

Interfaith Earthkeepers Hybrid Meeting

March 26, 2025

Attendees: Susan G, Ron H, Theresa O, Cynthia B, Tom B, Katherine H, Yohann H, Betsy H, Britni C, Sue C

Moderator: Sue Minutes: Britni

Debrief of Recent Past Events

Winona LaDuke: Cynthia said it was funny and uplifting. Winona said that grandmothers should be out there doing the work. Dennis, Mark, and Cynthia tabled and talked to a lot of people.

Turtle Flats: It was a good work party. It looks very different from when they started.

EMO Earth Summit: Those who attended said it was worthwhile. There was a presentation on how to advocate and submit testimony by Senator Golden.

Sierra Club Plant Sale: This went well.

Updates and Continuing Issues

1. Local Organizations:

- **Activist Coalition of Eugene-Springfield (ACES):** Britni attended the protest planning meeting. Cynthia suggested having an earth focused message for the protest, such as *protecting the planet for our children and grandchildren*. There was some discussion around whether or not we want to officially sign on as part of the coalition. We will wait until the next EK meeting to decide. Volunteer needs for protest include: safety marshals, medics, de-escalation (must attend online training), chant leaders, and clean up crew. Email Stan Taylor if interested: sntaylor1969@proton.me .
- **Fossil Free Coalition:** No updates
- **Willow Conservancy:** This a new Lane County based nonprofit focused on growing and utilizing willow as a tool of resilience against climate change. Upcoming Community Forestry Workshops on Sunday, April 6th and Monday, April 28th. See [website calendar](#) for more details and RSVP. Monthly meetings on Zoom are the second Tuesday of the month at 7pm. Email willowconservancy@gmail.com for more information or to be added to the email list.

2. Oregon Coalition for Environmental Rights (OCERA): There is a hearing for SJR 28 and advocacy day in Salem today. Mark submitted testimony on behalf of Earthkeepers.

3. Divest Oregon: Treasurer Steiner does not support the PAUSE Act, so it is unable to move forward.

4. Beaver and Water Quality Bill: HB 3932 [The Beavers and Water Quality Bill](#) had a hearing on Tuesday, 3/25. Sue said she would submit testimony in support on behalf of Earthkeepers. Oregon Wild also has a [petition](#) for this bill.

5. New Earthkeepers Flyer: Cynthia took out a lot of the words and made the font larger. There was a discussion about which congregations to list on the flyer, as some no longer have an active EKs participant, and if a congregation is listed as participating then they need to approve this first. Cynthia will change the wording to “participants from the following congregations.” It was agreed that it would still be a good idea to check with congregations, and some meeting members said they would reach out to specific ones.

Upcoming Events and Actions

50501 Hands Off Protest: Saturday, April 5th from 12:00-3:00pm at Eugene City Hall (the protest will also cross onto Ferry Street Bridge). This is a peaceful protest. The event is part of a nationwide movement to stand up against the attempted takeover of our democracy. Bring a sign and a friend. This event is sponsored locally by the new Activist Coalition of Eugene-Springfield (ACES). For more information and to register, go to <https://www.indivisible-eug-spr.org>

Stronger Together Multifaith Potluck: Sunday, April 6th from 5:30-7:30pm at Eugene Unitarian Universalist Church. [Register online.](#)

Oregon Climate Action Hub Partner Summit: Thursday, April 10th from 11:00-1:00 online. [Organization website.](#) Register [here.](#)

Reimagine Earth Day: Sunday, April 13th from 2:00-6:00pm at Eugene Farmers Market Pavilion. More information [here.](#) 350 Eugene will be there with signs and giant butterflies. Email Patty Hine if you're interested in carrying a butterfly: president@350eugene.org.

Turtle Flats Work Party: Saturday, May 3rd from 9:00am-12:00pm. Mark will email the registration info.

Churchwomen United: On June 6th, they will host an event with the opportunity to table and share about organizations. Do we want to have EK flyers for this event?

Education Discussion:

Hope in the Dark by Rebecca Solnit - Introduction and Chapter 1 (available as an [e-audiobook on Hoopla](#) through the Eugene Public Library)

Tom: It is dated by still very relevant, enduring truths.

Cynthia: It's important to remember that we don't know what the future lies, and we don't know the impact that our actions will have. That is where hope lies.

The actions we are seeing now are reactionary to all of the progress that has been made in the past.

Next Meeting: April 23rd at 12:00-1:30pm (online and in person; location TBD)

Moderator: TBD

Minutes: Britni

Education Session: Chapters 2 and 3 of Hope in the Dark