

## Minutes – Dec. 19, 2019

Palouse Citizens' Climate Lobby

5:30–7:00 pm Fellowship Hall, Community Congregational Church, 525 NE Campus Avenue, Pullman

**Attendees:** Judy Meuth, Mary DuPree, Mac Cantrell, Simon Smith, Linda Jovanovich, Diana Armstrong, Steve Flint, Trish Glazebrook, Paul Spencer, Diane Noel

**Additions to the Agenda and Review of Minutes** None

### **Announcements**

- New Pullman meeting location – Fellowship Hall, Community Congregational Church, 525 NE Campus Ave. Judy signed a contract for gratis use of the hall, which has very nice acoustics.
- GPNW Regional CCL Conference - Vancouver, WA, Feb. 28–March 1, 2020. [Click HERE to register and see program details](#). Judy encourages people to go and learn. The meat of the conference occurs February 29 and March 1. Registration is \$80 for early bird; students \$40. Some scholarships are available. Activities include skills workshops such as bridges to working with various groups, EICDA, environmental justice. Go to the website or talk to Judy or Mary for more info about the conference and financial support. Car pooling is possible. Some CCL home housing may be available.
- National CCL Conservative Conference - Washington, DC, Feb. 3 – 4, 2020. Let Judy or Mary know if you're interested in attending.
- Judy reported that Steve Ghan, a climate scientist who spoke at our CCL conference last winter, was interviewed in the *Los Angeles Times* about scientists speaking out about climate change: "Climate Change Fears Propel Scientists out of the Lab and into the Streets" (<https://www.latimes.com/environment/story/2019-12-17/scientists-become-advocates-on-climate-change>). Paul Spencer said the American Physical Society encourages members to speak up about climate change.

### **Communication Exercise:** Columbia University Report on the Energy Innovation Act

Mac and Paul demonstrated how they approach a laser talk exercise (See laser talk exercise at end of minutes for the full content). Paul read the content aloud, then Mac paraphrased it for Paul in his own words, glancing back at the written content from time to time to confirm numbers and other facts. Mac says the more times you do the exercise, the easier it gets to discuss the topic.

The demo prompted vigorous discussion among attendees, who questioned various conclusions of the Columbia report and sought clarification and more detail about the report's authors, assumptions, findings, meanings of terms, etc. Some suggestions and information emerging from the discussion:

- Follow up people's questions with an offer to send them more information or provide sources for going more in-depth.
- In discussing the dividend, emphasize that everyone gets the same amount.
- All four congressional offices in Idaho are interested in nuclear energy (the Columbia study predicts nuclear energy will increase gradually); McMorris Rodgers supports nuclear.
- Impacts of EICDA (reductions in greenhouse gases) in the first 10 years come mainly from a switch away from coal for electric power generation and from industries switching away from fossil fuels, not from changes in individuals' driving habits.

### **CCL-Palouse Reports and Business**

- 2019 Successes! Judy compiled a list of our chapter's activities in 2019 (see appendix 1 to these minutes).

- Treasurer's Report (Steve). \$480 in account with no spending since last meeting.
- Radio spots (Steve). Steve checked with Inland Northwest Broadcasting about running Yale University's 90-second climate spots as public service announcements. However, the stations allow 30 to 60 seconds for PSAs, which are typically event announcements. Sample costs for purchased time: at MyRadio (KRAO) 60 seconds one time per day for each weekday for a month would cost \$250; at ZFun (106 FM) almost \$380. Judy wonders about a custom deal for fewer days per week. Steve will contact Yale about producing shorter spots and also about whether we can select themes such as agriculture.  
Content of spots: Judy says the Yale spots are very focused. One is on the effects of climate change on Fort Sumter; with rising sea levels it's getting beaten to shreds.
- Youth Action. No reports.
- Tabling and Presentations
  - Moscow Winter Market: Trish Hartzell and Martina Ederer tabled without coffee 12/14; Linda and Simon tabled on 12/7. Got signatures at both markets. Moscow has two more winter markets.
  - Brelsford WSU winter market: Saturday, December 21. Judy will look into it.
  - MLK Human Rights Community Breakfast in Moscow January 18: Mary says we've been asked to table. Simon and Judy will do it.
- Publications (Judy). Two from Pete Haug and one from Martha Lovett this month.
- Grasstops endorsements (Mary, Judy, Diana, Linda, Simon, Carolyn/Mac). Topic saved for next meeting. Mary emphasizes the point of grasstop visits is to start a discussion, which may lead to support for the act and a signature at some point. Judy hands out list of local EICDA endorsements as of December 2019 and possible entities to contact (see appendix 2 of these minutes). Do we know these people or know someone who does?
- Pullman and Moscow City Climate Action Plan work (Mary, Judy). Topic saved for January meeting.
- Ag and Health impacts educational program with Chambers of Commerce – Judy. Topic saved for January meeting.
  - Ag policy considerations
- Pizza/drinks Volunteers. No action.
- Trish Glazebrook, WSU, shared her observations and experiences at COP25 (conference of the parties) of the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change), aka the UN Climate Change Conference, earlier in December, in Madrid.

**National CCL Recommended Actions.** Topic postponed.

1. Engage local faith-based congregations to take action
2. Lead with the holiday season in your letter to the editor
3. Bonus action: Fundraise this giving season to support our work - CCL [landing page](#) for donations.

**National CCL Monthly Call: Carolyn Woo.** Topic postponed.

Our December guest knows something about leveraging the power of the faith community to address climate change. Earlier this year, Carolyn Woo spearheaded a dialogue at the Pontifical Academy of the Sciences on "The Energy Transition and Care for Our Common Home." At the conclusion of the event, leaders from the energy sector and the global investment community released a statement saying, "The combination of policies and carbon pricing mechanisms should be designed in a way that simultaneously delivers innovation and investment in low carbon solutions while assisting those who are least able to pay." Woo, currently a Distinguished President's Fellow for Global Development at Purdue University, served as President and CEO of Catholic Relief Services from 2012 to 2016. She was featured in the May/June 2013 issue of Foreign Policy as one of the 500 Most Powerful people on the planet and one of only 33 in the category of "a force for good." Watch/listen at <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/monthly-speakers/>

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, Jan. 16, 5:30-7 at Senior Center in 1912 Center, 412 East 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Moscow

## **Columbia University Report on the Energy Innovation Act**

### **LASER TALK EXERCISE**

Dr. Noah Kaufman and his team at Columbia University have published an exciting new report that projects the outcomes of the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, H.R.763.

#### **Exercise**

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

#### **Laser Talk - Benefits of the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act**

The Columbia Center on Global Energy Policy (CGEP) recently released an analysis of H.R.763, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act.

This milestone report concludes that H.R.763 would cut net greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 36 to 38 percent by 2030 (from 2005 levels), exceeding U.S. commitments under the Paris Agreement. It would also improve Americans' health by reducing sulfur and mercury emissions by an eye-popping 95 percent and smog-forming NOx emissions by 75 percent.

Under this bill, CGEP says, electric power generation would rapidly shift to low- and zero-carbon sources including solar, wind, nuclear, and natural gas with carbon capture and storage.

They also confirmed that the carbon dividend would, as CCL has long argued, cushion energy price impacts for consumers. Overall, the dividends paid would be comparable to the increased energy costs, but low and middle-income households would receive *more* in dividends than they pay in higher prices.

The main message from the CGEP report is that a price on carbon is a uniquely cost-effective policy tool because it incentivizes emissions reductions wherever and however they can be achieved, and does so at the lowest cost. That's why economists overwhelmingly support a price on carbon as the most powerful first step to addressing climate change.

#### **Resource**

Columbia University Report, [An Assessment of the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act](#)



## Palouse 2019 Review

### Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act introduced in House January, 2019

#### Constituent Contacts with Rep. McMorris Rodgers

Lobby meetings in DC offices **6** (2 Palouse people)

Town halls **2** (7 people)

*Excludes letters, emails, phone calls, and tweets.*

#### Constituent Contacts with Rep. Fulcher, Senators Crapo and Risch

Lobby meetings in DC offices **6** (9 Palouse people)

Meetings locally with staff **3** (8 people)

*Excludes letters, emails, phone calls, and tweets.*

#### Endorsements – Organizing for second round endorsement campaign - Grasstops

Eastern Washington and Idaho CCL Conference - **104** in Moscow + **30** in Boise (20 plus organizers from our group!)

#### Media

Op-eds, Letters to the Editor: **>41**,

(Daily News, Whitman County Gazette, Spokesman Review, Lewiston Tribune, Capitol Press, Daily Evergreen, Argonaut, Albuquerque Journal)

National CCL Letter of the Week designations: **2**

Articles pertaining to CCL: **4**

(Whitman County Gazette, Daily News)

Radio and TV appearances: **1**

(KRFP)

Yale Climate spots: Ongoing

(KWSU)

#### Local Outreach

Tabling events: **>30**

Kenworthy films; UI Carbon Series; Moscow Farmers' Market, Winter Market; WSU Earth Day; WSU Week of Welcome; LCSC; Bob Inglis event

Lentil Parade: **~20** marchers

Presentations – **12**

UI classes, UI Carbon Series, Moscow LWV, Pullman LWV, WSU International Center

## Collaborations

### Youth Action:

School Strike **250**, plans for lobbying in Boise, support for UI solar  
Republican event with former Rep. Bob Inglis – **13** attendees at breakfast we organized  
for Pullman Chamber members and elected officials

Moscow Sustainable Environment Commission

Pullman Chamber of Commerce: met with Exec. Director. Chamber invited members to  
Inglis breakfast. Planning educational climate meeting for fall 2020

Moscow Chamber of Commerce - Joined. Will collaborate with Pullman Chamber

Sierra Club's Ready for 100 Initiative

### Municipal and County actions

Moscow Mayor's Earth Day Awards: CCL-Palouse was chosen for mayor's organizational  
award!

Pullman – Meetings with mayor and councilors, submission of new city goal for  
establishment of Climate Action Committee

Palouse city – introduced climate action resolution for consideration

Latah County - Meetings with Commissioners: **3**

Whitman County – Plan for involving Commissioners, **1** commissioner at Inglis breakfast

Social actions for fun! - **3**