

ALL CLIMATE GROUP

At their last Board Meeting on November 6th, ALL approved a new Focus Group (proposed by Colin Carter and Nancy Barda) dealing with the related issues of climate change and ecological/environmental concerns.

We have taken as our starting point “The Climate Book” by Greta Thunberg and several others. Each chapter covers a specific element of the climate crisis and/or possible solutions.

The main themes of the book are -

- There is **overwhelming scientific consensus** for both climate change and human involvement in it.
- There is a **serious crisis**, which is not being adequately addressed by national governments and other important organizations.
- Those most responsible are the rich countries (Global North), corporations and individuals.
- Those suffering the most are the poor countries (Global South) and individuals.
- Corporations are emphasizing the action needed by individuals in order to mask their own (much more significant) inaction.
- The progress made in some areas is being promoted as a smokescreen to mask the lack of progress on more important areas (**green-washing**).

The book ends with a challenge to all the readers to **take whatever action they can** to mitigate the crisis.

We need to discuss what action each person can take – it is suggested that this be divided between -

- (1) Action taken by **individuals** to improve their own lifestyle and behaviors.
- (2) Giving money to **worthwhile organizations** - local, national and international.
- (3) Giving time to volunteer with **worthwhile organizations** - local, national and international.
- (4) Group action – alone or in cooperation with local organizations

Other possible activities of the group include (but are not limited to) -

- (1) Education – reading, lectures, classes, discussion. (Prepare a list of suggested books?)
- (2) Gathering data – what do ALL members already do and can we join them? Are there any local organizations that we should look at in detail?
- (3) Action to be taken (see above)-

It is suggested that our discussion be divided between

- (1) Important global issues – **saving the planet**
- (2) Regional or local issues – where we can **personally contribute**

NOTE (1) - Since this is a focus group, it is not expected that ALL and/or UWP would incur any cash expenses. The group would have to be self-funded to the extent that any cash payments are necessary.

NOTE (2) – Since ALL is, by definition, non-political, we should exclude any specifically political group action. But nothing prevents individual ALL members from acting or voting as they wish.