

## Minutes, Interfaith EarthKeepers Hybrid Meeting

June 14, 2023

Attendees: Cynthia B, Ron H, Keith O, Sue C, Mark L, Hillary, Katherine, Rouanna G, Dick Z, Ty Z, Phyllis H, Linn, Dennis R, Britni C

Moderator: Ron H, Minutes: Britni C

### **Old Business**

1. Fossil Free Eugene Update: [Yes for Eugene](#) is waiting to see what happens with pending litigation in Berkley, CA. Northwest Natural got enough signatures on their petition to put this issue on the ballot in November. The City of Corvallis passed an electrification ordinance in February. Milwaukie and Gresham are also discussing electrification.

Discussion on electric stoves vs. induction: An electric stove costs a lot less than an induction stove. However, induction stoves are a good alternative for those who want more controllable heat similar to gas stoves. Electric stoves use about 30% of the amount of energy that gas stoves use.

FFE, NAACP, and Beyond Toxics is hosting a community workshop on air pollution for renters, BIPOC, and low-income community members on Monday, July 24th at 5:30-7pm at Hilyard Community Center. [Register here](#).

Sue brought up the idea of meeting with people from NWN to share our faith perspective and encourage them to consider people's future in regards to climate change.

2. Oregon Interfaith Hub meeting with Ed C: The meeting went well. OIH is not an action based group. Currently, they are just trying to stay organized and continue meeting once a month. They are interested in continuing the conversation on collaborating with EarthKeepers.

3. Location of July Hybrid Meeting: Tentatively First Congregational Church. The option of UU was also brought up, and it was suggested that we get someone on staff to help with technology for Zoom.

4. Treasurer Report: Statements are only sent out if there is action on the account. Umpqua Bank has online access. The account has about \$300. The treasurer would like someone to sign up to be the alternate.

5. UU Earth Action Monthly Film series: Tuesday June 20 - [Young @ Heart](#); Doors open at 6:30pm; film starts at 7:00pm. Martha is moving toward broader social justice movies because turnout for the previous environmental films has not been good. Perhaps the poster comes out too late to get onto CALC and EK websites early enough. It has been suggested to Martha that she work on getting the posters out earlier. Additionally, EKs have offered to buy newer documentaries.

#### 6. Brochures:

- IFEK Trifolds: These are available for printing at Universalist Unitarian Church.
- Earth Care Interfaith Fund Brochures: Available from St. Mary's Episcopal. There is also a 6-part resource document that outlines how to talk to people about the fund at congregations. Donating to the fund is a local alternative to buying carbon offset credits for flying.

Corvallis has a [Carbon Offset Fund](#).

7. Indigenous Knowledge and Land Restoration: Keith participated in a three part workshop. He has been meeting with the UU Indigenous Connections Circle. Nancy Menning is interested in following up with EKs on Indigenous relations. There is a field trip to walk to the [Kalapuya Talking Stones](#) at Alton Baker Park on July 8th. Keith will send more info.

8. New educational ideas: A guest speaker from KEPW (community owned radio station) is coming to the next meeting. The idea of having our own radio show was brought up. People could discuss articles from the website with a focus on state and local issues.

## **New Business**

1. Lane County Citizens Climate Lobby has a presentation on the Inflation Reduction Act for congregations. Contact Elizabeth Grant at [beeegrant@gmail.com](mailto:beeegrant@gmail.com)

2. Timberland Economics and Forest Ownership Issues: Lane County produces more softwood than any other part of the country. Forests in Oregon include federal, state, BLM, and private land, which includes huge companies like Weyerhaeuser as well as small family plots. Weyerhaeuser's real estate investment trust is traded on Wall Street. 90% of their profits from timber goes to their stockholders. One state forest is being managed by OSU and the timber industry. These all have boards and advisory committees. Oregon Department of Forestry is largely subsidized by cutting trees. The timber industry has a hold on our legislature.

Biden's executive order on preserving 30% of U.S. lands and oceans by 2030 - The USDA Forest Service is seeking public input **by July 20**. [Click here](#) for more information.

In 1990, each logger could harvest 550,400 board feet. In 2020, that increased to 764,100 board feet because of new logging equipment.

3. Oregon Interfaith Summit Planning Team: Planning begins soon and there is an opening for an EK member. If you wish to participate, contact Cherice Bock at Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon.

4. Support for [Oregon Interfaith Power and Light](#) through Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon Creation Justice: Cherice's position is not solidly funded. We need government intervention on climate change which requires advocacy, and Cherice is very good at this. Consider a [donation](#) to EMO.

5. Cooling Centers: Grants Pass opened cooling centers last summer.

6. EK Support Sign on Process for Multiple Initiatives: If we already signed off on support for the topic there is no need for approval. Any general member signatures should be reported to the group.

**Next Meeting: July 12, 2023 (online and in person - tentatively First Congregational Church)**

Moderator: Dennis R

Minutes: Britni C