Minutes for February 11, 2020 CCL-KC Meeting

1. The January 15, 2020 CCL-KC General Membership Meeting was held at the KC Central Library at 10th and Baltimore, Rm 312, from 6:30 - 8:00 PM. In attendance were returning members Stephen Melton, Frank Zilm, Kurt Kloster, Diane Pletcher, Karen Uhlenhuth, Emily Hurley, and Donna Jones. New members included Andrew Greenwell, Joe Sweeny, Lorraine Elmore, Patty Lindgrin, and Kevin Day (via Go To Meeting). Theresa Noble, Julie Whitsitt, and Eslun Tucker could not attend the meeting, but submitted reports on their areas of responsibility. Jailyn Settles, a reporter with the Climate Council of Greater KC, also attended. Thanks to all who contributed to the meeting!

2. We briefly recapped the past month’s good news: Evergy’s promises to support Paris. Coal shipments YoY down 13.8%. HR 763 gained 3 more cosponsors—up to 78, and Karen’s excellent article on the KC update of the building codes, now posted on our website.


4. The annual CCL International Conference in Washington D.C. will be on June 7-9, with the 9th being the lobby day. I will attend and hope others will as well.

5. In district lobby meetings with MOCs and staffs. Our window for in-district meetings is February and March. Liaisons will coordinate and lead their respective efforts: Theresa (Rep. Graves), Dave (Rep. Cleaver), Steve (Sen. Blunt). Steve will coordinate our participation in a meeting with Sen Hawley’s office with Emma Rollings in Missouri’s NEMO chapter. We are looking for new people to participate in these meetings. If you want to visit and talk with a congressional staff, contact Theresa (tnoble8115@gmail.com), Dave (atrial1047@att.net), or me (smelton822@icloud.com). Right now we have Kurt and Diane with Theresa on the Graves team. Karin, Emily, and Lorraine join me on the Blunt team.

6. Grasstops outreach. We now have two targets on our active list. The Boulevard Brewery team (Me, Andrew Greenwell, Joe Sweeny, Emily and Kurt) will meet Feb 17 to make initial plans, hoping to meet with Boulevard within the month. MMC Corp. (Steve, Frank, Theresa) is still waiting on a date from MMC.

7. Green outreach.

   a. Climate Action KC. Steve is meeting again with the Climate Action KC policy committee on February 27 to urge them to make CF&D a federal legislative priority. Eslun was representing us at their Equity Committee meeting so could not make our CCL meeting.
b. Steve and Frank will meet with Kirk Gastinger at Green Building Council, who expressed interest in our organization.

c. The Climate Council of Greater KC is having its 2020 Earth Festival on April 18 at the Plaza Library. Events run from 9am to 6pm. Please keep your calendar free. We want maximum participation of our members.

8. City Endorsements Update. Theresa reported that a council member from North Kansas City wants to meet with us.

9. Grassroots Outreach. Because of her busy professional schedule, Emily must limit her leadership of our tabling efforts to First Fridays in the Crossroads, which she believes will start up in April. (Thanks, Emily, for all you have accomplished for CCL!) All other tabling and grassroots activities will be coordinated and led by the member who arranged for the event. The two tabling events now scheduled are:

   Bluford Library. Feb 14 (Dave, Diane, Frank, Dennis Hilger) and once a month thru April.

   Waldo Library. 24 Feb (3-7 PM), 2 Mar (3-7 PM), Mondays thru April 20. Joe volunteered to help out.

   Please volunteer for the above events by contacting Dave Mitchell at atrial1047@att.net.

   Review of handouts. We passed out and briefly reviewed the two proposed 2020 handouts for mass printing. (Attached) We ask members to test the two front and back quartersheets, A and B, on friends, neighbors, and family to determine which one is more effective. At the next meeting we will decide on the final version to go to the printers. It is crucial that we have the handouts back from the printers before tabling season begins.

10. Proposed Changes to KC building codes. A lot going on here, and much thanks to Frank and Eslun for representing us in this action. The bottom line is that the American Institute of Architects is now recommending that the city delay action on adopting (or amending) the 2018 IECC building codes until the new (and more stringent) IECC guidelines are published later this year. The Sierra Club and Sunrise Movement supports the AIA on this. We voted to support the AIA as well. There is a high probability that we will participate in briefings designed to educate city council members on the issue.

11. Much discussion on CCL’s 2020 election rules, especially given last week’s CCL-Missouri Leaders Call. The things to remember are that CCL is non-partisan and will not endorse candidates. We can, however, inform voters of the candidates’ positions
and record on environmental matters. This can be done in conversation at tabling events and other fora. We are still considering whether to publish factual information on our website and will revisit this topic at future meetings.

12. cclcalls.org has replaced the regional test program, Project Grand Canyon, as CCL’s tool to remind members to call their legislators to voice concerns over climate change. Please go to that URL today to sign up to make calls to your MOC.

13. Website and Social Media. Our techie administrators are meeting monthly to iron out issues and come up with a single presentation for the general membership meeting. Kurt showed us our twitter page and how to use it.

14. Newsletter. Julie reported a 22% open rate for the newsletter-meaning 70 recipients opened it. We believe a lot of newsletters are winding up in members’ spam folders so they never see them. If this is the case with you, please drag the February 1 newsletter out of the spam and let your computer know to deliver future newsletters to your inbox by adding us to your contact list. We get a lot of good feedback regarding the newsletters from people who read them.

15. Donna reported we have $414 and informs all members that they can elect to make monthly PayPal donations when they click the donate buttons on our sites.

16. New Business Item, Possible post-election workshop on legislative action. (Frank) Frank is contacting Alan Anderson to gain some understanding of how we can engage the elects and our larger community immediately after the November election, to insure CF&D is part of their thinking in the 2021 legislative session. We agreed that we need to develop a plan pre-election for execution immediately after. This will become an action item in late summer.

13. Our next monthly meeting will be on TUESDAY, March 10, in Room 312 at the Central Library, 10th and Baltimore, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Hope to see everyone there.

14. Thank you for all you do! We will need everyone’s help in this critical election year!

Stephen Melton
Co-Leader, CCL-KC

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Support the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, H.R. 763

A climate solution that’s simple, fair, and market-friendly
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- Return 100% of the net revenue to U.S. households
- Cut greenhouse gas emissions by 40% in 12 years
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Here's how you can help:

- Vote for candidates who support responsible climate legislation
- Visit citizensclimatelobby.org to learn how a carbon fee and dividend policy can reduce carbon emissions
- Call or write your member of Congress to express support for the carbon fee and dividend policy (H.R. 763)
- Get involved with your local Citizens’ Climate Lobby chapter

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The 2020 election is crucial! Vote for candidates who will STOP CLIMATE CHANGE!

Citizens’ Climate Lobby Kansas City Chapter

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