

Thursday, May 12, 2022

5-7-22 GrassRoots Institute - Climate Crisis Workgroup (GRI-CCW) Meeting Notes

Attending: Marcy Snyder, Peter McNamee, Carrie Durkee, George Reinhardt, and Jim Schoonover

- George updated the workgroup on a project that he and Bruce Broderick have been working on to develop a proposal for an energy farm on the Noyo Headlands. The purpose would be to undertake demonstration projects for renewable energy that could be scaled to the needs of local energy consumers.
- Marcy shared that she has a letter she will be distributing to local civic and business leaders alerting them to the need for credible qualified candidates to run for seats in the November 2022 Fort Bragg City Council election. In 2020, there were insufficient candidates and the incumbents were reappointed without an election being held. There are numerous challenges confronting the city and we need the best and the brightest to become candidates.
- Peter reported that in conjunction with the Core and the Candidates & Elections workgroups, he is putting together an educational event for potential Fort Bragg city council candidates and the general public. He has secured the multipurpose room at the CV Starr Community Center in Fort Bragg on Thursday, June 2nd from 5 pm to 7 pm for the event. Former Fort Bragg Mayor Dave Turner and Supervisor Dan Gjerde will lead a discussion about their experiences as city council members and strategies for engaging the public in city council elections. A flyer will be posted around Fort Bragg announcing the event and the media will be contacted to alert the community and encourage public participation.
- Carrie announced that recordings for Crispin Hollinshead's April presentation to the Climate Crisis Workgroup and Sheila Semans' presentations at GRI's April General Meeting have been posted on the Vimeo internet video host platform. Anyone who missed the presentations can watch them on Vimeo (<https://vimeo.com>).
- Jim made a presentation regarding the recent California Coastal Conservancy workshop he attended on behalf of GRI. According to the Conservancy they have a total of \$500 million in new funding for Coastal Resilience Projects. This is in addition to \$78 million in regular Conservancy funding that communities can apply

for to fund local coastal projects. Government and community based NGOs have until May 31st to post suggestions for Resilience projects on an on-line project mapping list the Conservancy has established on its web site. Actual written project funding proposals will need to be submitted to the Conservancy in August. After discussion by the workgroup, it was decided to do a brainstorming session at the Saturday, May 21st Climate Crisis Workgroup meeting, to identify potential projects that should be posted by GRI on the Conservancy project mapping application.

- George asked Jim to make a presentation to the Noyo Headlands workgroup so that they too could be aware of the funding opportunity that the Conservancy is providing.
- George also reported that in conversations with Fort Bragg council members he understands that the city is considering installing Photovoltaic (PV) panels on top of the city's reservoir. After discussion, the workgroup encouraged George to get more information about the status of the project - I.e. has a formal written project proposal been considered by the full council and if so what action was taken? Installing solar on public infrastructure was proposed to the Fort Bragg city council last spring and the workgroup would like to know how we can encourage the city to install more solar.
- The meeting was adjourned and the next meeting will be via zoom on Saturday May 21st at 10 am - Carrie Durkee will host.