

Brainerd Lakers United for the Environment (BLUE) Minutes

Thursday February 11th 2021, 6:30 pm Monthly Meeting

The February monthly meeting was held on-line due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Present: Pat, Doug, Dean, Larry, Richard & Judy

BUSINESS

Line 3

Doug reiterated that there are weekly protests at the Enbridge office in Park Rapids. For those who would like to participate, the address is 101 2nd St W. Park Rapids. Time 1:00 pm – these events are called Salsa Tuesdays and typically include singing and dancing. To read more about this event and other upcoming events, go to facebook and search for Honor the Earth.

He also noted permanent protest camps are being maintained by the Water Keepers at Backus, Palisade, and Cloquet.

Those present indicated the January 30th vigil was a success with approximately 2 dozen participants. The group voted to join DSA in hosting these 'Stop Line 3' vigils on the first and third Saturday of each month at 3:30 pm in Brainerd on the corner of East 6th St and Washington Avenue. The next vigil will be on Saturday February 20th.

Dean reported attempting to attend the scheduled 'Stop Line 3' caravan at the Enbridge river crossing north of Palisade at noon on Friday the 5th. No vehicles were assembled and the gate to the Water Keepers headquarters was closed. Apparently, vehicles assembled in Hill City instead. 61 had registered to participate in the event.

Larry provided the following link to the 'Stop the Money Pipeline' campaign. Please check it out, send a letter to Enbridge's lenders, and attend their on-line kick-off event on the evening of Tuesday, February 16th at 7 pm:

<https://stopthemoneypipeline.com/announcing-the-defundline3-campaign/>

RSVP for our #DefundLine3 Campaign Kick-Off event on Tuesday, February 16th at 5 PT / 6 MT / 7 CT / 8 ET.

Dean noted that it has been reported recently that the Line 3 project is now more than a billion dollars over its projected budget, and that Enbridge has paid out over 300% of their annual profit in dividends, so this should be an area of high vulnerability for the company.

Other

It was suggested that for the convenience of attendees BLUE permanently continue to hold on-line meetings over the winter month's even after we emerge from the pandemic, Please respond if you have an objection to this suggestion.

Please comment on the proposed Minnesota Clean Car rule. Local dealerships have been running misleading ads that this rule would somehow permanently tie regulations in Minnesota to those in California, which it will not. Pat notes that you have until March 15 to comment on MPCA's proposed Minnesota Clean Cars Rule. Minnesota 350 is supporting this by providing a form letter you can sign on line at <https://mn350.org/comment-on-clean-cars-minnesota/>

- **Treasure's Report** – Isaiah wasn't in attendance