

EarthKeepers' Minutes

Online Meeting

Wednesday January 12, 2022

Moderator: Sue C

Minutes: Ron H

Attendees: Katharine H, Philip B, Betsy H, Eunice K, Ruth D, Sue C, Merrily S, Bob G, Cynthia B, Carl B, Mark L, Ron H

Education Session was a discussion of the remarkable book, Braiding Sweetgrass, by Robin Wall Kimmerer. She will be doing a presentation Monday Jan 24 at 12pm through the Natural History Museum, tickets to live stream are free through UO, <https://ticket.uoregon.edu/uo/1076>

Old Business

1. EarthCare Interfaith Fund TriFolds are available for distribution We are encouraging congregations to sign on in support. Central Lutheran is moving in this direction, and letters to the editor have resulted in additional support.
2. Merrily sent nicely detailed persuasive letters to UO campus planners, the head of the UO athletic dept and the president of the university regarding the use of "natural" gas in new facilities.
3. Since launch in September the Divest Oregon coalition has grown to over 80 groups. Focus is now on the Treasury Transparency bill in the legislature requiring disclosure of Oregon investments and climate risk assessment. Our website news blog will give updates with opportunities to support by sending letters to your representatives, etc.
4. City of Eugene policy regarding "natural" gas is stable with staffing issues dominant at present.
5. The Church Women United presentation by Sue and Betsy is pending for Feb 3
6. Tree planting update: NAACP Eugene-Springfield ECJC is hosting a volunteer tree-planting event on MLK Day, next Monday from 2:00 p.m - 4:30 p.m. Volunteers will help plant and maintain trees at 6 sites in Springfield - 5 Willamalane Parks and 1 Friends of Trees/ODOT site.
7. First Congregational Church has now formed a "Green Team" to address climate issues and participate in Earth Day events.
8. Earth Day and Faith Climate Action Week April 22- May 1 were discussed. We plan to work with Oregon Interfaith Power & Light, supporting their events. Ron and Merrily will coordinate.
9. Zoom access to future in-person meetings will be pursued as we get closer to returning to live meetings.

10. We were reminded to use blind copying for mass communication via email, and to avoid using unshielded mass mailings. Also, discussion of planning details should not be sent to mass lists.

New Business

1. All members are encouraged to attend the online Oregon Interfaith Summit on Jan 30 from 1pm to 430pm. This is the 9th annual event presented by Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon and Oregon Interfaith Power & Light.
2. Merrily is drafting letters to impact the plight of Oregon Wolves. Eight Oregon wolves have been killed by poisoning in recent months. Ways of framing the discussion were reviewed.
3. Our online monthly meeting time will go to the second Wednesday from 1200 noon to 130pm in an effort to accommodate participants who work.
4. Minutes for next meeting will be done by Merrily, with back up as needed by Betsy

Next Meeting: Wed February 9, 2022, 1200noon

Moderator: Ron H

Minutes: Merrily S

Education session: Braiding Sweetgrass, up to page 59.