

## **INTERFAITH EARTHKEEPERS Minutes 11/13/2019 FUMC library**

Members Present: Ron Hess, Keith Oldham, Sue Craig, Merrily Sutton, Phyllis Weare, Bob Granger, Phyllis Hockley, Len Hockley, Edith Roberts, Eunice Kjaer, Ron Coffman, Allan Gubrud

### **Drawdown:**

Allan presented the drawdown on heat pumps. The bottom line; Use of heat pumps have a large potential for reducing carbon footprint provided the primary source of electric energy used to drive the compressors is from a renewable or zero carbon emitting source.

### **Healthy Oceans:**

Keith brought up the idea of connecting experts knowledgeable about ocean and coastal ecology with organizations engaged in similar activities in the valley (e.g. McKenzie River Trust). One advantage would be the creation of educational activities involving sustainability more inclusive. Keith volunteered to continue exploring the idea and report back at a later date.

### **Missionary outreach.**

To what extent should Earthkeepers be involved in Missionary Outreach? This question, brought up by Ron and Keith, will be explored at a later date.

### **Ice on Fire or Pollinators Movies**

Merrily described problems, primarily financial, related to showing movies like 'Ice on Fire'. A possible solution is to seek a co-sponsor to spread initial costs and widen the scope of potential viewers. Merrily will continue looking into the matter.

### **Upcoming educational events**

1. *Wildland Scenic Film Festival* McDonald Theater on November 14<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM  
cosponsored by the McKenzie River and Long Tom Drainage Trusts
2. *Dammed to Extinction* November 23<sup>rd</sup> 7:00 PM UUCU

### **Bank Funding for Fossil Fuel Corporations.**

Ron brought up the idea of how we, as individuals, can place monetary pressure on fossil fuel companies to engage in environmental stewardship. One option: Use only those banks which do not provide funding to the fossil fuel industry. [fossilfuels.org](http://fossilfuels.org) is a website which provides information on how to do this.

## **Trip to the Proposed Douglas Fir National Monument**

Merrily described a trip to the site which is now being promoted as a national monument. David Stone is spearheading an effort to have the site legally designated as a national monument. The site is located east on Salem is the West side of the Cascades and contains an abundance of old growth Douglas Fir. Merrily encouraged us all to visit the site at the next opportunity.

## **Sustainable Agriculture**

Edith gave a brief summary of the book entitled *The Future is Rural* by Jason Bradford. Bradford suggests that relying solely on renewable energy, likely will not be enough to obtain a sustainable planet. In his view, localizing the use of agricultural products will be essential.

## **Birds and Cats**

Eunice provided a 'show and tell' which involved a collar type device worn by cats which provides and visual and sonic warning to birds thus minimizing bird death and extinction.

## **Presentation by Cathy Mosqueta**

Cathy Mosqueta, a guest speaker, described a project whose goal was to reduce the time spent by idling cars by parents while picking up their children after school. The project involved the use of posters, newsletters etc. which reminded parents to turn off their motors while waiting for their children outside the school building. Data collected before and after suggest the project was very successful at reducing car running time hence carbon footprint. An important point....Easily implemented and simple projects often are very effective.

## **Roundtable discussion**

Sue requested that each member orally communicate

- what we want to do as a group
- where we are going, who are our allies
- how Earthkeepers should be tied to the individual congregations represented by members.

Merrily will be provide a summary of this discussion at the next meeting for further review.

## **Next Month**

Dec. meeting at UUCE 1685 W. 11th

Facilitator/Agenda: Merrily

Minutes: Keith

Drawdown: Merrily