

MINUTES

NEW HAVEN CLIMATE EMERGENCY TASK FORCE

REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, April 23rd, 2025, 5:15 PM

The New Haven Climate Emergency Taskforce (CETF) will meet on Wednesday, April 23rd, 2025 at 5:15 PM on Zoom (see link at end of agenda) to discuss the following items:

Attendees: Cameron Kritikos, Douglas Hausladen, Jeremy Schulick, Latha Swamy, Ginger Chapman, Florestine Taylor, Linda Reeder, Melissa Kops, HannahZoe Chua-Reyes (Non-member)

1. Approval of minutes from the previous meeting (3/26). A majority of the CETF (6 of 11 members) constitutes a quorum.
 - a. Motion to approve: Cameron Kritikos,
 - b. Seconded: Doug Hausladen
 - c. Linda Reeder Abstaining
 - d. Everyone else motioned to approve
2. Project updates from the Office of Climate and Sustainability (OCS) staff:
 - a. Community Change Grant
 - i. EPA grant status is still listed as “Suspended”. An injunction was filed on 4/15 that directed the EPA to resume funding, but our grant status has not yet changed.
 - b. EPA Government-to-Government Environmental Justice Grant: The City has received a termination notice from the EPA and stopped work on the grant.
 - c. USDA Composting and Food Waste Reduction Grant: Grant funding has been suspended. The 4/15 injunction applied to USDA funding as well, but our grant is still suspended. Work proceeds on the project.

- d. EPA [Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program](#) –
Implementation Grants:
 - i. The RFP for the design of the geothermal ground loop has been posted and the question and answer period has concluded.
- e. Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA): No update.
- f. Shellfish shell recycling program: No update.
- g. Solar installations: The interconnection agreements for the two solar parking canopies are being processed. The solar project at the City landfill is anticipated to begin this summer.
 - i. Note: OCS will look into how the solar project at the city landfill will be funded and report back next meeting.
- h. Styrofoam enforcement: No update.
- i. Housing Authority: No update.
- j. Electric leaf blower and grass trimmer: Equipment continues to be used at Lighthouse Point Park.
- k. Purchase of bicycles for school-based bicycle education program: No update.

3. Discussion Items:

- a. State legislative agenda items.
 - i. No updates.
- b. The City's application to the CT DEEP Materials Management Infrastructure grant program was selected for \$3.3 million in funding. Discussion of the overview of the proposal, which would fund the construction of a sorting facility at the New Haven transfer station to sort co-collected food scraps and municipal solid waste.
 - i. Are there other cities doing co-collection? Middletown
 - ii. Ginger Chapman: contamination can raise costs for composting substantially. We need to figure out how to get people to sort their waste more cleanly.
 - iii. Melissa Kops: are we going to engage with recyclect to add information on what's compostable?

- c. How does CETF allocate and receive funds?
 - i. Funds are provided by the city,
 - ii. The task force votes on how to spend the funds
- d. Motion to adjourn: Douglas Hausladen
 - i. Seconded by Linda Reeder
 - ii. Motion passed unanimously



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