dawes, Donna Ericson, Pete Haug, Patricia O’Keeffe, Eric Fejeran

Household Impact Calculation Exercise <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/calculator/> Mary reminded us about this app which is available on cellphone, tablet or computer. Those who had used the app told the group how many dollars per month would be returned to their specific households from the carbon fee and dividend for the first year's fee of \$15/ton. . The amounts ranged from \$1 to \$29. Mary mentioned that this application is simple and streamlined for ease of use.

Introductions and Additions to the Agenda

Review of Minutes – The February minutes were approved.

Announcements

- Film *The Age of Consequences* Thurs. March 29, 7PM, UUCP basement, Moscow. This film is sponsored by PESC and focuses on the impact of climate change on the military. Note: on this same evening, candidate Lisa Brown will hold a “Town Hall” 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM at the Gladish Community Center, 115 NW State Street, Pullman.
- New Washington Initiative 1631 – The Seattle Times reported Mar. 2 on a carbon fee initiative (no initiative number reported) which would invest the revenue in clean energy, clean water, forests and other projects that seek to slow or help cope with climate change. This initiative is 1631 and is being reviewed by WA state CCL and by CCL National via a new position established to examine state carbon pricing efforts.
- Living in the Garden event – Living in the Garden, a former nursery north of Pullman, will support CCL with an event to be held there. This could be used as a fund raising event and/or to support helping the LC Valley CCL organization. Ideas suggested were: food and drinks, information materials, a film or video, music, opportunities to come and see what an individual can do. Linda, Pete and Marilyn volunteered to be a committee to work on this event.
- Drawdown Challenge <https://drawdown.ecochallenge.org/>- Judy noted that our CCL Regional Coordinator suggested taking personal action on the 100 most substantive solutions to global warming by joining this Drawdown Challenge.
- An “Impacts of Climate Change on Wheat” curriculum from the REACCH project was passed on to Kathy Dawes.
- National CCL Conference June. Judy and Mac are planning to attend. If others are interested, there are scholarships available from the National CCL organization which can include registration and home stay, as well as also local scholarships for all conference costs.
- The Democrats have a new office in Pullman at 735 N. Grand Avenue Suite 8 and they have announced that it is available for meetings.

Important takeaways from the CCL Regional Conference in Boise – Mary, Judy, Mac, Katie attended.

- Mary and Judy said that it was a good conference with representatives from Alaska, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Oregon and Washington, and other Pacific areas.
- Judy reported that in one Ag outreach session, three agriculture panelists advised us not to use the words “climate change”. For many, Climate Change = more regulations. Farmers are now less than 1%

of the population and most are worried about more regulations made by officials who don't understand farming. Many farmers are already doing a lot for sustainability and to decrease fuel usage. They suggested talking about energy concerns, land stewardship and pollution. For farmers the messenger really matters, so working with farmers already wanting to take action on climate, rural bankers, insurance agents, and commodity people may be a useful approach for getting information to farmers.

- Judy said that a workshop on communicating when perspectives differ introduced “solution aversion”. When people do not like the solution being proposed, they will not recognize the problem itself. In one study, when controlling carbon emissions was presented as a market-based solution, more than half of conservatives agreed that climate change is real, but when the solution was presented as regulations, only about one-fifth of conservatives agreed that climate change is real.
- One method presented about how to get past the challenge of differing perspectives was to learn the other person's values. Ask, “What is your biggest concern?” Then listen – really listen – and encourage with neutral interjections such as, “OK”, “I got it”, “I see”, etc. Eventually, the listener can say, “Here's what I've been thinking” about one of the other person's topics which is a concern to both people.
- Mary reported that the Climate Solutions Caucus now has 72 members. There has been some pushback from Democrats who feel that many Republicans join for “cover” rather than wanting to really work on climate solutions. However, those Republicans who joined more that doubled their Conservation rating (from 6% to 14%) from a group that watches votes on environmental issues.
- There were a lot of high school students at the meeting. Climate Justice Defenders (sponsored by the Sierra Club) were very active. Their national leader will be coming to Northern Idaho.
- The Idaho Endorsement project is contacting Idaho business leaders, to meet with Congressman Mike Simpson in Boise to ask him to join the Climate Solutions Caucus.
- An interesting Website with articles on the risk of climate change to businesses is: <http://riskybusiness.org>

Action Items from February meeting and updates from interest groups

- Recent editorials and letters to the editor
 - Charlotte Omoto wrote a letter published both in the Daily News and the Whitman Co. Gazette.
 - Jeff Ramsey wrote a letter about relying on science for the Daily News.
 - Pete Haug had a non-climate opinion piece published.
 - Mac Cantrell wrote about the British Columbia carbon tax in the Daily News.
- Marilyn and Judy tabled at WSU last week.
- Mac and Mary presented at the Moscow Lions Club.

Campaign for letters to Members of Congress

- Sign up for “grass tops” contacts
- Moscow and Pullman City Council update
 - Mary and Mac have been working with the Moscow Sustainable Environment Commission with hopes of having the City Council endorse Carbon Fee and Dividend in April. They have met with 3 City Council members so far
 - Judy and Marilyn have met with all but one of the Pullman City Council members and the response has been positive to Pullman passing a resolution calling for national climate action. The councilors asked CCL to draft a resolution for them.

National Call – Mac: Joan Blade, Co-Founder of MoveOn.Org, MomsRising.org, and Living Room Conversations. <https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/citizens-climate-lobby/id973194376?mt=2> (March 7 podcast)
Mac explained that Blade suggests the following method of bringing people together to build relationships. Two friends of differing opinion each invite 2 to 6 people to the home of one of the friends. They participate in a “common ground conversation”. They also make a list of things to talk about in the future. Another method is Mix-Match which can be done with Skype over the internet or in person. There is email sign-up with various suggested topics. Churches are a good place to do this.

Actions for the Month

CFD calculator and Earth Day (both covered above)

Review Action items

- Quality pictures are needed for Power Point presentations. Please send Mary or Judy any pictures of meetings, tabling, f relevant articles, lobbying etc.
- Donna is working on a letter to the editor.
- Marilyn has signed up to write a letter to the editor during April.
- Mary would like for our organization to meet with the Lewiston Tribune editorial Staff.
- Amelie, Marilyn and Paul will help Judy write a draft resolution for the Pullman City Council calling for climate action by Congress.
- Earth Day! (April 22) – Volunteers for tabling at WSU and UI are needed, and for Moscow Farmer’s Market (entire season).
- Mary will talk to UI the Civic Engagement group about helping with the Farmers Market tabling.
- Kathy will talk to LeeAnne Eareckson, the Moscow High School Environmental Club Advisor about helping with farmers market tabling and also to PCEI.
- Marilyn and Judy suggested a hand held sign saying approximately “Take Legislative Action on Climate Change Here” so that a roving person could “drum up business” for signatures at the farmers market.
- Plan interaction with School Districts.
- **Everyone:** Write letters and make calls to Congress members.
- Anyone — Please let Mary and Judy know about any possible presentation opportunities at any organization to which you belong.
- **All** add to Google spreadsheet of potential signers for our Letter to members of Congress (or send signers’ names to Judy or Mary). Send signed letters to Judy or Mary.
- **All** - send Marilyn info on actions and any links so she can report them to national CCL (kvs21@frontier.com). Send published items to Paul to post on CCL-P website (paul-spencer@pullman.com)

Next Meeting April 19 at the Umpqua Bank Meeting Room in Pullman, 5:30-7pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Paul Spencer