

**Meeting Notes – June 15, 2017–Monthly Meeting
Palouse Region Chapter, Citizens’ Climate Lobby**

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

Present: Judy Meuth, Deb Olsen, Amelie Schmolke, Bertie Weddell, Paul Spencer, Peter Haug, Beth Powers, Al Poplawsky, Diana Armstrong, Mary DuPree, Kathy Dawes, Mac Cantrell, Brian Dietel, Michael Short, Donna Erikson, Katie Gieske

Review of Minutes – No changes

Announcements - Pete Haug reported that the book *Drawdown* is now available for \$14. He said that it is a comprehensive plan to combat climate change and is well worth reading.

Mary reported on an interesting 13-minute talk by Ted Halstead. It is an enthusiastic and convincing description of the Climate Leadership Council’s Conservative Case for Carbon Dividends program. It is available on the following link: [LINK TO TED HALSTEAD TALK](#)

Action Items from May Meeting and Updates from Interest Groups

- Outreach/Tabling: Moscow Art Walk and Farmers’ Market? If you are interested, please contact Mary Dupree.
- Judy explained that the Uniontown meeting for the CCL Eastern WA tour on November 10 has fallen through because of unavailability of a space and questions about whether the local community would be receptive. These tour meetings will comprise a conversation between local community members and the tour team about climate change and options to address it.
- Presentations -- none
- Lobbying – Judy reported that the Lobby Day in Washington D.C. was a great success with 1000 lobbyists – the greatest number ever for CCL. Forty-six CCL members from Washington State attended. All congressional offices were visited. There are now 80,000 members in the U.S and approximately 400 chapters.
- LTE’s – Pete, *Moscow-Pullman Daily News* and he has another in the works.
- Letters/Postcards to Members of Congress – Eight postcards written at the last meeting were delivered at Washington DC by our members at their visit to the Congressional offices.
- Judy and Mary – sent materials to teams that will gather signatures on WA and ID Letters to members of Congress.
All add to Google spreadsheet of potential signers for our Letters to members of Congress (or send potential signers’ names to Judy or Mary).
- **All** please consider donating to CCL-Palouse. Send check to CCL-Palouse to Pat Rathmann, 219 N. Lieuallen, Moscow 83843.
- **All** - send Marilyn 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)

Report on National Conference and Lobby Day, June 11-13 – Judy

Judy said that she and other CCLers met with Senator Cantwell. Sen. Cantwell said that she and Sen. Susan Collins requested that the GAO determine the cost of carbon emissions to the U.S. They are expecting the number to be shockingly large and that this will provide a strong

incentive to decrease carbon emissions.

Judy reported that one Congress member said that the U.S. leaving the Paris agreement may not have as negative an effect as we fear. The progressive states will take the lead and when the U.S. sees other countries making a success economically from decreasing carbon emissions, the U.S. will be forced to act.

Judy learned that for communications with members of Congress, the effectiveness of methods of communication are as follows (in order with the most effective first):

Face to Face – best method

Write letter

Phone Message – less effective, these are often not logged by staff for several weeks

Email – counted only and are also delayed

Judy is hoping to get donations for a fund so that we can send anyone who wants to go to the Lobby Day next year. She also hopes to have a picnic to pass on more information learned at the Lobby Day and to pass on some of the handouts.

National Call – Mary. Congressman Ted Deutch provided an overview of the House Climate Solutions Caucus he co-founded, including its activities and bipartisan progress on addressing climate change. Congressman Deutch also sits on the House Judiciary, Ethics, and Foreign Affairs Committees. He is representing Florida's 22nd District in South Florida for a fifth term.

Cong. Deutch reported that the House Climate Solutions Caucus now has 42 members (44 at the time of this CCL-Palouse meeting) with an equal number from each major party. He said that work is being done on a number of bills and on the formation of a Commission on Climate Change. When asked what else the CCL members can do to help the Caucus, he suggested that we keep on writing letters and meeting Congresspersons, do programs locally, invite Congressional staff persons to attend our meetings and especially to use social media to publicize CCL actions and policy. Watch or listen at <http://ccl.podbean.com/>

National Actions for the Month

1. Share the NY Times article "[Cracking Washington's Gridlock to Save the Planet](#)" about CCL with friends, family, allies and endorsers.
2. Write to MoCs about why you want them to support Carbon Fee and Dividend.
3. Practice the 5-minute communication skills exercise in the action sheet.

In our discussion on communication, Judy mentioned a talk at the national conference by Anthony Leiserowitz of the Yale University Program on Climate Communication. A slide show from Leiserowitz on Yale's findings is at the following link:

[Do Scientists Agree? Is There Hope? Global Warming's](#)

Yale has found that the public's attitudes are mixed but the majority understand the dangers of climate change and want to see it addressed. Climate change may seem like a complicated issue, but it's actually simple if you understand five key facts:

1. It's real
2. It's us
3. Scientists agree

4. It's bad
5. There's hope

Campaign on Letters to Members of Congress

- Progress to date
 1. We have brainstormed to make a list of potential names as endorsers.
 2. The spreadsheet with these names has been updated
 3. Work has started on gathering signatures.
 4. Letters explaining the endorsement collection process and the letter itself have been distributed by email.

Mac Cantrell answered a number of questions about the spreadsheet. Members can send potential endorsement names to Judy Meuth or Mary DuPree If they do not wish to enter them in the Google spreadsheet themselves. Entries to the spreadsheet are saved automatically.

- Endorsement replies can be sent to Judy or Mary and will be stored electronically OR send a paper version to Judy or Mary.
- Be sure to include whether the endorsement is from **Washington** or **Idaho!**
- For organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce we may be able to get an endorsement from the organization as a whole and from individual member business owners as well.
- Amelie Schmolke mentioned that business email addresses for WA State are available on the Web. Paul suggested that this list could be sorted electronically to separate out those in Whitman County or near Pullman.
- We expect to be able to hand the letters to Members of Congress in November, 2017
- We participated in a brief practice for interaction with potential Endorsement Letter contacts.

ACTION ITEM LIST

1. Judy hopes to organize a picnic to pass on information about strategies from the National Conference.
2. Mary will ask for a second person to help with our Facebook page.
3. See the 3 National Action Items above.
4. Pete is working on an LTE.
5. Work on Endorsements – Brainstorm names, gather signatures, update spreadsheet.
6. Pete Haug will rephrase the NY Times article "*Cracking Washington's Gridlock . . .*" about the Climate Solutions Caucus and send it out. (See National Actions Items for the month, #1.).

Next meeting July 20, 5:30-7pm, 1912 Center Senior Center, 412 East 3rd St. Moscow

