

November 2021 Meeting Minutes

Attending: Nancy Atwood, Barbara Menne, Chuck Jensen, Sue Lepore, Linda Cohan, Marti Lambert, Mary Forman, Ginny Lohr, Hezekiah Rust, Jim Tuttle, Mason Burns, John Doherty, Ajaleigh Irons.

CCL National Call Clip

Katharine Hayhoe—part of her talk from the CCL National November Conference

She had just gotten back from COP26, and was impressed by the 1000's of people there of all ages and walks of life, besides the many national delegates, organizations, protesters, businesses, churches, etc. She said the people there were "doing the most important thing we can do, which is to talk about climate change." Polls show people are worried: 70% in the US, 75% in Canada and Europe, 83% of mothers, 84% of youth.

The results were "not everything we hoped for, but it's a lot more than we had before." The agreement language specifically mentions "fossil fuels" *for the first time!* It calls for eliminating subsidies on fossil fuels which are huge (in the US they exceed the budget of the Pentagon) Also calls for the "phasing down" of coal use and doubling of support for low-income countries. There is hope, this is a big step forward. We do "need hope, not more doom-filled facts."

Highlights of Important Recent Climate Events

Barbara Menne: G20 Agreements in Rome

- Agreed to stop funding new dirty coal plants abroad by the end of 2021.
- Reaffirmed commitment to mobilize \$100B for developing countries for climate adaptation costs (so far unmet).
- Leaders for the first time acknowledged "the use of carbon pricing mechanisms and incentives" as a possible tool against climate change.

COP26 Agreements in Glasgow

- **Global Methane Agreement:** seeks to curb methane emissions by 30% by 2030 and has been signed by more than 100 countries.
- **Deforestation Agreement:** More than 130 countries have pledged to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation by 2030. The signatories, which include Brazil, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Indonesia, are home to 90% of the world's forests.
- Called for double the amount of adaptation money for low-income countries.
- Called for phasing out fossil fuel subsidies.
- Called for "phasing down" coal and fossil fuels.

Chuck Jensen: Governor Inslee's announcement at Glasgow COP26

- Leads a coalition of 68 state, city and regional governments who pledge to halve their emissions by 2030 and get to net zero by 2050. This group represents 470M people and 20% of the world's GDP.

- The Pacific Coast Collaborative launched the Low Carbon Construction Task Force, finding ways to lower the carbon footprint of buildings and construction materials and methods.
- Announced his executive order to fully electrify Washington state's public fleet by 2035 (light duty) and 2040 (medium and heavy duty).

Sue Lepore: Infrastructure Bill

- **Bipartisan:** passed Senate with 19 Republican votes, House with 13 Republican votes
Addresses decades of neglect; DC has failed to pass an infrastructure bill for years
1.2T, less than half of what was originally called for, but the most since 2015
- 550B in **new spending**, much is related to climate resilience in some way:
- 110B--roads, bridges, major projects , 66B--freight and passenger rail
- 65B—power grid update/expansion, 65B—broadband access expansion
- 55B—improving water systems/replacing lead pipes
- 50B—weatherization, climate resiliency, 42B—port and airport modernization
- 39B—public transit systems, 21B—cleanup of industrial waste
- 7.5B--EV charging stations, 5B—low or no-emission school buses
- **Justice 40 initiative** --“underserved communities get priority for 40% of federal investment benefits” Pays real attention to promoting the health and safety of frontline communities: replacing lead pipes, better internet, safer school buildings, remediation for communities divided by highways, accessible/green mass transit, toxic waste cleanup, reliable power grids, etc.

John Doherty: Build Back Better Reconciliation Legislation

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 45%-51% below 2005 levels by 2030
- Invest in communities near polluting facilities
- Civilian Climate Corps (climate mitigation project jobs especially for youth)
- Incentives for solar, wind & other clean energy sources
- Clean up steel, cement, and aluminum
- EV infrastructure and incentives
- EVs for US Postal Service (huge number of vehicles)
- Small modular nuclear reactors for government
- Senate bill has carbon fee and dividend—House doesn't—Manchin is holdout vote in Senate. House bill is expected to pass.

Linda Cohan: Lobby Meeting with Senator Cantwell's aide Amit Ronen on 11/16

- Senator's history of work on the environment—she authored the CLEAR ACT and many clean energy tax credits. Has also worked with protecting salmon and the Sound.
- Agrees that a price on carbon is the most effective but prefers using a quarter of the revenue for climate-related needs and R and D.

- Infrastructure bill—is bipartisan, with lots of money for climate resilience and adaptation measures.
- Reconciliation bill—expects 1.75B to stay the same, expects 80% of the content will remain, expects the House to accept the Senate version. There's a lot of support for a price on carbon (will the starter price be high enough?)

Chuck Jensen: Lobby Meeting with Representative Strickland

- Meeting with new DC Chief of Staff Andrew Hoh, and aide Liz Carter.
- Major disagreement on “equity issue” of HR2307. Their view is that the proposed bill was not fair to both senior and BIPOC communities.
- CCL members reiterated that the dividend provision would more than offset higher retail/consumer costs related to a carbon price, but no agreement was reached.
- A follow-up planning meeting is set to discuss further strategy.

John Doherty: Lobby Meeting with Representative Kilmer and his aide Katie Allen 11/17

- About 10 CCL activists from Bainbridge and Tacoma.
- “Ask” and conversation about Build Back Better, carbon fee and dividend is not in House bill, but is in the Senate bill.
- Update demo of EnRoads—Kilmer is conversant with EnRoads and values it as a persuasive tool. Demo'd new features such as maps that show effects of changes on sea level in “real time.”
- Kilmer indicated the possibility of collaborating on a meeting with both him and CCL showing EnRoads to ‘ordinary folks.’

A few members' comments on the CCL National November Conference “Grit and Gratitude”

Those who attended were pleased. For full recordings of most sessions, go to www.cclusa.org/presentations and catch what you missed.

Keynote speaker Ayana Johnson was great, spoke on her personal experience and various topics but also emphasized ocean work and sea farming.

Tamara Staton's section: Physical activity before a difficult conversation is beneficial and helps your mind work better.

Motivational interviewing: concept of “interview” as two people viewing the same thing, like both looking at a photo album.

Danny Richter—was appreciated as a phenomenal speaker. Concise, honest, but positive. Reconciliation bill program was extremely thorough, also a demonstration of EnRoads.

