

## Brainerd Lakers United for the Environment (BLUE) Minutes

BLUE Regular monthly meeting

April 8, 2018, UCC church, 1:30pm, 14 in attendance.

### 1. Renewable Energy Legislation:

HF 3675/SF 3129: School district solar energy grants, funded? This is a done deal? (Sorry I did not arrive until 2 and missed this portion of the meeting.)

HF 4046/SF 3266: Energy storage systems: This is also a done deal? (again, apologies)

2. Open Forum: Discussion of EV/electric cars, charging batteries while at work, peak electric rates, storage, hydrogen, solar schools project from Region Five for schools in Pine River, Pequot Lakes and Central Lakes College/Brainerd.

3. Ken Blumenfeld, DNR Chief Climatologist appearance, follow-up report: it was a successful event; venue not full, but close to full; the greatest change so far is winter nights being warmer; the arctic is warmer - jet stream is warmer and dips south - north American continent is warmer. BLUE flyers were distributed for the Earth Day event.

4. Unnatural Disasters event at CLC April 18.

5. Proposed Paul Douglas event: he has agreed in principle, will speak for us on a Saturday this summer, and advance notice may be short.

6. The effect of climate change on our fauna was discussed. Scott recommended E.O. Wilson's book "The Future of Life". Diffusion of Innovations theory. (Not sure what that means, but I wrote it in my notes)

Melissa would like to see a future event focused on our biodiversity, specific to northern Minnesota.

Speakers: Bernd Heinrich? Jill Anderson ("Natural History of Superior's North Shore")? Amy and David \_\_\_\_\_ ("A Year in the Wilderness")?

We need to speak to hunters/fishers/Ducks Unlimited members/resort owners/MN Deer Hunters Assoc.....so it's not like we're coming from the "enemy camp". These groups are all stakeholders. We're ALL stakeholders.

7. Earth Day event planning meeting held via Zoom. Details planned, and I'll not include them here as the event has already happened and will no doubt be re-hashed at the May meeting.

### 8. Other future events:

April 28: Arboretum Arbor Day

May 5: Reduce Your Carbon Footprint while Boosting your Budget

9. Meeting adjourned, 3:15

-Sarah Gorham, amanuensis