

Leelanau County Energy Futures Task Force
Meeting minutes, May 1, 2024

Revised and approved, 6/6/24

Called to order, 9:35

Chairman's welcome and discussion

Meeting protocol reviewed and discussed. Rule affirmed on visitors: Will be seated in visitor section. Must speak at public comment, unless invited to speak by Chair.

Energy Brief - Joe DeFors, "What's the fuss over carbon?"

Greenhouse effect explained, combustion of fossil fuels a major extra contributor as it traps sunlight and heat close to the earth vs radiating out into space. CO₂ - 40 billion tons added yearly by humans lingers 300 years in atmosphere, methane has 80 times more impact than CO₂. General discussion on carbon effects, history.

General Discussion

Steve Ruddell: discussed/did overview on carbon offset credits, as there has been a person contacting commercial and residential entities to issue carbon credits for their solar installations. Ruddell stated that at this time there is no market or legislation to support the issuance of carbon offset credits for Solar Renewable Energy Certificates in Michigan.

Is it our role to educate the public? Discussion of having a fact sheet re markets for renewable energy/credits. Is it our role? To be on June agenda.

Workgroup Reports

Energy Efficiency Group: excellent presentation on micro plastics. Should we get involved in energy audits? appropriate? Letter to legislators & Governor suggested re need for funding for energy work: auditors, installers etc.

Clean Transportation, C. Hessel

Described progress of EV charger grant app by Tribe, discussion of need in County.

Projects

Discussion of grant opportunity for energy survey - deadline is late June, so need to get approval of BOC to write grant. Discussion on timing: Gwenne to add to May BOC agenda, June is backup plan. 100% of members voted to support applying for this grant.

General discussions

Next meeting: Meeting date changed to 7/2/24. Confirmed that Munnecke room is available and reserved.

Broke into workgroups for further work.

Meeting adjourned 11:00