

**Minutes January 20, 2022, 5:30 pm on Zoom
Palouse Citizens' Climate Lobby**

Participants: Mary DuPree, Bill Engels, Mark Havens, Margaret Davis, Bruno Alvino, Mac Cantrell, Pete Haug, Casey Johnson, Judy Meuth, David Muise, Linda Jovanovich, Francy Pavlas Bose, Lily Premo, Amelie Schmolke, Steve Flint, Marilyn Von Seggern, Paul Spencer, Simon Smith, Trish Hartzell, Clare Peine, Kynan Witters-Hicks, Mike Leggett, Jesse Johnson

Announcements

- Wild and Scenic Film Festival – For one week starting Jan 21 - to benefit ID Sierra Club <https://qudio.com/event/idahosierraclub-2022%E2%80%8B>
- CCL national conservative conference March 29-30, in-person in DC; goal: expand group to involve people across the political spectrum; is anyone from our area interested in attending?
- Steve: UI is asking for common read suggestions; does someone want to suggest a climate change-related book?

Congressional action on carbon fee/dividend

- **Contact President Biden and Democratic Senators** https://citizensclimatelobby.org/get-loud-take-action/?_ga=2.254240136.188032693.1642619410-511419543.1620754801

This is even more important now because 'Build Back Better' fell apart and legislators are working on separate climate legislation; communication particularly with the president and democratic senators is important.

- **Write letters to the editor and op-eds** calling for a price on carbon. <https://community.citizensclimate.org/topics/media-relations> . See also "Tips for Writing a Successful LTE" that Pete Haug has prepared for us at <https://cclpalouse.org/resources/> .

Make a chapter plan to do 3 big priority actions throughout 2022

1. **Make our group stronger by being an oasis in the storm:** enact our values of welcoming relationships, focused solutions, optimism, inclusion, and meaningful action.

Ideas from the group:

Margaret: Pizza parties?

Mac: yes, get-togethers once current COVID wave has passed.

Mark: emphasize awareness – let people know we exist, inform and motivate (restating the three goals in a different way).

Kynan: what do you mean with oasis in the storm? Mary: nurture each other's spirits, welcome each other; reach out to the community and let people know what CCL's values are.

Pete: CCL is an unusual community action group – leverage this to get more people involved.

Judy: welcoming space and getting work done, invite someone from outside CCL to work on a specific project with you.

Paul: LTEs are very good publicity.

Trish: engage young people, they don't read newspapers, but may watch videos; reach young people with this medium – would be good if the young people in the group to take lead on this.

Casey: pair with groups like PCEI – gather to walk in their park (could even be an opportunity to take a video); recruiting by crafting – e.g., postcard writing plus designing postcards (could also be outside).

Mac: offers his yard (with a fire) to gather outside (after the omicron wave).

Judy: CCL national homepage used to have a short video on their page with a member talking about why he joined CCL – can we do something similar with our members?

Clare: would like to help with video, emphasized importance of making it local (e.g., reference to Palouse).

Margaret: we would need child care / entertainment during our meeting to get parents of young children involved.

Mary: from ID State CCL – join with other environmental groups in a tree planting project (e.g., Earth Day).

Kynan: get together in a public venue, e.g., brewery, so others see us as a big group.

Bill: suggests Tap Room of the Paradise Creek Brewery in Pullman as venue, has outside area. From chat, Pete: A society grows when old plant trees. Many of us, men and women alike, are in the category of “old.” We are planting trees. How can we communicate that?

Steve: we have money in the treasury to get such activities going

- 2. Educate and activate your communities:** build our presentation team, identify groups to host presentations, maybe organize a community forum.

Mary: which groups should we presenting to? E.g., LWV, Rotary Club; should we have a community forum on climate change and include other groups?

Pete: climate change is also a human rights issue.

Judy: Make sure we are inclusive, make sure we involve people across all communities.

Margaret: would like to help with the organization of a community forum.

Mary: who are our communities? E.g. Interfaith Power and Light; look at communities of faith to present to.

Bill: CCUCC – this faith community involved in social activism and would probably be interested in a presentation; Sacred Heart – Bill is part of and will plan to invite CCL, will also contact CCUCC member.

Mark: no functioning interfaith organization in LC Valley since COVID; we need to be selective in who we contact and be personal; an organization reached out to leaders of the faith community in the LC Valley, and had a very marked negative response.

Margaret: connected to Humanists of the Palouse and they might be interested; contact mosque in Pullman? Anyone with contacts?

Mary: Interfaith community organization includes the mosque.

Judy: best if a member of a congregation starts the conversation about CCL presenting to them.

Mac: Moscow High School – keep club going; extend to Pullman High School.

- 3. Get voters to ask candidates and elected officials for climate action;** find ways to focus on swing voters, activate faith groups incl. working with LWV, Environmental Voter Project.

Mary: sign waving like Simon organized in fall 2020?

David: yard signs of CCL – don't list a candidate's name, but call for voting for climate action in the upcoming elections.

Judy: organize candidate forum on climate.

Paul: LWV has current interest in focusing on climate legislation – could be a good collaboration for organizing candidate forum.

Breakout Groups: Washington and Idaho (State-specific news, actions)

Idaho

- Moscow Chamber of Commerce
 - Mary—we could co-sponsor a regular luncheon meeting for \$300 but only present for 10 minutes. Maybe best to think of another opportunity.

- Mac: and we are also still working on a climate forum to be sponsored by other Chambers
- Idaho Climate Partners
 - is one of our group interested in representing CCL—P on this group which represents many Idaho organizations working on climate issues?
- Collaboration with Idaho Conservation League
 - Idaho CCL is working on this; maybe a webinar on carbon sequestration?
- Other Idaho initiatives
 - Idaho-wide CCL website on Community offers opportunities to interact with other chapters and individuals, includes a group forum, etc. Mary urges us to become members: <https://community.citizensclimate.org/groups/home/2702>

Washington (break out room)

- Pullman Climate Change Survey

Judy: ~450 people responded

Kynan: results are in and a results summary is currently in the works; it was not a randomized survey (an 'average' opinion of Pullman residents cannot be derived); but the demographic of the survey-takers reflects the demography of Pullman (which is good); cross-tabulation and filtering for some demographic groups is ongoing, close to finalizing and review by CCL; plan to present the results to the city soon.

Judy: survey is part of the effort to get City of Pullman implement a climate action plan.

Mark: some observations from looking at the survey data: ~30% are under 25 yrs old; ~25% said Pullman is not their primary place of residents (both likely related to large student population in town); survey heavily weighted toward women; many people chose the answer "I am highly concerned about climate change but my neighbors are not" to the corresponding question – possibly implies that the survey is skewed.

Paul: age does not seem to be a big factor in the responses.

Simon: survey should be considered along with survey conducted by amongst WSU students on the same topic.

- Presentation, tabling, and other outreach possibilities

Bill: WSU divestment – just had meeting with student environmental group; a representative of the group and Bill will make public comment during the upcoming WSU Board of Regents meeting

Simon: ID initiative (Mac, Trish, David) had an outreach to Kootenai County Democrats; Mac presented.

Judy: we could plan similar presentations to local Democrats and Republicans; also WSU democratic and republican student groups.

Simon: Pullman High School; Environmental club

Clare: she works with Palouse Conservation District which has monthly speakers – e.g., agriculture and climate change would be of interest as a topic. Clare will reach out.

- Workshop with Onboarding Action Team Leader Elli Sparks, Feb 1, 5-6pm.

Judy: announces the web event for Washington State: onboarding – how to get folks involved and active in a CCL chapter. Here is the link for the meeting:

<https://citizensclimate.zoom.us/j/5313630429?pwd=RXdWQ3ZZK0xpQmNWZVlKNkh0bmFOdz09>

Meeting ID: 531 363 0429

Passcode: 123

End of break out rooms

Jesse Johnson (Spokane)

He is working with the group Future Wise – working on SB 5042 (WA State Act).

Background: the bill would close a loophole in the Growth Management Act (GMA). The GMA includes appeals process but appeals are only possible if the developer does not already have a permit and started the development.

Closing the loophole: appeals would always have to be considered before the development can proceed.

Would CCL be interested in joining the effort meeting with legislators? Paul Spencer signaled interest, Judy (potentially) and she will also share with CCL ag group.

Jesse: his email in the chat, please contact him if you are interested. (streetman11@gmail.com)

Kynan: what environmental issues have arisen from the loophole in the GMA?

Jesse: large companies did expand their land in the past without the public being able to appeal. The more people join the better; trying to get this done during the current legislative session.

CCL—Palouse Action Teams and contacts

- Grasstops – Endorsements, etc. – Mary, Mac, Trish

Simon: meeting with Democrats in Coeur d'Alene; 24 people present; Mac and Trish gave intro to CCL, COP 26, recent legislative developments (nationally) with a lot of detail. A lot of follow-up questions and generally well received.

Mac: Judy, Mac and Pete Robichaud met with upper management of Northwest River Supplies, to elicit support for carbon pricing, EICDA. Some follow-up questions still need to be addressed, no commitment yet.

Mary: Trish initiated a contact with the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Palouse which resulted in an EICDA endorsement.

- Onboarding

Trish: short message is sent to new members, asks whether a new member wants to connect with an 'old' member of the group in a short call; had one person respond with interest; in addition to sending welcome letter, we could follow up with an update on recent developments, legislations, zoom link. If so, we could take a video of such conversations and post on facebook etc.

Judy: message to new members is now much shorter than previously, and offer a conversation about CCL by phone or zoom; thinking about reaching out to inactive members as well?

- Pullman actions

Kynan: Pullman online survey – results are in, currently analyzing results and working on making the results accessible to the group; presentation to City of Pullman

Mary: Action tracker – Diane Noel is stepping back from tracking actions, she was mainly tracking LTEs. Everyone needs to do it themselves!

Judy: thanks to Pete and Simon for putting together the document on how to write an LTE, get it published, and READ. Judy showed recent LTEs, included the publication of Simon's letter in 5 newspapers (plus one more added today).

Next meeting Thursday, Feb.17, 5:30 to 7pm, probably by Zoom