

Brainerd Lakers United for the Environment (BLUE)

Minutes

Date: April 14, 2019

Time 2:00 pm

Present: Dean, Karen, Michael, Pat, Laurel, Isiah, Joe Stattine

PLEASE NOTE THE IMPORTANT DATES OF BLUE SPONSORED EVENTS (APRIL 24- CLC, AND APRIL 27- EARTH DAY MARCH AND PICNIC) Read on for details

ALSO NOTE THE LINKS CONTAINED IN THE MINUTES TO BEGIN HOMEWORK ON CANDIDATE SCORECARDS AND CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVES

Welcome Joe!

OLD BUSINESS

Periodic letters to the Editor

Dean had a letter published within the past 2 weeks. Judy will have a letter published this week. Pat will submit a letter r/t Earth Day Celebration which is April 28th. Dean will write a letter after Earth Day and Karen will submit a letter in May.

As a reminder, the website engage@newmode.net has templates on a variety of topics.

Dean requested that a copy of each letter be forwarded to him for tracking at brainerdblue@gmail.com

Membership Recruiting Strategies

Laurel suggested that we devote an entire meeting to this subject in the future. All agreed.

Candidate Environmental Scorecard

BLUE members believe we should develop this, especially for local and national MN campaigns. This scorecard would then be published on the BLUE website, Standup Brainerd Lakes and in a letter to the editor. A good starting point is to review the scorecards found on <https://www.cleanwateraction.org/states/minnesota>. This site has all the information we need – no need to re-invent the wheel here. From this website, I found this (PLEASE REVIEW):

<https://www.cleanwateraction.org/sites/default/files/docs/publications/Minnesota%20State%20Scorecard%202017-2018%20Legislative%20Sessions.pdf>

https://scorecard.lcv.org/sites/scorecard.lcv.org/files/2018_LCV_Scorecard.pdf is another website that has a wealth of information on national scores for 2018.

I get this as a weekly email on legislative actions for the State of Minnesota. It is prepared by Indivisible MN: [Indivisible Minnesota Legislative Action](#)

An entire meeting will be devoted to this topic after Earth Day.

Other websites of interest:

<https://environmentminnesota.org/sites/environment/files/cpn/AMN-112818-A1/index.html>

<https://citizensclimatelobby.org/>

Report on Eco-Faith Summit - 3/30/2019

Pat attended the Summit which was held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Eleanor Burkett from the Nature Conservatory was the speaker. The event was well attended and supported ECLU's Care Creation Committees who support Climate Change science. Laura Radke from Lutheran Church of the Cross, Nisswa, wants to bring Paul Douglas back to speak in May.

LAMTA PRESENTATION OF Jeannette Rankin: Champion of Persistence play

Joe reported that approximately 60 were in attendance and that no money was lost. The crowd responded well to the performance. The actress, J. Emily Peabody, entertained questions and was appreciative of the chance to refine her work.

Minnesota 100% Campaign Event

Blue is co-hosting this event at Central Lakes College on Wednesday, April 24th from 12-1pm in the Chalberg Theater. The primary speaker is Chris Conry. Please spread the word. Dean, Laurel, and Isiah will be there to help present BLUE's presence.

Earth Day Celebration March and Picnic – Saturday, April 27th at Gregory Park

The march will begin at 10:00 in Gregory Park. Speakers will begin at approximately 11:00 with each speaker having about 10 minutes with a brief period of Q & A. Pastor Leslie will be a speaker. Laurel will contact Eleanor Burkett to request that she speak. Dean will contact the Eco Club at the high school to see if someone in this club will speak.

Doug is distributing flyers. Please bring tables and chairs if you are able. There will not be an electrical vehicle presentation at this event.

Dean will also set up an electronic meeting to finalize plans for this event.

BLUE By-Laws and Treasurer's Report

Pat distributed a copy of the by-laws she drafted. These are needed in order to open a Blue bank account at Mid-Minnesota Federal Credit Union. The draft was attached to the agenda. 6 members voted to approve. Karen Williams, Secretary, signed 2 copies of the by-laws. Pat and Isiah will open the bank account on Monday, 4/15/19.

OTHER BUSINESS

Joe suggested having electric cars at the 'Arts in the Park', event on June 30th. Dean will talk to Melissa.

Mention of inviting Carrie Ruud to a Blue event. More to come on this.

Joe is reading Rising, a book about the changes in the oceans due to climate change.

The meeting ran long so no vigil was held this month.