

Palouse Citizens' Climate Lobby
AGENDA Feb 18, 2021, 5:30-7:00pm Zoom Meeting

Attendees: Amelie Schmolke, Casey Johnson, Mary DuPree, Simon Smith, Margaret Davis, Mark Havens, Judy Meuth, Bill Engels, Eric Wegner, Diana Armstrong, Mac Cantrell, Pete Haug, Kynan Witters- Hicks, Marilyn Von Seggern, Linda Jovanovich, Kathy Dawes, Joe Vaughan, Martina Ederer, Paul Spencer, Kayla Bordelon, Patrick Robichaud, Trish Hartzell, Mike Kahn, Nancy Nelson

Announcements

- New secretary: We need a minute-taker for meetings. If available please contact Judy or Mary.
- FLOW workshop Feb. 20, 1-2:30pm — Mary: Idaho-wide + Palouse CCL training for 50 participants. This will be long-time CCL members as well as newbies from around the state. Breakout sessions dealing with the Five Levers. Possible that participants will plan for state-wide actions and discuss chapter development. To register go to:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/learn-to-build-political-will-using-ccls-five-levers-with-ccl-idaho-registration-136974393097>
- Lobby Week March 22-26—
 - Mac: Idaho group will lobby our 4 legislators. It is possible that these MOCs will be willing to move on comparatively inexpensive proposal of EICDA. It may be less expensive compared to other administration priorities/climate legislation options. Any information about the costs of the various democratic proposals would help make this case – please contact Mac with that information. What are the proposals and what are they likely to cost?
 - Judy: Washington group will try to meet with Cathy McMorris Rogers or her legislative director. The folks in congress will have to vote on climate bills and so are looking for a way to do something that will be acceptable. If someone wants to join either of these groups contact Mac or Judy.
- Braver Angels –
 - Linda: The mission is to bring Americans together to bridge the partisan divide and strengthen the democratic republic. First, better understand experiences and beliefs of those on the other side of the political divide and then find common ground despite differences. The group introduces debates and gives tools to initiate dialog with folks on the other side of the debate. There is now an Eastern Washington Group. There is a meeting tonight, and a workshop on 2/27 on how to conduct a “red/blue” conversation. www.braverangelswa.org Yvonne Boyd—Eastern Washington coordinator vonrigden@gmail.com
 - Kathy: Idaho chapter is just getting started. 3/10 is the first red/blue workshop for the Idaho chapter. To get on the list email Rob Hanson, Idaho Braver Angels Coordinator, at rhanson@braverangels.org
- Mark Wensnahan climate change presentation – Bill: Presentation on the causes and impact of climate change – suggested voting the right people into office and changing consumer culture. Also recommended talking to farmers as people who will be affected and who can be effective. Passcode: 2R6N.nML for recording at https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/_6-C3Do6Z7vluL7GbT_EzdPuWd7uj7f_envRxzHtcLLmhRjsVls1via_dg2KwUx2.z4gBmoDLBYsOQo5p
- New Yorker article <https://link.newyorker.com/view/5be9fb3d24c17c6adf0ebe53dlkeg.ijj/39692f4c> - Mike: Environmental Organizer writes that policies that some recent policies will potentially be irreversible and detrimental, i.e. drilling in ANWAR, clear cutting in Yaak Valley, Montana. Another article in *Rolling Stone* about permits for environmentally dangerous mining.

<https://www.rollingstone.com/politics/politics-news/trump-energy-firms-access-public-lands-drilling-1106326/>

- Avista – Judy: Avista is redoing its 20-year plan. They are hosting a presentation online on 2/24 from 5-7pm and hoping for public input. myavista.com/IRP (<https://myavista.com/about-us/integrated-resource-planning>)

CCL-Palouse Reports and Actions

- Ag Outreach – Mac: Meeting on 2/24 at 7:30am with farmers about agriculture, soil health, and climate. Learn what farmers are thinking about carbon sequestration and taking those thoughts to the legislators. Jodi Johnson-Maynard will speak on soil health. Jeremy Bunch from Shepherd’s Grain will speak on carbon sequestration. Mac and Judy will also speak about bills. Input from farmers will go to members of Congress.
- Pullman Climate Action Plan – Marilyn: City of Pullman is redoing their comprehensive plan. It will be up for comment this month and next month. The group has responded to the city’s goals related to carbon. City doesn’t have any plans for implementing the goals they list. We’ve been working with Nathan Weller on the city council.
 - Kynan: the survey continues to be developed with help from Francis Benjamin and WSU. Mark will also provide feedback. Once the survey is ready, it will go online via survey monkey and pilot with this group and then with Pullman residents.
- Moscow Climate Action Plan – Mary: Moscow City Council has declared climate change a “major challenge area” for the next year. City staff will be developing new greenhouse goals. The city met its past goal of reducing emissions by 20% by 2020. The city is planning a celebration of meeting the 202 goal in April.
- Chambers of Commerce—Simon: constructive meeting with the Pullman COC in which CCL members explained EICDA. The COC has put together a process for considering legislation and getting feedback from members.
 - Mary: Moscow COC has appointed a new executive director. We will reach out to her soon. We are working on grasstops endorsement from board members of the COC .
- Publications – Judy: CCL national is encouraging LTEs about the popularity of carbon fee and dividend. Please sign up to write an LTE in a particular month with Judy.
- University student organizing—Patrick: there will be zoom events on the two campuses to encourage university students to learn about CCL and form a CCL club on campus. Invitations have been targeted to students who are already active in politics and/or environmental activism.
 - Kayla is coordinating this university outreach initiative and helping put together a slide deck for the presentations. Lauren is building a survey for students gauging their reactions to carbon fee and dividend. Those results could then be taken to MOCs.
- Grasstops: CCL and allied environmental organizations – Mary: there have been two grasstops meetings in the last month. The focus is on business owners who are also members of the COC or members of other organizations. Working with allied groups is more important than ever:
CCL, Trout Unlimited, Environmental Defense Fund all support EICDA. Sierra Club and the National Resources Defence Council support the carbon fee and dividend element of EICDA but do not support the provision that would require a 10-year pause on EPA regulations that would give time for the carbon tax to have its projected effect. CAFÉ standards for cars and other EPA regulations not addressing source-specific sources of greenhouse gases would not be affected by the regulatory pause.

Asking for What You Need—Communications Exercise at end of Agenda

Skill Development: Social Media

- Palouse CCL Facebook, Twitter, Instagram: Search for CCLPalouse to find our accounts - Sydnie Mejia (syndie.mejia@wsu.edu) is our new CCL-P social media coordinator. Please send her news of events, photos, etc. so we can increase our presence on social media!
- Tweet President Biden and VP Harris and ask them to work toward bipartisan climate solutions in Congress that include carbon fee and dividend as the backbone. CCL tweet POTUS tool cclusa.org/tweet-potus On other social media be sure to include @POTUS and @VP handles. Social media help at [Social Media for Volunteers and Chapters](#).

Exercise your LTE muscle and show support for carbon pricing!

Remind Congress, the President and VP that **carbon pricing is popular**. Include local to national Grasstops support. Pete reminds us to send LTE's to multiple papers and imbed a CCL pitch into LTEs on different topics.

CCL Community resources: [Writing Effective LTEs](#) . Submit (1) using LTE tool, cclusa.org/lte, or (2) directly to newspaper. Topic ideas are at [LTE Topics](#). Share published LTE with your MoCs. With hashtag **#GrassrootsClimate**, share on your social media a link to, or a picture of, your letter and include the social media handles of your MoCs.

Grassroots Outreach

- Earth Day Fair or March with other organizations. No specific action here, but Joe V. urges us to identify local-regional environmental groups to collaborate with. He'll work on a master list: please send him names of groups we should be communicating with. Mary said that there is a new Idaho-wide organization—Idaho Climate Partners—that we have joined—it's just getting started.
- Film screening (<https://community.citizensclimate.org/resources/item/19/307>) There was a fair amount of enthusiasm for the CCL-P sponsoring films viewings, either virtual or in-person when that is possible. Send ideas for films to Mary or Judy.

Guest Speaker report- Diane Randall, FCNL General Secretary - Mary

CCL works closely with a number of organizations that support carbon pricing. One of those is the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL), which encourages and supports members to engage with lawmakers on peace and justice issues. Joining us is Diane Randall, General Secretary of FCNL, who leads their staff to educate and lobby for policies and legislative priorities established by FCNL's General Committee. Diane has led FCNL's program expansion, including adding lobbyists and new programs to engage grassroots citizens, young adults and more Quakers to lobby for peace, justice and a sustainable planet. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4AumNnyHbhs&feature=youtu.be>

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 18, 5:30-7:00 pm on Zoom

Adjournment

COMMUNICATIONS EXERCISE - Asking: Get what you need by asking for it

If you need it, ask for it. Asking will often get you what you need when speaking to a community leader, a fellow volunteer or your members of Congress. To learn more about asking, see this participant

handout <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1k2rhRhKfzOeAX9B9vECVkrHqtmz-jjNLPPqwo0-JZZU/edit> .

Principles of Asking

Two principles for making your “asks” more powerful are:

- Be clear and specific about what you need and when you need it - the outcome - and ask for 100% of it.
- It empowers and *honors* people when you give them a request and then give them the space to freely choose how to respond: accept, decline or counteroffer.

For example, you might ask a fellow volunteer:

- The Climate Advocate Training is an opportunity to help our newer members get up to speed. Would you be willing in the next two weeks to call this list of 10 of our newbies to encourage them to attend?
- There is an opportunity for someone from our group to talk about CCL and our work at our promotional event, and some of us were thinking you’d be perfect. What do you think, would you like to do that?

Now, write a script for your own request with these principles in mind and share it with your partner. Bonus points if you start with an appreciation.