

## **BLUE Minutes**

Date: January 12, 2020

Present: Dean, Karen, Pat, Doug, Isaiah, Reema

Time 3:00

### **BUSINESS**

#### **Affiliation with MN350**

Dean stated that Larry will check into this affiliation

#### **Charging Stations for EV**

Pat reported that there are grant dollars available for charging stations from the MPCA. Pat spoke with MPCA who referred her to ZEF (company coordinating charging station grants). She spoke to Jim Goodman from ZEF who told her that in order to qualify for grant dollars, charging stations needed to be 40 miles apart. Currently Little Falls will receive a charging station, so he suggested looking into the Crosby area. Another suggestion was to get local businesses to sponsor a charging station in Brainerd – for instance, at the Co-op). The business could then charge for the service provided. A midrange charging station costs about \$600 and would take 2-3 hours to charge a vehicle. Pat emailed the Co-op to generate interest in this.

Next Step: Pat will follow up with the Co-op and if needed contact Crow Wing County Commissioners Bill Brekken and Steve Barrows.

#### **Candidate Scorecard**

Members will follow the following candidates' voting records:

Lueck – Dean

Herring – Isaiah

Heintzmann – Karen

Senator Ruud – Pat

Rep Stauber – Doug

Senator Gazelka – Isaiah

#### **Earth Day**

The Nature Conservancy will hold an Earth Day event at CLC. Blue may be able to have a table there. Blue discussed updating our flyer – perhaps a postcard with the organization's important info.

#### **Letters to the Editor**

Pat will write a letter to the Brainerd Dispatch in relation to the Governor's recent bonding bill. Isaiah will write a letter to the Staples paper.

#### **PO Box**

The average annual cost of a PO Box is 75\$. The members present voted unanimously to obtain a PO Box. Isaiah will look into getting a box and Reema will check it 1-2 times per week.

#### **Meeting Date and Time Change**

In order to increase turnout at meetings, it was suggested to hold meetings on either Tuesday or Thursday evening at 7:00 pm on the second week of the month. This will be posted for Blue members to vote on.

#### **Announcements**

- BACP member, Bruce Sundberg is recovering from a fall and is temporarily at Fair Oaks Lodge in Wadena. Anyone interested in contacting him can do so at:
  - Room #314
  - Fair Oaks Lodge
  - 201 Shady Lane Dr
  - Wadena MN 56482
  - Phone: 218 631-1391 – this is the main #, so ask for him by name.
- Dr. Bob Upgaard passed away – he was a frequent attendee to BLUE.
- Kathy Kelly of BACP will speak at UCC Adult Forum Room on 1/29 at 7pm. All are invited.