Moved By: Senator Lutz  

Seconded By: Chair Franzen

Whereas the Bemidji State University Student Association (BSUSA) Student Senate is the official voice of the students; and

Whereas Bemidji State University (BSU) has a shared fundamental value of Environmental Stewardship and a mission statement that states "we instill and promote service to others, preservation of the earth, and respect and appreciation for the diverse peoples of our region and world"; and

Whereas President Quistgaard signed the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) in 2008, committing BSU to becoming carbon neutral by 2050; and

Whereas on 28-2017 BSUSA resolved to reaffirm BSU’s ACUPCC commitment to carbon neutrality under the recently updated Carbon Commitment; and

Whereas solar photovoltaic (PV) energy presents a method by which BSU may participate in local, renewable energy generation and contribute to a reduction in carbon output; and

Whereas a solar PV installation would provide value in the form of a visible educational tool representative of our institution’s commitment to environmental stewardship; and

Whereas the BSU student body has voiced support for the implementation of solar PV installations on campus (93% [+/-6%] of the 704 students surveyed responded in favor of implementing solar PV on campus).

Therefore be it resolved that BSU install a solar PV array on campus, with the goal of completing installation prior to the end of the 2018/2019 academic year.

First Reading: 2-22-17
Second Reading: 3-1-17

Result: Pass (11 yes votes, 1 no votes, 3 abstentions – via secret ballot vote)
Date: 3-1-17