

**Minutes June 15, 2023, 5:30-7:00 pm  
Citizens' Climate Lobby – Palouse**

Community Congregational Church, 525 NE Campus Ave., Pullman or via Zoom (info below)

**Present:** Marilyn Von Seggern, Bill Engels, Gary Jewell, Judy Meuth, Simon Smith, Paul Spencer, Amelie Schmolke, Lily Premo, Trish Hartzell, Mary DuPree, Daniel Howell, Clare Peine, Kynan Witters Hicks, Nathan Lindstedt, Tina Hilding, Margaret Davis

**Draft Values Statement:** We are committed to creating a consensus for and the steps needed to achieve fair, effective, and enduring climate change policies, and to a process that is inclusive, non-partisan, and respectful of diverse points of view.

**Announcements**

- CCL--P social gatherings: Every 2nd Thursday of the month, 5:00-7:30 pm, Trailside Taproom, 505 SE Riverview, Pullman
- Picnic for CCL and Allies – July 20, 5:30-7:00pm (approx.), Ghormley Park, Moscow
- WA State CCL Conference, Sept. 22-23, North Bend WA. It's okay to go if from ID.

**Bill McKibben: Pro-Activist** – Mary

Bill McKibben of 350.org was CCL's monthly guest speaker (<https://citizensclimatelobby.org/monthly-speakers/>). Major points included:

- Renewable energy has increased by 90% recently. Now the problem is deploying fast enough. We have to talk to our friends who are environmentalists but have NIMBY (Not In My Back Yard) concerns re solar/wind. We need immediate permitting reform for energy projects – must pass climate test, fairness test for impacted communities, and encourage community projects
- Protecting farmland against use for solar/wind is important to some, but lots of farmland used for corn production which goes to ethanol for fuel (40%). Iowa, a very productive agricultural state, has more wind turbines than many states.
- His new organization, Third Act, is an organization for 60+ who tend to have more political power and more money. Its first goal is to go after big banks who fund fossil fuels, and then to reform state public utility commissions.
- El Niño cycle will be bad this year and worse next. We will exceed 1.5 deg C.
- With the smoke cloud hanging over the East, finally people in power are experiencing what a lot of the rest of people experience. 3 mil people will die this year because of air pollution.

**CCL Conference Reports** – Daniel, Judy

- Had > 1000 CCLers, 430 lobby meetings.
- Daniel met with 3 Republicans, 1 Democrat although the last got cut short.
- Saw more bipartisan support of permitting reform than expected.
- Supporting Ask included Increased Technical Service Providers (TSP) Access Act. TSPs are conservation experts on land management for mitigating climate change. They work through the Natural Resources Conservation Service to assist a farmer or rancher or forester to help make land resilient. These professionals are in short supply. They must get certified through the USDA which is a bottleneck. The 2018 farm bill allowed the USDA to establish non-government certifying offices to meet certain requirements, but USDA didn't follow up; the Access Act is telling the USDA to do it.
- Note that the CCL one-pagers on our Asks are useful for lobbying and general information. See <https://community.citizensclimate.org/resources/item/19/237> and <https://community.citizensclimate.org/resources/item/19/240>

### **OARS Exercise:** A way toward agreement - Judy

This motivational interviewing technique involves approaching a person with Open-ended questions (O), Affirmations of their values and person (A), Reflection by paraphrasing their answers/speech (R), and Summarizing the discussion (S).

### **New Climate Game**

Amelie reported that the Financial Times has created a new game called “Can you reach net zero by 2050?” Check it out at <https://ig.ft.com/climate-game/> .

### **Carbon Price and Dividend Team Report** - Margaret and Simon

- Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanisms (CBAM) panelists for this CCL Conference session included Ross Astoria, U Wisconsin Parkside; Catrina Rorke, Climate Leadership Council; Shuting Pomerleau, Georgetown U.
- The Carbon Fee and Dividend legislation supported by CCL included 1, a Carbon fee, 2, a Dividend and 3, a Border Adjustment Mechanism to even the playing field for American companies. A CBAM can be a stand-alone version of #3. US already cleaner manufacturing than many countries, and this could be rewarded by charging a fee on imports from more carbon-intensive countries.
- EU has a new CBAM policy. They will implement reporting on imports of certain things like steel, etc. this year and will start charging a fee in 2026.
- The new PROVE IT Act will provide data to report on this US advantage.
  - PIA is in Senate, not in the House yet.
  - Carbon intensity study on products at manufacture (steel, aluminum, etc. see bottom of page)
  - Agencies: DOE, DOC, EPA, State
  - Have 2 years to do it
  - DOE must update every 5 years
- Must satisfy WTO regulations for equal treatment (some discussion included how feasible the CBAM is in absence of domestic carbon fee. However, different countries can be treated equally if based on carbon intensity – thus data is essential!).
- Difference between border adjustment and tariffs – tariffs are more unilateral.

### **CCL Column in M-P Daily News!** – Mary

Question of title for the column still open. Tina is writing the opening column that will explain the column. DN has asked for the first 6 topics, we have more ideas. Kynan will write on family experience with heat pumps; other columns will focus on living off the grid, induction stoves, electric cars, weatherization, solar panels on home. Title possibilities include “Community Climate Corner”, “Neighbor Good”, “Green Home, Green Wallet”. Ultimately the DN will decide. Each column will be 700-750 words. Personal experience/anecdotal is best. Need to plan who will do what when. Jean Leffingwell will be editor.

**Picnic for CCL and Allies** – To socialize and bring on new people. Will take place July 20 at Ghormley Park in Moscow. Suggested invitees: city councilors, students, candidates for Pullman mayor, allied organizations, etc. Please suggest invitees, request rsvp. If more than 50 attend, Moscow requires recycling.

### **Ongoing Palouse CCL Initiatives and Actions**

Volunteer - Buddy up with another CCLer to act - [Volunteer Opportunities Handout](#)

- Film screening and discussion series (Clare and Annette)
- Carbon Pricing and Cash-back – Simon Smith and Margaret Davis (leads)
- Building Electrification and Efficiency – Mac Cantrell and Mary Dupree (leads)
- Healthy Forests — Trish Hartzell (lead)
- Presentations
  - Elem to High School Team – Nancy Nelson, Simon Smith

- Pullman City – Azdren Coma
- Moscow City – Mary DuPree
- Member of Congress liaisons – Mac Cantrell (Crapo), Judy Meuth (McMorris Rodgers)
  - Tabling – Simon Smith
  - Outreach to rural communities — Bill Voxman
  - Publications – Judy Meuth, Pete Haug (print)
    - We published letters to the editor in the Moscow/Pullman Daily News: Mary 4/25, Simon 5/16 and 5/20, Pete 5/30, Bill E 6/7
  - Website – Joe Pallen
- Social Media - [Open](#)

### **Continuing Individual Actions**

- Speak Up – Tell your members of Congress what you want
  - <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/get-loud-take-action/introduce-yourself/>
- Watch the monthly national call and guest speaker 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month on Community)
- Log actions on CCL’s Action Tracker: <https://community.citizensclimate.org/actions/home>
- Send social media info about CCL and our activities

### **Next meeting is July 20, 5:30-7 pm (approx.) at Ghormley Park, Moscow**

The meeting will take place at the picnic on the 20<sup>th</sup> at Gormley Park. Stay tuned for time!