

Cass Lake Energy & Environment Planning Team Meeting 3

January 19, 2022 5-6:30pm

Present: Tracey Fineday, Mike Hanson, Herschel Ogema, Randy Finn, Brandy Toft, Jason Halvorson, Erica Bjelland, BJ Allen, Brendan Lee-Gilligan, Keith Karnes

Introductions

Keith got funding for 500 saplings planted around the reservation – 400 saplings for Cass Lake alone. Five different species that are all large – white, red pine, northern white cedar, red cedar, looking for Tribal areas in town. Where would they want trees to be planted? Funding came from BIA and works for the Tribe so needs to be Tribal land.

Review what we have gone through already.

Today's meeting goals: prioritize projects and review survey results.

Everybody scored projects, while the results were being tallied, went over survey results.

People were interested in extending the timeframe for the surveys to January 30th to get more respondents. Especially from young people. The holidays made it a bit difficult to get the information out to people.

The top 10 projects were identified through a prioritization rubric.

1. LED lighting and solar in the city. All city lighting is already LED, but solar and new lighting could still be explored.
2. Hazardous waste days. Keep the day at Pike Bay and add a new date for education later in the year.
3. Native trees and stormwater absorption—require this in new developments as an ordinance? Or work with the county to encourage people to get plants. Plant giveaways happen with Kate Hagstad in the botany office at DRM as a partnership.
4. Work with LLBO and Cass County to reduce illegal dumping. Tribal council pays for band members to dump at no cost at the transfer station. Mike thought that telling more folks that this is something that is happening would be a good project.
5. Light up alley ways with LEDs and solar
6. Replace city-own fixtures with ones that conserve more water, and address leaks at city-owned properties. Tracey said this was done at the end of last year.
7. Establish food composting site.
8. Incentivize landscaping with native plants by offering a utility rebate
9. Work with OTP to conduct energy audits of all City owned property
10. Establish a monthly farmers' market in downtown Cass Lake by summer 2022, and make it annual.

Send out to group stuff to promote the survey that will be extended until January 30th.

Meeting adjourned around 6:35pm.