

5-21-22 GrassRoots Institute - Climate Crisis Workgroup (GRI-CCW) Meeting Notes

Attending: Carrie Durkee, Peter McNamee, George Reinhardt, Jim Schoonover, Sandy Turner, Eileen Mitro, Marry Winslow, Marcy Snyder and Geri Morisky

- Marcy announced that she would be addressing the Fort Bragg City Council. The workgroup authorized Marcy to speak on behalf of GRI in support of providing child care support for council members during meetings and to promote GRI's June 2nd city council candidate workshop.
- The workgroup brainstormed ideas for projects that the Coastal Conservancy or other possible funding sources could be asked to support. Among the ideas discussed:
 - Restoration & creek daylighting on the Noyo Headlands.
 - Funding for developing a plan to coordinate the transition of transportation systems on the coast to support electric vehicles.
 - Establishing a collaboration initiative to bring public & private funding and organizations together to plan, develop and actualize projects and initiatives vital to coastal resilience.
 - There is a need for funding to develop a planning & coordinating agency to facilitate collecting & evaluating coastal water resource data, building collaborative multi-agency public & private water resource development & management systems and educating the public on water resource opportunities, strategies and challenges facing coastal county areas.
 - Funding for education & empowerment projects targeted at environmental justice mitigation and remediation in regard to unique impacts on low income & marginalized communities, ie., Youth, Minority, Native People and small unique population communities along the coast.
 - Special attention is needed to build a coastal based resource agency to provide educational and expert support to communities impacted by sea level rise - i.e., saltwater incursion into ground water and river intake water systems, impacts of tidal & high surf cliff erosion on coastal homes & businesses, retreat & relocation of public & private infrastructure (roads, power, communication, sewer treatment, etc), impacts on commercial harbors.
 - Planning and coordination to remediate and mitigate climate change impacts on tourism and coastal access - i.e, developing a system of electric vehicle chargers capable of ensuring adequate support for an all electric vehicle tourist fleet, development of water catchment and grey water systems for hospitality &

camping locations, use of solar, wind energy to provide power for eco - tourism, etc.

- Assessing the options for expanding public & private coastal forest access opportunities for recreation in forests and on beach areas - i.e, repurposing all or part of Jackson Demonstration State Forest to eco-tourism and carbon sequestration demonstration project research rather than timber harvesting, development of the blue canyon beach area under tribal control, coordination and development of new coastal conservation lands in the Rock Port area, etc.
 - Initial design and development of a public & private effort to optimize local decentralized renewable solar, wind and geothermal energy production, and the development of secure micro grids to share and mutually support efficient and reliable energy distribution from producers to consumers.
- Jim reported that the Investor Owned Utilities (PG&E, So Cal Edison, & San Diego Power) are uniting to pressure the Cal Public Utility Commission (CPUC) to increase rates and fees that would discourage residential and small business roof top solar. A renewed letter and public official contact effort by communities supporting solar needs to be ramped up.
 - Eileen reported on the efforts of Mendocino Climate Action to encourage the Ukiah City Council to take a strong position renewing and expanding climate mitigation and remediation by city agencies. Progress is being made and the city staff are preparing a proposal for the city council to consider.
 - Peter reminded everyone that on Thursday, June 2nd, the GrassRoots Institute is hosting a Candidates Workshop & Public Forum at the CV Starr Community Center multipurpose room from 5pm to 7pm. The event features presentation by former city council members Dan Gjerde and Dave Turner addressing how to run a winning city council campaign and the challenges of serving on the city council in Fort Bragg. The general public and especially anyone interested in possibly running for the city council are invited to attend. This will be an opportunity for candidates and the public to ask questions and get information about the upcoming Fort Bragg city council election.
 - George also noted that GRI is collaborating with the Botanical Garden to host a reception for the Cal Coastal Commission on Thursday July 14th. The Coastal Commission will be holding three days of public meeting beginning Wednesday, July 13th thru Friday, July 15th.

The meeting was adjourned, next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, June 4th at 10 am. Carrie Durkee will send out zoom access information for participating in that meeting.