

Minutes – September 20, 2018 Palouse Citizens' Climate Lobby

5:30-7:00pm, 1912 Center, Senior Center, 412 East 3rd St. Moscow

Present: Mary DuPree, Judy Meuth, Mark Bordsen, Marilyn Von Seggern, Pete Haug, Paul Spencer, Jeff Ramsey, Mac Cantrell, Bertie Weddell, Rush Moore, Diane Armstrong, Steve Flint, Linda Jovanovich, and Sally Purath (out-of-town visitor)

Celebrate Pullman's Climate Change Resolution and Goals! The Pullman City Council has approved a resolution urging the U.S. congress to enact a carbon pricing policy for the United States which will be sent to the U.S. Congress members and state legislators representing Pullman and the Washington governor. Judy Meuth explained the process that led to this action. A small committee of Palouse CCL members met and drafted a proposed resolution using the texts from several resolutions from other cities. The initial response by the Pullman City leadership was that a carbon pricing policy was too expensive. So Judy and ??? talked to each of the City Council members individually about the resolution. All but one approved the idea and eventually voted to adopt the resolution.

In addition the Palouse CCL suggested a sustainability goal which was included in the recently adopted City of Pullman Priorities and Goals in the public safety and health section:

“Adopt a Climate Action Plan with specified local goals and steps to decrease the city's contribution to greenhouse emissions and to ensure the city's livability now and sustainability in the future.”

Introductions

Additions to the Agenda: No changes

Review of Minutes: No changes

Announcements

- “Happening: A Clean Energy Revolution” Oct. 1 at 7, Kenworthy Theater. Tabler needed.
- **Lobbying:** Mac (Senator Crapo), Judy (Congresswoman McMorris Rodgers) Mac reported that he has been cooperating with a Boise CCL person in liaison efforts for Sen. Crapo and that Sen. Crapo's staffer in Lewiston (Snodderly) is responding with interest to information about CCL and its program.
- **VOTER FORUMS:** Sept 28 – New Saint Andrews (3 – 4:30 p.m. Nuart Theater)
Oct 3 – Good Sam Forum for County Candidates (2-4 p.m., Moscow Village)
Oct. 4 -- Good Sam Forum for Legislative Candidates (2-4 p.m., Moscow Village)
Oct. 9 – Deary Shared Council Forum (7-8p.m., Deary Community Center)
Oct. 10 – Moscow League of Women Voters (7-9 p.m., Latah County Fairgrounds)
Oct. 15 –LWV Pullman, Washington state initiatives, Trinity Lutheran Church 7– 9 p.m.
Oct. 17 -- LWV Pullman, County Judges, Colfax Library 7– 9 p.m.
Oct. 18 –LWV Pullman, County Commissioner, Auditor & Treasurer, Trinity Lutheran Ch. 7– 9 p.m.
Oct 19 – AARP Candidates Forum (11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., Best Western)
At the voter forums we are urged to ask questions which are open-ended (not just answerable by a yes or no) **and to frame the questions non-divisively.**
- Washington Proposition 1631 (letters, door knocking). This is regarding the modified carbon tax. This is important because a state carbon fee or tax could be an incentive and example leading toward national adoption of a similar measure. See link to this document on the home page of our website. <http://cclpalouse.org>

- See what it's like to travel to D.C. with CCL! Information about this and an inspiring video is available at: [Travel to D.C. with CCL](#)
- The Spokane city council overcame the Sustainable Energy veto!
- There will be a presentation on Sustainable Agriculture at the Kenworthy from 4:30 - 6 on Sept 28

Reports

Electric car week – The event was held at a U of I Block party and at McCoy Plumbing and there were 5 electric vehicles displayed. It was a co-op event with the Sierra Club and there was a lot of participation.

Tabling: WSU, county fairs, Palousafest, Moscow's Farmers' Market (Marilyn). At the Palousafest we got 25 signatures!

Recent editorials and letters to the editor: Pete, Judy, Al, Mark, Mary (Daily News, Whitman Co. Gazette, Spokesman Review, Lewiston Tribune, Evergreen).

Presentations: Moscow Rotary (Oct. 1). Other opportunities include WSU political science classes

Judy has set up a meeting with congresswoman McMorris Rodgers for November 12 or 13 for lobbying and liaison. She hopes to talk about her interests and plans of action.

Jeff Ramsey reported that Patrick Wilson of U of I Political Science and Natural resources is open to having a CCL presentation.

Mac reported that 3 classes at which he has made presentations want repeats – Ken Bird and Dr. Bitterwolf.

National CCL Monthly Call and Actions—Judy: Social Scientists Leaf Van Boven and David Sherman explain how to bridge the partisan divide when “people tend to listen almost exclusively to their tribal leaders.” People don't want to be an outlier, so tend to go along with what they believe is the norm. So for better intervention is good to provide better information about general awareness, affirm common values and acknowledge other peoples positions. This tends to break down their defenses.

<https://citizensclimatelobby.org/monthly-speakers/>

- Actions: 1. Grow and diversify your membership to Youth, Ethnic Groups, and Conservatives.
 2. Organize for Congressional Education Day (Nov. 12-13)
 3. Laser Talk: Public opinion and climate policy (attached)

CCL-P Actions: focus for the coming year

Lobby health care community (doctors, hospital board members)

Lobby larger businesses including wineries

Lobby TV weather reporters – watch and look at blogs

Present to/ and develop projects for H.S. students (e.g. Civics, science classes; environmental clubs)

Develop a monthly “Climate Conversations” event (coffee? Brown bag?) on campuses

Write monthly letter to your Members of Congress (choose a month)

Other projects: environmentally friendly gardening; work on Moscow/Pullman shuttle, work with Palouse Land Trust on Idlers’ Rest Projects. Such diverse activities can help to build CCL membership and help spread our message.

Review Action items

- Please let Judy, Mary or Marilyn know of other tabling opportunities.
- VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO TAKE THE LEAD FOR THE SUGGESTED Actions for the Coming Year above
- Volunteers are needed for presentations at WSU classes
- Quality pictures are needed for Power Point presentations. Please send Mary or Judy any pictures of meetings, tabling, relevant articles, lobbying etc.
- **Everyone:** Write letters and make calls to Congress members; ask candidates what actions they will support (or initiate) to address climate change. Don’t ask “yes or no” questions.
- Anyone -- Please let Mary and Judy know about any possible presentation opportunities at any organization to which you belong.
- **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 October 18, Umpqua Bank Meeting Room in Pullman, 5:30-7pm – getting out the vote!

Laser Talk -- Public Opinion and Climate Policy

This page was updated on 08/13/18 21:01 CDT.

Question: What does the public think about climate change and carbon pricing?

Answer: People are getting the message that climate change is real and putting a price on carbon is a good way to address it.

In March 2018, two universities – Yale and George Mason – issued a report [1] showing that 70 percent of Americans agree global warming is happening, outnumbering those who don’t

by 5 to 1. The number who attribute it to human activities has grown from 48 percent in 2014 to 57 percent in 2018, with only 32 percent still attributing it to natural cycles.

Yale University has also produced *Climate Opinion Maps* [2,3,4] using a statistical model to show how well people understand climate facts, risk, and policy right down to the state, county, and Congressional district level. Their latest results show a steady increase in climate concerns across the country.

On the policy side, Yale's 2018 survey also showed that 68 percent of Americans favored a revenue-neutral plan to "require fossil fuel companies to pay a carbon tax," with only 29 percent opposed. [4] That matches a 2014 poll from Stanford, the New York Times, and Resources for the Future [5] which found that requiring companies to pay a greenhouse gas tax and then giving "all this tax money ... to all Americans equally" was favored by 67 percent to only 31 percent opposed.

While the specific poll language and methods differ, these reports show that the public approves of a policy that imposes a price on greenhouse gas emissions and then returns all of the money to American households.

1. Leiserowitz, A., *et al.* "Climate Change in the American Mind." Yale Program on Climate Change Communication & George Mason University Center for Climate Change Communication (17 Apr 2018).
2. Howe, P., *et al.* "Yale Climate Opinion Maps – U.S. 2014." Yale Program on Climate Change Communication (6 Apr 2015).
3. Marlon, J., *et al.* "Yale Climate Opinion Maps – U.S. 2016." Yale Program on Climate Change Communication (2017).
4. Marlon, J., *et al.* "Yale Climate Opinion Maps – U.S. 2018." Yale Program on Climate Change Communication (Aug 2018).
5. "Global Warming National Poll: Part III." Resources for the Future (Apr 2015).