

BLUE Minutes

Date: Sunday December 08, 2019

Present: Dean, Isaiah, Reema, John Reynolds, Donna Bowen, Tracy Lyons, Doug

Time: 3:00 pm

Old Business:

- Tabled discussion of Pat's initiative on Electric Vehicles in her absence
- Tabled discussion of steps forward in affiliating with MN350 in Larry's absence
- Tabled discussion of BLUE's intent to create a candidates' environmental scorecard for the 2020 election cycle in Karen's absence.
- The attendees briefly discussed resuming BLUE's campaign of writing letters to the editor in local publications for the information of Donna & Tracy.
- The "Our Mississippi, Our Future" Community Forum on Thursday December 5th in the Central Lakes Community College cafeteria was deemed a success. There were approximately 90 people in attendance including Senator Ruud, Commissioners Brekken & Barrows, Mayors Olson & Nevin. Li Boyd of the Mille Lacs Band, Andrew Mendez a BHS student, Jim Chamberlin of Happy Dancing Turtle, Todd Holman of the Nature Conservancy, and Tony Coffey of WAPOA supplemented the local OMOF team in participating in the forum. Doug noted it received coverage both from LPTV and the Brainerd Dispatch:

The Brainerd Dispatch article can be found at brainerddispatch.com/news/government-and-politics/4808844-Water-quality-forum-generates-discussion-among-residents-lawmakers

Lakeland News at Ten aired a good story about the community forum on Friday, December 6. The story and accompanying article by Lakeland News reporter Chantelle Calhoun can be found at lptv.org/community-forum-at-clc-discusses-need-to-protect-minnesotas-water

- The attendees determined a PO Box would be a worthwhile investment, Isaiah will check pricing (expected to be ~\$60/yr.

New Business:

- Discussion of the results of changing the meeting time to 3:00 pm last September.

The group determined this will be decided at the February meeting, one suggestion was to move the meeting to a weeknight (possibly at 7:00 pm on the 2nd Monday of each month) Doug will check to see what the availability of a UCC room may be on a weeknight. If you have any input on a new meeting day/time please respond the cover email for these minutes or come to our January meeting. Any suggestions are welcome.

- Discussion of 2019 tax preparation requirements.

Isaiah indicated no action will be taken, assuming no major donations will be received for this year.

- Discussion of the 50th Anniversary Earth Day celebration.

Dean will check in with the Nature Conservancy about partnering in their planned event next April.

- Treasure's report

No expenditures or deposits, balance remains ~ \$500

4:00 – 4:30 vigil on 6th & Washington (not held, Doug suggested discontinuing this for the season)