

## MINUTES

### NEW HAVEN CLIMATE EMERGENCY TASK FORCE

#### REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 5:15 PM

Attendees: Latha Swamy, Cameron Kritikos, Germeny Schulick, Melissa Kops, Linda Reeder, Anna Mariotti, Carmen Rodriguez, Alder Adam Marchand, Florestine Taylor, Steven Winter (non-member), HannahZoe Chua-Reyes (non-member)

The New Haven Climate Emergency Taskforce (CETF) will meet on Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 5:15 PM on Zoom (see link at end of agenda) to discuss the following items:

1. Approval of minutes from the previous meeting (10/23). A majority of the CETF (6 of 11 members) constitutes a quorum.
  - a. Motion made by Linda Reeder
  - b. Seconded by Cameron Kritikos
  - c. Motion carried unanimously
2. Project updates from the Office of Climate and Sustainability (OCS) staff:
  - a. Community Change Grant
    - i. EPA has confirmed that we meet the eligibility criteria and is currently evaluating our application.
  - b. I Heart My Home
    - i. Statistics for the month of October
      1. 16 HES-IE participants enrolled, total 18 participants enrolled in the month of October
    - ii. Statistics since July of 2023
      1. Total Enrollments 427 participants enrolled
      2. Total people who received consultations 351
      3. Total people who had assessments 54

- c. EPA Government-to-Government Environmental Justice Grant: We held a joint training session on the goals and implementation of the grant with Junta, NHS, and Community Action Agency of New Haven. Our data quality assurance plan has been approved by EPA.
- d. USDA Composting and Food Waste Reduction Grant: We have installed 3 Bigbelly units (Fair Haven, Wooster Square, and Downtown). Recycling Educator Rose Ricci will host an informational session on composting with the Bigbelly units on Tuesday November 26<sup>th</sup>.
- e. EPA [Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program](#) – Implementation Grants: The grant has been awarded. We participated in a kickoff meeting with the EPA and are working on developing a data quality assurance plan, drafting an RFP for the project, and seeking advice regarding clean energy tax incentives.
- f. Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA): We have submitted documentation to claim the partial reimbursement for the purchase of the electric refuse vehicle to CT DEEP.
- g. Shellfish shell recycling program: No update.
- h. Solar installations: The City has been chosen for subsidies for 4 additional solar parking canopies.
- i. Styrofoam enforcement: Rose Ricci has begun following up with non-compliant businesses and most of them have ceased providing Styrofoam products.
- j. Housing Authority: No update.
- k. Electric leaf blower and grass trimmer: no update.
- l. Purchase of bicycles for school-based bicycle education program: NHPS has approved the hiring of a new bicycle educator. We expect the posting to be posted this week.

### **3. Discussion Items:**

- a. Additional support for structuring the geothermal project. Since costs for the bike education were less than expected, funds are available to address other priorities. The geothermal project is our

largest and most complex opportunity. OCS is seeking up to \$8,000 in funding for consulting to provide advice on structuring the project, claiming clean energy tax incentives, and developing the data quality assurance plan.

- b. Purchase of 2 induction stoves to host demonstrations of induction stoves to supplement our Government to Government Grant work. One stove would be hosted at project partner Junta, the other at Community Action Agency. Two stoves at \$326.99 each would cost up to \$700. OCS is seeking up to \$700 in funding to purchase 2 induction stoves.
    - i. Linda Reeder: please clarify the difference between a cooktop and a range in the future
  - c. Motion to authorize the funding of geothermal assistance up to \$8000 and to authorize the purchase of 2 induction stoves up to \$700
    - i. Moved by Alder Adam Marchand
    - ii. Seconded by Linda Reeder
    - iii. Motion carried unanimously
4. Motion to adjourn:
- a. Moved by Carmen Rodrigues,
  - b. Seconded by Alder Adam Marchand
  - c. Motion carried unanimously

Zoom URL:

<https://newhavenct.zoom.us/j/86815223003?pwd=VIJU6aKegu6sBOAOfBiW3cfayYJl5.1&from=adon>

The Zoom logo is displayed in a light blue, sans-serif font. The letters are lowercase and the 'z' and 'o' are connected. The logo is positioned on the left side of a light blue rectangular background that spans the width of the page.

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