**March 29, 2016 Minutes**

**100Grannies**

Becky Hall led the meeting with everyone reading the litany that Barbara liked to use. Then each Granny introduced herself and told their favorite sign of spring.

Becky Ross gave the treasurer’s report:

Regular checking account……………….$1502.28

Agitator Fund (memorial to Barbara)……$6506.00

Grannies memorial fund…………………...$305.00

The bill for 20 “Nanuk the Ice Bear” books to be donated to ICCSD elementary libraries is $287.80 and we collected $181.83 at the Lecture Series. This money and the paid bill were included in the totals above.

Ann Christenson reported that the **solar tree** will not work downtown because of the tall buildings and there is no space that gets enough sunlight. We need to find a different, but prominent space. Ann also said that funding should not be a problem with a proper campaign. We are open to other suggestions.

Mary Beth suggested **Riverside Drive streetscape** might be

an appropriate place to further explore for the solar tree.She will bring a Power Point from the IC Planning Committee to the April Anniversary Celebration so that members can view it.

Becky Ross reminded the Grannies about Barbara Schlachter’s fight against the Keystone XL Pipeline and how much it meant to her. Bold Nebraska, the group who had a lot to do with stopping the pipeline from running through Nebraska, is asking for donations to plant trees near the solar and wind powered barn in York, NE, built by volunteers, including some of our Grannies, in the proposed path of the pipeline. Those at the meeting decided we should donate $100 to buy 2 trees in Barbara’s memory, because she has 2 grandsons. The treasurer will send a check.

Deb Dee reported the following:

**GRANNY ACTIONS NEEDED:**

**1.ACTION: GRANNIES MAY BE NEEDED AT STORY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS** meeting in Nevada on Tuesday, April 5 at 10a.m. at Public Meeting Room, Second Floor 900 Sixth St. Nevada, IA 50201; Phone (515) 382-7200. *www.****storycounty****iowa.gov/index.aspx?nid=92* The B of S  may be approving a resolution to go forward with the pipeline that day, and more public may be needed to keep the heat on. At the Paul Engler book tour in Ames tonight (3/31), CCI will be asking for folks to show up at the Tuesday mtg. CCI will let us know in the next day or two if they need more folks, so stay tuned for more info!  Thanks, Grannies!

**2.ACTION: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR NEEDED** in all counties along pipeline… to keep the heat on County Boards.  Ann and Deb will send packet of info (tips, talking points) by email in the next few days.

**3.THINGS ARE MOVING FAST! IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN GETTING UP-TO-DATE INFO:**

**1.**SIGN UP for the Bakken Pipeline Resistance Coalitionfor the most current editorials/news articles/happenings.  Email Deb at djdee1027@aol.com and she will make sure you get on the list. And/Or…..

2. Sign up for the NO BAKKEN Facebook page  at :  <https://www.facebook.com/nobakken>

**4.DIRECT ACTION TRAINING – SAVE THE DATE: APRIL 16** – Training and Planning on Direct Action, Quaker Meeting House, Des Moines Time TBA

**5.STAY TUNED FOR POSSIBLE DIRECT ACTIONS!**

**UPDATE ON BAKKEN PIPELINE APPROVAL/RESISTANCE:**

IUB approved the Pipeline permit with specific conditions on March 10, giving the right to eminent domain to about 230 parcels/landowners across Iowa.  Dakota Access (DA) requested expedited construction and was denied (thanks to lots of calls to the IUB!).  Dakota Access is refuting but the IUB is investigating allegations, as we speak, that DA started construction early (sitings and photos from Boone county and elsewhere).

Delaying/blocking Strategies:

1.Legal – Two landowner associations in NW Iowa and one private trust are suing citing that eminent domain for farmers is illegal under Iowa State Law. Unclear how long this will delay the project. Wally Taylor of the Sierra Club is suing on a number of points.

2.Financial – DA’s parent company is in deep financial trouble…if we delay long enough, will they fold?

3. Bakken Pipeline Resistance Coalition organizing groups to block construction:

A. Army Corps of Engineers still has to issue permit on waterways, historical and tribal sites, two endangered species.. Coalition will demand to hold public hearings

B. Statewide action…combining efforts with landowners, indigenous communities, public keeping the message that **THIS IS NOT A DONE DEAL**!

C. Counties –

Counties must assess landowners property before they can be seized by eminent domain, so they also have the power to REFUSE to assess landowners. Carolynn Raffensperger and Wally Taylor wrote a great ordinance that counties may use to refuse to assess parcels and refuse permits to cross drainage ditches. Boone County was to be the model… but have been approached by the Sherriff/ 2nd District Court Judge in Fort Dodge to expedite the process. Boone County is delaying but not sure of outcome.

We want to go National! Several Grannies suggested Bill Moyers, Amy Goodman at Democracy Now, Bill McKibben, James Hansen, etc.

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Mary Beth reported that Miriam Kashia will be attending the Democracy Spring Event. Miriam will be participating in the 140 mile march from Philadelphia, PA to Washington, D.C. April 2-10 as well as the Sit-in at the White House April 11th which will be a multi-day nonviolent demonstration (arrestable action). Funds from the Barbara Schlachter Memorial were presented to Miriam for her trip at the end of the meeting. The 100Grannies are listed as sponsors of the Democracy Spring Event.

Mary Beth also told us about April 26, **100Grannies 4th Anniversary Celebration** There will be a potluck, short business meeting, and celebration at the home of 100G member Carol Christensen, 2635 Woodfield Lane, NL. Each Granny attending should bring a dish to share (preferably vegetarian or vegan), some item which represents a personal connection to the mission of 100Grannies and encourages our collective work on climate change - a card, poem, picture, song or other memorabilia. In the spirit of past celebrations with Barbara leading us, use your imagination and come prepared for fun. We hope to spend some time outdoors in Carol and Jim's beautiful yard. Watch for directions and more details coming your way in the near future.

Save **April 4, Global Day of Action on Military Spending** - This event is sponsored by the Peace Coalition, which includes 100Grannies, Veterans for Peace Chap #161, PEACE Iowa, and Iowa Physicians for Social Responsibility. ***Fly Kites Not Drones*** will be held from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. in Hubbard Park on the UI Campus south of the Iowa Memorial Union. Martin Luther King's Riverside Church speech will be read (from 4/4/67) along with excerpts of the speech he gave in Memphis the night before his death a year later 4/4/68. Bring your kites and join this demonstration of peace and commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

May 5, **Refugees & War**: **Peace is Possible Tour** 100Grannies are co-sponsoring with Veterans for Peace Chap #161 and UI Center for Human Rights, Kathy Kelly and Ann Wright in a week long tour in Iowa. They will speak in Iowa City, Thursday, May 5th at **Van Allen Hall, LR1 on UI campus at 7:00 p.m.** Both women will speak about their work for decades with Refugees and War. This tour will provide first hand accounts of the impact of war on refugees and provide an opportunity to seek input on the consequences of climate change and extractive processes on these populations as well. This will be an opportunity to learn first hand about the effect of climate change on migration and Grannies are encouraged to attend.

Miriam sent around this notice:

**AREA-WIDE CLIMATE CHANGE FORUM**

Tuesday, April 19, 7:00 – 8:00 pm, Iowa City Public Library

The Iowa City Climate Advocates are hosting a gathering, inviting local environmental groups to discuss what each group is working on with regard to climate change to better coordinate our efforts. Member of the public are welcome to attend and to see a showcase of several local environmental groups.

The meeting will kick-off with a short overview, given by Jim Olson of the United Nations Association, of the outcome of the Paris Climate Agreement as a jumping off point for further discussion.

Next, someone from each attending group will give a short synopsis of their efforts in the climate change arena. After further discussion, we hope to form a temporary committee to develop a concrete goal for Iowa City Council’s Sustainability Initiative, such as setting a carbon emissions reduction goal.

**Activism Committee – Linda Quinn**

**Earth Day Banner Demonstration Fri. April 22 7:30- 9:00 AM & 3:30 - 5:30PM** Inviting all 100G members to participate, needing 8 people to hold up signs spelling letters of NO BAKKEN.  Signs provided.  Location -Pedestrian bridge over Riverside Drive. Will send reminder one week ahead with parking suggestions.

**Training in Direct Action & Non-violent Civil Disobedience (CD)** is recommended for all 100G members, may need the skills soon to protest the Bakken Pipeline.Several on-line training (webinars) opportunities coming:

\*3/31 7 PM- 8:30 Break Free Teach-in by 350.org.  See email sent by K Nicholson 3/30.

\*4/5 Noon-2PM. Website includes instructions for downloading free Zoom program before training. <http://wecaninternational.org/pages/us-climate-initiative>

\*Iowa CCI will have training in Des Moines sometime soon.

Other Upcoming events:

**March 30, (Wednesday) “This is an Uprising” ICPL, 6:30-8:00 p.m.** CCI is hosting Mark and Paul Engler to discuss their book and the nonviolent revolution, which is happening throughout the county.

**March 30, “A Sugar Creek Chronicle: Observing Climate Change from a Midwestern Woodland” reading at Prairie Lights, 7:00-8:30 p.m.** with Connie Mutel.

**April 6, (Wednesday) CRWG House Party,**

**6:30 p.m. 634 Reno Street, IC**(limited seating) by reservation only to 100Grannies and CRWG. Katharine

**April 6, Dianne Dillon-Ridgley will speak to Chris Thomas’ class about women and the climate justice 3:30-4:45 p.m.**

**March/April dates TBD: Citizens Climate Lobby(CCL) spring district meeting, Grassley and Ernst offices in CR. Paula**

**April 17, (Sunday) Agudas Achim Synagogue Earth Day Activity, Oakdale Blvd, 1:00-3:00 p.m.**100Grannies will provide educational activities for kids and adults. This is an intergenerational event. If you would like to help, please contact Mary Kirkpatrick or Nancy Ross

**April 19, (Tuesday) Earth Day Event at Kirkwood College Campus, IC. 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.** 100Grannies will table. Same day as the next Steering Committee meeting. Volunteers needed.

April 22, Earth Day, Bridge Banner at 7:30 AM, Riverside Dr and Burlington St.- Linda Quinn

**April 24, (Sunday) Nature Explore Family Fair, Kent Park Conservation Center, 1:00 -4:00 p.m.** Organized by Iowa PSR with many environmental groups. 100Grannies will do outdoor activity with Enviroscape and indoor game re: plastic bags and the 3 R’s. Volunteers needed. Mary Beth

**April 29, (Friday) Iowater Workshop, Dixon, IA 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.conducted by DNR** to teach interested individuals how to test water quality (described in Mary Skopec’s lecture 3/14/16). Cost is $20/person or $30 for groups of 3 people who plan to work together; lunch is included. Contact Bryson Dean (brysondean.iowa@gmail.com) by 3/30/16 if you are interested.

**May 21, (Saturday) March for Safe Food: March Against Monsanto, New Pioneer Co-op, Iowa City, 12:30 for comments and march through downtown IC.** Blair Frank (bfrankecorev@gmail.com) is organizing this event and has asked 100Grannies to join in promoting and celebrating safe food with organic, local food growers of non-GMO food.

 Other possible opportunities:

• May 15, **Break Free Event** [**350.org**](http://350.org/)**,**10:00 a.m. in Chicago. Details not yet available. A global wave of resistance to keep coal, oil, and gas in the ground.

• **Resolution to declare Johnson County a TPP-Free Zone**, consider working with CRWG to model after Dane County (Madison, WI) resolution forwarded by Miriam Kashia

•  Bakken Pipeline direct action aka blockadia. Water monitoring along the pipeline. Information provided by Mary Skopec from Delaware Riverkeeper Network (DRN) 3/15/16 after her water quality lecture.

• Legislative – Elder Climate Action, Lobby Day 6/21/16 and Grandparents Climate Action Day planning 6/22/16 (actual event will be in Spring 2017).

• May 10, **Sierra Club forums**: Primary Environmental Issues, **Tuesday, May 10,**  – Environmental Issues for JC Supervisor Candidates. E-mail invitation from Tom Carsner 3/11/16 to co-sponsor; no money, just time and questions.

 **Old Business**

Becky Hall reported for the Education committee that the March lecture series is over and that every lecture was well attended and very interesting. Becky thanked Dawn Jones who recorded all of the lectures. These will be shown on our local TV channel. If you have ideas for documentary movies to show at our fall movie series, please contact her or Molly Stroh.

Becky H also reported that they had a great time at the Iowa City Public Library Storytelling event.

Pat Bowen spoke for Diet & Climate: She talked about mercy for animals and we need to educate ourselves. We can’t wait for the government to do something. Marcia Shaffer reported that she will continue to do the recipe of the month for the Diet & Climate committee.

Pat B also spoke for the Legislative committee: We need to write letters to the editor – please!

Becky R gave the Bag Committee report:

We are working with Iowa City City Council and MPOJC and are hopeful that an ordinance will be written soon.

We are also working with the University of Iowa Student Environmental Coalition on April 6th on the Ped Mall. We will be giving our reusable bags in exchange for your single use plastic bags.

April 17th we are emphasizing the use of reusable bags at the Agudas Achim Earth Day event. We continue to make our reusable bags and are now stenciling our name on them.

Closing: Climate Song and blessing for Miriam's Democracy Spring march.

    April 19, Steering Committee meeting, place TBA

    April 26, Fourth Anniversary Celebration!