

Minutes - September 19, 2019
Palouse Citizens' Climate Lobby
5:30-7:00pm, Senior Center in the 1912 Center, Moscow

Attending

Judy Meuth, Mary DuPree, Casey Johnson, Martha Lovett, Amelie Schmolke, Joe Pallen, Karen Gray, Linda Jovanovich, Pete Haug, Mark Bordsen, Carolyn Shoemaker, Mary Hoffman, Diana Armstrong, Simon Smith, Ryan Law, Diane Noel, Mike Kahn, Ben White, Margaret Davis, Benjamin Sloniker, Paul Spencer, Al Poplawsky.

Additions to the Agenda – None.

Review of Minutes – None.

Announcements

- International Climate Strike: tomorrow 9/20; rally at Moscow's East City Park at 11:40 – let international know that you're attending by googling "action network climate strike" and say that you are going. Judy will be there with clipboards/sign up sheets and handouts.
- Diane- reporter to CCL national branch for local LTEs, Op-eds, Parade, Tabling, Radio interviews. Let Diane know steurnoel@gmail.com when you have something to report.

Laser Talk Exercise: Citizens Can Have an Impact on Global Climate Efforts (below)

CCL-Palouse Reports and Business

Local Projects

- Tabling (Simon Smith)
 - tabling at the farmers market; it's also social time. Sign up on Sign Up Genius for the shifts; Mary has the URL if you want to sign up.
- Latah County Commissioners (Mac Cantrell, Carolyn Shoemaker)
 - trying to work with commissioners, one in particular, who needs more information about the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend act. This is to leverage it up to the national level.
- Whitman County Commissioners (Judy)
 - team of CCLers will approach commissioners individually. The commissioners are farmers. Met with farmer Judy Olson, who may help with involving the county with the chamber of commerce. Can there be a joint action/outreach program?
- Sierra Club's Ready for 100 initiative: Moscow; Pullman (Al Poplawsky, Martha Lovett)
 - national program to help municipalities to commit to 100% clean renewable by 2035 for the entire city. Then 2050 for all energy use. 5 or 6 cities have achieved this, and a number of states have committed, together with cities and municipalities. WA state and Boise have made commitments. Moscow organizational meetings have happened, approx. 12 people involved. Working w/ Boise staff person. The commission and the city council together make decisions about what the city is able to do. The Sierra club is helping make and fulfill the commitment. Discussion about the Moscow Strategic plan. Anne Zabala wants to put commitments like these into the strategic plan. Get the council and mayor behind it too. 3rd organizational meeting on 9/24 at 7:30am at One World and you are welcome to come help.
- Could something like this happen in Pullman?
 - Pullman passed a resolution calling on MOCs to take action on climate change.

- Pullman Climate Action Plan (Amelie Schmolke)
 - Met with Mayor. Submitted the goal suggestion for them to adopt to create committee to make the city more climate efficient. Mayor was open to the suggestion, and interested in CCL actions. Mayor states that Pullman is already making efforts – including solar, LEDs, hybrid busses. Is there a possibility to collaborate on getting this information out about current efforts? No overarching plan. Perhaps form a committee to help Pullman be more efficient, but concerned with budget. Open to CCL providing guidance. Focus is on municipal operations and development. Water use programs for rebates. Open to collaboration with Moscow. Grant collaboration, Transportation – urban district with the housing in between the places. IF this case can be made, there is money available for this.
- Youth Action – Climate strike is first action. LCSC is striking, too.
 - Moscow High School (Jana, Ilan)
 - UI (Kayla Bordelon) – contact person for this kind of activism on campus.
 - WSU (Johnson) – We need someone here for long term.
 - Pullman high school has no strike and no environmental action club or anything
- Chambers of Commerce
 - Pullman (Marilyn, Simon) – working with Chamber on potential program with ag emphasis
 - Moscow (Mary)
 - we've joined the Moscow Chamber of Commerce. Need volunteer to go to meetings, see if we can give a presentation, perhaps collaborating with the Pullman chamber on an ag forum
- Radio spots on climate change (Steve Flint) – NWPB has some, but we'd like to get some on commercial radio. Simon radio spot on KRFP
- Grasstops Endorsements (Mary)
 - 9/25 ID statewide meeting, and then gather the people who are willing to work on getting some of these "grasstops" endorsements. Mary will organize a working group. Several restaurants, and small companies are already on. We need bigger businesses too., Perhaps endorsers can speak one on one with MOCs.

National Actions

- Idaho Senator Mike Crapo (Mac)
 - state liaison meetings. Recent visits to the Palouse suggest that Crapo is coming around to the belief that there is partly human caused climate change
- Washington Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers (Judy, Simon)
 - Asotin town hall. She gave a speech and then took questions. Push back from audience about fiscal irresponsibility. Simon asked if she knew about EICDA or if she could get a briefing from a staffer. Johnson asked about how waste wood is part of the solution to climate change. She had a reasonable response but denied knowledge of the bill.
- Endorsements from Breweries and Wineries – Does someone want to go for these?

Write LTE's to *Daily News, Lewiston Tribune, Whitman County Gazette, Spokesman Review*:

1. Congress is back in session, and the Energy Innovation Act has 60 members of Congress signed on (as of 9/1). If your member has not cosponsored, name them in your LGE and say you'd like them to

cosponsor H.R. 763. If
them by name and thank them.

members of Congress in your area have cosponsored, mention

2. On Sept. 21, the [United Nations Youth Climate Summit](#) will take place in New York. Your LGE could point out that the world is in agreement that we need climate action, and Congress could help America lead the way to a clean energy future by supporting the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act.

3. On Sept. 20, a youth-led [Global Climate Strike](#) took place around the world. Your LGE could highlight that event and call on Congress to respond by supporting H.R. 763.

LTEs that mention other states should be sent to relevant municipalities. Word counts must be tailored.

Topic of Interest: Communicating about Climate Change (Simon)

Key words to frame the debate for climate activists. Drop extreme language in favor of a “can do” approach.

- Cleaner, safer healthier rather than Sustainable
- Solving climate change rather than ending global warming
- Principles and Priorities rather than values
- Re: tech – reliable rather than state of the art
- New Careers rather than new jobs
- Peace of Mind rather than security
- Consequences rather than threats or problems
- Working together rather than one world.

National CCL Monthly Call Jonathan Haidt, author of *The Righteous Mind: Why Good People are Divided about Politics and Religion*. Haidt explains the origins of the human moral sense and how variations in moral intuitions can help explain the polarization and dysfunction of American politics.

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

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 17, 5:30-7 at Umpqua Bank in Pullman

Laser Talk: Citizens can have an impact on global climate efforts

Our laser talk exercise offers some useful talking points about global climate efforts and the vital role that ordinary citizens play in advocating climate solutions. Try using these talking points while tabling and presenting, and in your lobby meetings.

Exercise

Pair up with another volunteer and take turns reading aloud the laser talk paragraphs below and then say aloud in your words what you remember and want to use.

Laser Talk

Heartbreaking and jaw dropping. What's the only way to describe the aftermath of [Hurricane Dorian's devastation](#) in the Bahamas. It begs the question: How much destruction and loss of life do humans have to endure before the world gets serious about tackling climate change?

We may start to know the answer to that question this month, as world leaders gather for the [United Nations Climate Summit](#) in New York. Scientists have warned that we have little more than a decade to show substantial progress in reducing the heat-trapping emissions that cause climate change. Those warnings appear to be going unheeded, as [CO2 emissions reached an all-time high](#) in 2018.

The good news is that the U.S. Congress has the opportunity to show the world a path forward on reducing emissions. Earlier this year, the [Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act](#) was introduced in the U.S. House. It would put a steadily-rising fee on carbon and give the revenue back to households, thereby using market forces to speed the transition to a clean-energy economy. It would reduce emissions at least 40 percent in the first 12 years and 90 percent by 2050. As of September 1st, the bill has 60 House members signed on. Thanks to the advocacy of CCL volunteers throughout the country, more cosponsors are expected as momentum builds for this legislation.

Although [46 nations have initiated some form of carbon pricing](#), most of them are too weak to have the desired impact. The commitments made at the U.N. Summit this month will set the stage for the [COP 25 climate conference in Chile](#) this December, where those commitments will be turned into actual policy. Citizens have a vital role to play in calling attention to solutions that will really make a difference.