

October 17, 2017 Meeting Minutes, Revolution Vashon/Vashon Progressive Alliance

Attendees: Sheila Brown (host), Terry Sullivan (facilitator), Diane Emerson (minutes), Ginny Lohr, Christopher Van Putten, Joanne Herbert, Roxy Hathaway, Steve Rubicz, Judy White, Roxanne Thayer

The meeting began at 6:30 pm with introductions, and ended at 8:15pm, followed by more informal discussions

Announcements

1. Backbone is looking for people to help organize and to show up at a Vashon action on Monday, Oct 23rd to protest banks' funding of pipelines. Part of a national protest day called Divest the Globe. Watch this call to action from Mazaska Talks and Standing Rock

leaders: <https://vimeo.com/236236302>

Here on Vashon, we can show up at our local branches, protesting the corporations' support of climate cooking fossil fuel pipelines, including the one through Standing Rock. This could also be an opportunity to pull your account from those banks.

Backbone Campaign is looking for 1-2 people to take the lead on coordinating this action with support from Backbone. For more info contact Amy, 206-495-1969.

2.The Community Van is up and running. Drivers and Riders both wanted. Contact Janet Welt on island: 206-773-7003, e-mail ctc@vashonchamber.com Learn more at <http://metro.kingcounty.gov/tops/van-car/programs/community-van/>

Follow Up on Action Items from September Minutes

1. **Alliance:** Kevin Jones and Joanne Herbert contacted other groups to invite them to attend our meeting. Ginny Lohr from the Citizen's Climate Lobby was happy to join us.
2. **Website:** Diane Emerson worked on updating the website, and Noah Roselander agreed to help as well.
3. **Mission Statement:** Diane organized a meeting to draft a mission statement
4. **Voter Registration:** this effort has been very successful. Roxanne Thayer, Sheila Brown, and Amy Morrison (Backbone) helped with the Voter Registration at the high school in September. They signed up 10 kids to vote in the November election and sparked interest among many others. Thanks to Roxanne's great outreach, the librarians at the school are poised to take this project over.

5. **Progressive Definition:** Diane updated the document, posted on the website, and sent to George Lakoff. No response yet from George.
6. **Healing the Divide:** Diane sent names of some Bernie supporters to Kevin Jones for living room conversations between Bernie and Hillary supporters.

New Business

1. **Support for Jennifer Ferguson:** Christopher Van Putten recommends we support her run for WA state US senate position in 2018. She is very progressive. See <http://www.votejennifergigiferguson.com/>
2. **Impeach Trump Now:** Steve Rubicz. Republicans are beginning to criticize Trump. 16 cities are on record supporting impeachment. A full page ad in the Washington Post offered \$10 million for information leading to the impeachment of Trump. Here are two key actions we can all take: 1. Contact Pramila Jayapal and urge her to support Chairman Cohen to get articles of impeachment out of committee and onto the floor for debate. 2. Get the word out to others that there is a national citizens campaign called ImpeachTrumpNow Go to the website: <https://impeachdonaldtrumpnow.org/> inform yourself, and share.
Roxanne Thayer will write a letter to Pramila on behalf of Revolution Vashon/Vashon Progressive Alliance because Pramila is on the judicial committee.
3. **Citizen's Climate Lobby,** Ginny Lohr. Ginny and her husband Rob Briggs are active members of this international organization. There is a climate solutions caucus in the US congress. Just before the 2016 election, there were 10 Republicans and 10 Democrats working together in this bipartisan caucus. Today there are 30 of each. Website: <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/about-ccl/> Actions we can all take: Ginny is heading to Washington DC to attend their Nov 12 conference. She has a form for our comments, and will make sure 3 government representatives see them. Here is a link for you to get the form, with instructions on how to get it to her. She needs it by November 9!
<http://www.vashonprogressivealliance.org/citizen-s-climate-lobby>
4. **Transitioning from Revolution Vashon to Vashon Progressive Alliance.** The transition is underway. We discussed the idea that to help people, we should include both Revolution Vashon/Vashon Progressive Alliance in our public meeting notices for 3 months, then switch over to Vashon Progressive Alliance/Revolution Vashon for 3 months, then drop the reference to Revolution Vashon completely after that. The two names will be included in the Loop's calendar, which **Roxy Hathaway will update.**
5. **Managing this new Facebook group Vashon Progressive Alliance.** Diane Emerson created the group. Christopher Van Putten and Diane will be moderators to begin with. **Diane will post our Progressive Definitions on the page, ask people who ask to join: "Here are our values. How do you feel about these?"**

6. **Our new Mission Statement.** A group met and drafted a new mission statement for Vashon Progressive Alliance: “The Vashon Progressive Alliance encourages and supports island progressives to harness energy for action and advocacy to heal our democracy. We are working for a diverse, sustainable, and just community, country, and planet.” The meeting attendees decided it needed more work, so **Diane will organize another meeting to work on it.**
7. **Vetting of MailChimp mailings.** To make sure the summary of past meetings is as accurate as possible, **Terry Sullivan, who creates the MailChimp mailings, will run the drafts past the people who attended the prior meeting every month.**
8. **Islamic Speaker Sunday, Nov 12, 2pm, at Presbyterian Church.** Roxanne Thayer. Mr. Rahim Nasserziayee, a long-time student of Islam and Middle Eastern History, is coming to Vashon to present an overview of Islam; its history, fundamental principles, and other aspects. Included is a demonstration of Islamic prayers with the English translation. He has given this talk 25 times in communities across the State of Washington. Mr. Nasserziayee, a citizen of the U.S. since 1982, is a retired civil/hydraulics engineer educated in Afghanistan, Iran, India, The Netherlands, and the United States. The following churches/organizations are “hosting” him: Vashon Resettlement Committee, The Unitarian Fellowship, the Quakers, Puget Sound Zen Center, and the Episcopal, Methodist, and Presbyterian Churches, and more. . I’m awaiting decisions by several other churches/groups. Revolution Vashon/Vashon Progressive Alliance voted unanimously to also sponsor his talk. Judy White provided the financial sponsorship fee. Thank you, Judy!
9. **Vashon SURJ:** Sheila reported that the Re-Entry event was a standing room only crowd at the Land Trust. Most people who are incarcerated end up in huge debt. Vashon SURJ is looking into a campaign to modify this. Other attendees mentioned additional ways people can help: Susan Burton ANWOL provides housing, case management, pro bono legal services, advocacy and policy development on behalf of women rebuilding their lives. <http://www.anewwayoflife.org/about-us/> and the Yoga Behind Bars Project <http://yogabehindbars.org/>

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on the 3rd Tuesday of November, the 21st.