

Minutes for September 16, 2019 CCL Meeting

Hello CCL Members!

1. The September 16, 2019 CCL-KC General Membership Meeting was held at the KC Central Library at 10th and Baltimore from 6:30 -8:00 PM. In attendance were David Mitchell, Stephen Melton, Kurt Kloster, Paula Leppert, Dennis Hilgar, Emily Hurley and Frank Zilm. We also welcomed new members Marrion Morris, Queen Wilkes, Dan Boyer, Phillip McNeill, Julie Whitsitt, Robin Shook, and Scott Arnold. When asked, most of the newcomers said they were attracted to CCL when they heard or read about Emily's September 11 interview on KCUR's Up To Date radio program. (Kudos to Emily!) You can access a podcast of the program on our website, kcccl.org.
2. Dave welcomed the new members and asked everyone to listen to CCL's September 14 national call available on CCL's website. (citizensclimatelobby.org)
3. CCL current national priorities are gaining additional co-sponsors for H.R. 763, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, now with 62 co-sponsors. To this end, we are preparing for the November 11 and 12 Lobby Day in Washington, D.C. Those interested in attending can sign up on the CCL website. Cost is \$99 and a limited number of \$300 scholarships are available for our 4 state Tornadoes region. Please contact Dave or me if you are interested in attending. CCL also announced the formation of the Bipartisan Climate Working Group in the U.S. Senate.
4. Steve highlighted achievements for our local chapter during the past month included Representative Cleaver's (MO-5) signing on as a cosponsor of H.R. 763 and our participation in the September 14 Climate Summit at JCCC.
5. Kurt and Steve led a discussion on H.R. 763 and why pricing carbon is essential to the fight against global warming.
6. Paula led our monthly Climate Advocate Training, which featured spirited discussions on why we as CCLers care about the climate and crafting 2-minute "elevator speeches" so that we can quickly and effectively communicate our message to others.
7. Dave recapped recent Lobby Meetings with Members of Congress and their staffs (Graves' staff on August 19 and Blunt's staff on September 10) and asked for member input on the meeting plans for the November Lobby Day. Also asked that anyone who knows anyone who is influential with a member of Congress to contact him or Steve.
8. Steve discussed the highlights of the past month's grasstops outreach—the mixer at the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce on August 8, the meeting with the Star Editorial Board on September 5, and the Climate Summit on September 14. In the next month we will present to the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce Energy and Environment Committee on October 8. We are also putting together teams to

present to the Mid-American Regional Council (date to be determined) and the South Kansas City Alliance later this year.

9. Steve read Eslun's report on City Endorsements. Current priorities are ensuring KC renews Carbon Fee and Dividend as a 2020 Federal legislative priority. Also beginning work on a Jackson County endorsement. We need volunteers to be on the teams that will brief these elected representatives. Our increasing membership from Lee's Summit means that team working for endorsement there will expand. Parkville and Independence are on hold for now. Kansas-side CCL is working on Prairie Village and Miriam endorsements.

10. Emily discussed Grassroots Outreach and how First Fridays in the Crossroads tabling is suspended for the time being because of all the new rules and lack of crowds. The Climate Strike in Mill Creek Park at 5 PM on Friday, September 20 is not a CCL sanctioned event, but please feel free to participate, and even hand out CCL literature, if you wish. In regards to the 6:30 p.m. March to the Plaza, we urge discretion, since the Plaza Art Fair is beginning, and dense crowds are expected.

11. Youth Outreach. We discussed how effective high school junior Lia Uhlenhuth was in our meetings with Hawley's staff and the Star and encouraged members to recommend young people to help in our outreach events.

12. Dave stressed the need to continue to write letters to the editor and gave an update on Project Grand Canyon, the CCL program to get the membership calling congressional offices more often. We will provide guidance soon in on how you can participate.

13. Frank and Theresa gave us updates and demonstrations on our Website and Facebook page. (Great work here; more kudos!) Please post, visit, like, and share! Make sure you take photographs at all CCL events for posting on social media. Kurt is developing our CCL-KC Twitter account.

14. From 7:40 to 8 PM, attendees discussed their ideas and coordinated activities with the various team leads.

15. Our next meeting will be on TUESDAY, October 8, in the Central Library, 10th and Baltimore, Room 312, from 6:30 to 8 PM. Yes, we are going back to Second Tuesday meetings! Format will be the same.

16. CCL-KC has made tremendous progress this summer—gaining a key endorsement for H.R. 763, making grassroots relationships, expanding our media platforms and presence, growing our membership, and gaining name recognition with a broader public. All of this was made possible only through the hard work and commitment of all the members of CCL-KC. But now is not the time to rest. Our efforts must be ever stronger in the coming months as America makes its decision on

whether and how to address the climate crisis. We must seize the opportunities now at hand.

Thank you for all you do!

Dave Mitchell and Stephen Melton
Co-Leaders
CCL-KC



Citizens' Climate Lobby
Kansas City Chapter

**CLIMATE
COUNCIL**
OF GREATER KANSAS CITY