

MINUTES April 21, 2022, 5:30 – 7:00 pm
Palouse Citizens' Climate Lobby

Community Congregational Church, 525 NE Campus Avenue, Pullman and Zoom

Participants:

In-person: Judy Meuth, Mary DuPree, Marilyn Von Seggern, Paul Spencer, Mac Cantrell, Simon Smith, Steve Flint, Linda Jovanovich, Kynan Witters-Hicks, Clare Peine, Mason Burns, Margaret Davis
Zoom: Azdren Coma, Bill Engels, Trish Hartzell, Bruno Alvino, Ruben Amaez, Pete Haug, Kathy Dawes, Mike Leggett, Lily Premo, Amelie Schmolke

Announcements

- *International CCL Conference* June 11-13 in D.C. cclusa.org/juneconference. Early bird pricing ends on April 30.
- Earth Month Activities
 - *Dr. Peter Kalmus*, Climate Scientist and Author, Apr 22, 3pm. "Facts are not enough: Communicating Earth Breakdown" talk on zoom. Register at <https://www.uidaho.edu/kalmus>
Co-sponsored by CCL Palouse
 - *City Nature Challenge: Palouse Region*; April 29th – May 2nd. Make biodiversity observations in Whitman or Latah Counties and upload them to the [iNaturalist](https://www.inaturalist.org) app. Let's see whether Pullman or Moscow can get more observations for the Challenge! For more info see <https://www.palousecd.org/city-nature-challenge> .
 - *More Earth Month Activities* listed on our cclpalouse.org website
- SEC Proposed Rule Change on company climate Impacts disclosure:
<https://www.sec.gov/news/public-statement/lee-climate-change-disclosures> -
Kathy – you can read the rules following the link and provide comments until May 20
- Monitoring Snake River: Citizen science possibility in LC Valley to monitor river for water quality and toxic algae blooms
Mike – no one is monitoring algae blooms in the Snake River in the LC Valley and the wider area, including lakes etc.; Mike is putting together a citizen science group: participants will look for algae blooms, collect samples and send to a lab; if anyone wants to join organizing the group or the effort, email Mike leggettm87@gmail.com ; monitoring would start in late spring and continue through summer.
Can algal blooms happen in rivers (flowing water bodies)? Yes, a benthic bloom occurred in the Colombia River last year; such blooms are not visible from outside but may only be detected when dogs are poisoned.
Agencies (State agencies and EPA) would likely help fund this effort (especially the lab tests).
Mary recommends that Mike get in touch with Mark Havens too.
- Public Transportation Plan survey for WA residents - closes midnight, April 24. Help identify public transportation funding and additional service needs <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TLTJDS2>
Survey is for 4 counties including Whitman; survey includes the request for an intercity bus between Pullman and Moscow.
- Electric Car Event - 30 April in Palouse: electric cars on display from private owners, anyone who would like to get a chance to look at different electric car models and take a ride, please come.

Priority Actions

1 Stand with Ukraine Campaign signals to President Biden and Congress that their constituents want clean energy as the pathway to real energy independence and reducing the power of autocrats and dictators. Send our leaders a message at cclusa.org/action and then send the link to friends, family, and coworkers who stand with Ukraine and want to do what they can to help.

2 Be part of Earth Month events - Casey, Simon. Be sure to log your own events, events you co-host with local allies and events you attend hosted by others in the [Action Tracker](#) and watch our [Goal Tracker](#) to see progress toward our national goal of 1,500 April events! Ask others at events to use their phones to act with CCL at cclusa.org/action and join CCL at cclusa.org/join.

- Make sure you disseminate your participation via social media
- March in Moscow on Friday prior to the Earth Day event in East City Park, 3-6pm
- Track your participation in the CCL action tracker: helps CCL to see our involvement in the community

3 Submit Earth Day LTEs/Op-eds

- Write letters to the editor (LTEs) - Earth Day will be in the news everywhere, and the war in Ukraine is an ongoing national topic that relates to clean energy. Mention your Congressperson's name. Resources: timely [LTE topics](#) and CCL online tool cclusa.org/lte for submitting your LTE. Suggestions: connect Earth Day and Ukraine
- Submit an op-ed - Select one of our [op-ed resources](#) to submit to several newspapers.

4 Share all actions and events via social media. Post, share, like, and retweet successes in social media and include your MOCs' social media handles.

Margaret is our facebook contact – email content to her maddvm101@gmail.com , e.g., take pictures of yourself at the Earth Day events and send to her; Margaret requested pictures from the March Families for Climate Action event for posting.

Updates on other Palouse CCL Actions

- **Families for Climate Action** – CCL event March 27 at PCEI
Margaret was the organizer; the event was a success because there were some folks there who were not already CCL members, people enjoyed themselves; several folks presented (Casey, Lily, Simon, Trish). Judy: Several people suggested making this a regular event for families.
- **Video Shorts**
Clare: interviews with CCL members were recently recorded, she's working on finalizing the short video and will upload it soon; the video will be 1-2 min long.
- **Tabling**
Simon will be tabling at the event tomorrow (Earth Day) in Moscow; and at farmer's markets.
- **Presentations**
Simon: he gave a presentation at PHS environmental club (Olivia Crane is the teacher sponsor): she requested Simon to come in every school year and make this part of their yearly curriculum.
Bill: his parish, Sacred Heart in Pullman, would like to host CCL to present on carbon pricing on May 18 in an evening event. The idea is an interactive event with discussions etc. This is a series by the parish that they do regularly to provide the opportunity for parishioners to educate themselves. May 18, 25, or 26; Mac and Simon will organize someone to present.
- **Pullman Climate Change Survey** – Kynan, Azdren, Simon, Marilyn
Simon: Kynan, Azdren and others put together survey results; Judy is putting together the report with Simon and Marilyn. The report will be provided to the city of Pullman and the public. Many people provided written climate concerns and action ideas etc. The information should inform a climate action plan for Pullman. The City of Pullman's first meeting to plan for establishment of a climate committee has happened with the participation of CCL members.
- **Moscow Climate Action Plan**
Mary: City of Moscow got input from the public on the plan; the comments from the public will be presented to the city next week; she assumes that the city will approve the CAP during this meeting: the next step will be its implementation.

Mary emphasized one part/idea of the CAP: transit between Moscow and Pullman plus with other smaller communities; currently there is some effort to procure financial support from local businesses for the transit, but not much has been realized yet.

Bob Inglis of RepublicEN will do a regional summer tour. At such events, Inglis speaks about climate change and carbon fee and dividend action from a conservative perspective.

Judy and Mac had a meeting with someone from his staff; they want to organize a tour of our region; one idea is inviting conservative farmers to events; maybe also an event at/for SEL? Inglis would go to talk to such groups at events: ideas for locations, etc.?

Simon: suggests contacting Tom Handy from Paradise Creek Brewery which could be a location (either the trailside taproom or the restaurant).

Mac: Are there any churches who might want to invite him? Farmers in the region? Timing: tour should be planned for second half of June or mid July, which should be a good time window for farmer participations (prior to harvest).

Chamber(s) of Commerce also could be good platforms.

- **Grasstops – Endorsements**, etc. – no news

- **Media**

Publications:

7 publications (LTEs) in the last month; please write an LTE too – Judy and Pete are happy to help.

Simon manages to publish his letters in multiple newspapers: Pete asked him to share the information so he can include it in the recommendations for letter writing. Judy will send the newspaper info to all in attendance at this meeting. Please sign up for an LTE in a specified month: Judy will send reminders if you sign up

Web site:

Paul built our first PCCL website. Joe Pallen built the newer version. Mary: how often do you use the PCCL website and what do you use it for? Is something like the Earth Day events list useful there? Or are you using it more to look up the meeting notes etc.? Joe's time is limited for updating the website.

Simon and Trish: use calendar for CCL events and related events

Basic CCL info on site is important for folks who are not already part of the group.

Casey will review the website and come up with suggestions for changes.

- **Member of Congress liaisons**

Mac: ID representative lobby meeting planned in June – Not necessarily associated with the CCL conference.

Judy: lobby meeting with Cathy McMorris Rodgers planned for late June, not associated with conference; virtual; please join the lobby team.

CMR also has a phone town hall next Wednesday (27 April): consider joining and asking questions related to climate change.

Reconciliation bill is still under discussion in the Senate; one vote is missing due to funding: carbon fee may be more viable to get the vote from Sen. Sinema (AZ).

- **Feedback for Mason's Climate Recovery Plan** – Mary

Mason's proposal addresses solutions to climate change – Trish volunteered to provide feedback on carbon fee portion of the plan. Mason would like to furnish his plan to national entities who could use the info therein.

Continuing Individual Actions

- Watch the monthly national meeting and call: 2nd Sat. of each month. Link on Community.
- Log actions on CCL's Action Tracker: <https://community.citizensclimate.org/actions/home>

- Send information for Facebook posts to Margaret Davis (maddvm101@gmail.com)
- Sign up to write an LTE this year

COMMUNICATION SKILLS EXERCISE - Talking about CCL's work

Example conversation

You: CCL volunteers are building the political will for a livable world. We develop relationships with elected officials based on shared values rather than partisan divides, so that Congress can pass fair, effective, and durable climate change solutions. Right now, we are urging Congress to pass strong climate legislation that includes a carbon fee with a cashback for households so the U.S. can reduce emissions 50% by 2030. We are also working locally to build broad support for climate action so we are ready for our next big advocacy push.

Table visitor: Wow, that sounds really important. I'd love to help.

You: Great, we'd love to have your talents and enthusiasm! Tell me a little bit about yourself so we can figure out where you fit in. What inspired your interest in working on climate change?

Take-aways from the communication exercise by the group:

When tabling for CCL, starting the conversation with folks who look over the table is great – Simon usually asks people: “Do you have climate concerns?”
How do you start a conversation about climate change? Not only when tabling, but with anyone
People don't know what to do – we can provide ideas!

Additional announcements:

Farmer's market tabling this summer: Simon is the one who is usually tabling every Saturday, could some young members partner with Simon and join him at the table once in a while? (other CCL members have done this in the past occasionally); how could we convince college or high school students to do this?

The Moscow Farmer's Market starts on the first Saturday in May and runs every Sat through October (8am-1pm); no need to stay the whole time or be there every time, just pick a time slot;
Possible contacts: PHS environmental club; WSU sustainability club; scouts;

Simon will be at the Trailside Taproom the second Thursday of the month (1 week before our CCL monthly meeting) for a CCL beer – please join
Request to include this on the PCCL website

There will be a candidate who will compete for Representative as a competitor to Rep. McMorris Rodgers in the upcoming elections – look for townhalls etc.

Next meeting Thursday, May19, 5:30 to 7pm, probably hybrid in Moscow at 1912 Center and by Zoom.