

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND PERSONAL SAFETY**  
**Facilitator: Amy Milsted    Recorder: Maura McCaughey**

**DISCUSSION ONE: GLOBAL TRENDS AND REALITIES**

**Question 1: Recent extreme weather events - thoughts? Does this echo or differ from previous?**

- There may be refugees from Texas.
- The planet is continuing to heat.
- There is a push in Southern California for more solar power, no grass in yards and to drive electric cars, because Californians are already being affected by climate change.
- We need to keep the conversations like these workshops going, to continue more education of what is happening from climate change and to provide the truth of what is happening, especially to those who do not see climate change as an issue.

**Question 2: Cleveland and the Great Lakes region has been listed in the top 12 great locations to move to as a result of climate change. Your reaction? How would this affect us?**

- States that depend on tourism would lose out on such a migration.
- Ohio would be impacted if people moved here.
- There may be diminished drinkable water.
- Immigrants are fleeing now, and climate caused migration will take a toll on the health care system. Areas near the equator will be vacated. This is inequitable because those migrants do not have a big carbon footprint.
- There may be pressure to pirate the Great Lakes water.

**Question 3: What are the weather changes we have experienced here in Hudson and what have been some of the resulting effects?**

- It's harder to work outside in 95 degree days; that affects Hudson public employees and others who work outside.
- The flooding in Hudson; more areas are in flood plains.
- Standing water allows for mosquitos born illnesses.
- Ticks that go from dogs to people.
- Hudson schools are doing energy conscious building in their facilities.

## **DISCUSSION TWO: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE REALITIES**

**Question 1: Why are Environmental and Social Justice important as we make choices to address our climate change realities? In what ways are we all ultimately affected?**

- The distribution of food – so much of our food comes from large agricultural companies and is inequitable in that much of the food they grow goes to animals to eat so that we can eat the animals.
- Farmers need to want to change how and what they grow. Now, big farmers clear the land and have a lot more fields, meaning less trees.
- Highlight the example of the small farm on Route 303 in Peninsula. It's a compelling story and needs to be told, to keep people aware of what can be done.
- Agricultural farmers were using so much fertilizer, they caused the algae buildup in western Lake Erie.
- Look to more science, for example from Dr. Ayanna Johnson and the Blue New Deal.

**Question 2: How have you personally been affected by changes in our local/regional climate? Tree loss, crop/garden changes, storm water issues, new diseases/health effects for this area, changes in animal/bird species, loss of pollinators....?**

- We need people who understand the situation at the top of government.
- Policies at the top need to be better, more responsive to climate issues.
- There is a plant that will "eat" the CO<sub>2</sub>, that enhances the soil which will result in growing better crops. This needs to be developed.

**Question 3: What do you see as the impact of these effects continues and increases in number and intensity?**

- There need to be financial incentives for people to do the right thing.
- Every aspect of life is affected by these climate changes. We need more education.
- It is crucial for people to be educated; there needs to be more awareness of the climate issues.
- People need to be informed so they can put the pressure on government officials so that change can be made on a policy level.

## **DISCUSSION THREE: WHAT CAN WE DO HERE IN HUDSON, SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO?**

**Question 1: What actions/trends do you see that give you hope that we can do somethings to adapt to, lesson impacts or pursue alternative?**

- Programs like this one that inspire us to do something.
- Appeal to people's pocketbook. For example, you can lower your electric bill by putting in all LED lights.
- Learn new ways, like using a white rooftop on buildings.
- Use Roundtable podcasts to educate people on facts like these from the presentations.

**Question 2: What do you think might be possible actions Hudson can take to combat climate change and its impacts?**

- Hudson has done some positive actions like the impervious surfaces on sidewalks, keeping trees in the Phase I and II developments but need to do more.
- The Environmental Awareness Committee could do more but City Council does not want to offend residents.
- We need to make leaders feel like they are leading.
- We have to convince City Council. Have a show and tell, to explain the problems like the presenters tonight did.

**Question 3: How are you willing to become more invested in finding solutions or ways to make a real positive difference?**

- We need to convince elected representatives that it is to Hudson's benefit to enact environmentally sound measures and that this will attract businesses who want to locate to a more green city.
- Have more examples of how Hudson is attracting businesses who are more green, like the corridor of businesses that Hudson is trying to attract on Seasons Road.
- Include financial incentives for more climate change solutions.