Availability to Attend Meetings (Other)

I live in Gualala and will need to either attend remotely or coordinate commuting to Ukiah.

Interests & Experiences

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Hello! My name is Patrick Hentschel. I'm twenty-six years old, live in Gualala, CA and would in this capacity identify as a concerned citizen. I work in a sales leadership role at a software company based in Los Angeles, and I also teach yoga at a center (www.pacificcoastyoga.net) in Gualala. My experience in the realm of climate change derives entirely from the efforts I have made to a) educate myself and b) educate others, and c) organize actions to drive change. I'm excited to play a role in guiding the climate change conversation at a county level. Below I'll share some of the ways in which I've already approached this issue. Regarding my process of self education on this topic, I am connected with a large network of climate advocates that supply me with the latest news updates, journal articles, etc. on the topic. I read books such as "Out of the Wreckage," by George Manbiot, "Uninhabitable Earth," by David Wallace-Wells, "Learning to Die in the Anthropocene," by Roy Scranton, and more. In terms of educating others, I created a website (early stages) - www.haseya.guru - as an educational resource for locals based in Gualala. In time the website will hopefully take on broader readership. It merges my passion for climate change & ecology education with personal life philosophies I hold about what it means to be truly "connected" with nature, others, and the self. In order to promote the message of urgent change put forward on the site, I worked with a group of close friends & colleagues in Gualala to post up banners around our town. These banners say things like "Rise Up to Stop Climate Change" and include a link to the site where they can learn about ways to take action. We were successful so far in getting 5 local businesses to hang these signs are in conversations with more. Additionally, this past March I organized two discussion panels (flyers attached) at Santa Monica College and Santa Rosa Junior College, where I highlighted the urgency of the climate crisis and moderated a discussion with activists (Extinction Rebellion & Sunrise), political leaders (including Congressman Jared Huffman), organizational leaders (Executive Director of 350BayArea), and professors (Psychology Department Chair at Santa Monica College). Nearly 300 students attended both of these talks, and many signed up with participating organizations afterward. Here is an unedited (work still required) video of the Santa Monica College event: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=flWeRJNceG0. I am presently working with some colleagues to put together a community event on Sept 20, to kick-off a week of Global Climate Strikes. See attached flyer for more information. I will likely play some kind of speaking role at the event. My colleague and I started a recurring outdoor kids summer program called YogiScouts, where we teach kids (ages 6-10) skills for selfregulation, breathing, meditation, exercise, and environmental stewardship. Education about climate change and ecological degradation are core to the curriculum. In terms of other actions, myself and a group are working to get local businesses up and down the coast to install EV charging stations. I view this as an important step in developing the infrastructure that will support new EV sales in the 1-2 years to come. My vision is that Gualala, Mendocino, and the whole coast, would become an "eco-destination" for travelers visiting from the Bay Area. Our group (www.center4ac.com) also regularly hosts documentary screenings at our yoga center in town, focused on educating the local public about the urgent threat posed by climate change. I hope this provides sufficient information about my experience & interest in this area, but please do reach out if you'd like more detail or examples! Patrick P.S. I want to share some words I wrote and presented to the Ukiah BoS several months ago. They capture my feeling about climate change action as it relates to our county. ----- "I want you to act as you would in a crisis. I want you to act as if our house is on fire. Because it is." These words were spoken this past January by 16 year old Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg to a room full of billionaire CEOs and executives at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. This was six months AFTER Greta walked out of school for the first time to stage a protest outside of Swedish Parliament. In the months that followed, elementary and middle school students in Belgium, some 40,000 strong, marched and continue to march every week through the streets of Brussels, demanding action from social and political leaders that have failed us. The Sunrise Movement, a US-based youth-led climate activitism group, received national media coverage with a sit-in protest in Nancy Pelosi's office, and in doing so brought climate change "as a crisis", as well as a corresponding solution in the "Green New Deal", to the national political agenda arguably for the very first time. Since then nearly ALL Democratic presidential primary front-runners have endorsed the resolution. This past Friday, one MILLION children across the world left school to march through streets. Their anthem? "If the adults don't act, we will." What we're seeing for the first time ever is our youth, not just joining, but LEADING the chorus on climate change. This is THE challenge of our children's generation. And though we have passed our failures on to them, it is NOT their's to solve alone. The IPCC says we have 12 years, and everybody in this room knows how fast 12 years will come to pass. So what can we do? Mendocino county is a place where people come from all over the world to be inspired. They come

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here to connect with their souls reflected in the rolling hills, towering redwoods, and majestic shorelines. Mendocino has a strong tradition of ecological advocacy. We can be a bastion for ways of living rooted in sustainability, renewable energy, and climate justice. This committee is so incredibly important because it is citizens uniting to define creative solutions for our county and for the world that watches us. Greta likes to say 'I don't want your hope, I want your action.' she and countless others have sounded the horn. It's our time to respond.

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Certification

Please read the following statements and indicate your acceptance thereof.

I hereby certify that I am a registered voter in the State of California, County of Mendocino, a citizen of the United States, and will be at least 18 years of age at the time of the next election. I am not imprisoned or on parole for the conviction of a felony. I certify under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of California, that the information on this application is true and correct. I understand that assuming this public responsibility could result in public knowledge of my background and/or qualifications, including financial interests. Applications will be kept on file for one year.

✓ I Agree *

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