

MINUTES

NEW HAVEN CLIMATE EMERGENCY TASK FORCE

REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, November 19th, 2025, 5:15 PM

Members Present: Ginger Chapman, Linda Reeder, Melissa Kops, Doug Hausladen, Kai Addae, Alder Carmen Rodriguez, Jeremy Schulick.

Non-Members: Steven Winter

The New Haven Climate Emergency Taskforce (CETF) will meet on Wednesday, November 19th, 2025 at 5:15 PM on Zoom (see link at end of agenda) to discuss the following items:

1. Approval of minutes from the previous meetings (10/22). A majority of the CETF (6 of 11 members) constitutes a quorum.
 - a. **Moved by Ginger Chapman. Seconded by Doug Hausladen. Passed unanimously.**
2. Project updates from the Office of Climate and Sustainability (OCS) staff:
 - a. Community Change Grant: no update.
 - b. EPA Government-to-Government Environmental Justice Grant: no update.
 - c. USDA Composting and Food Waste Reduction Grant: Wilbur Cross began food scrap collection near the end of October.
 - d. EPA [Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program](#): Test borehole drilling began on November 17th.
 - e. Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA): OCS has reached out to DPW to see if any street sweepers meet the mileage requirement for this program.
 - f. Solar installations: Carport systems have been inspected. Racking systems have been installed at the landfill project. Styrofoam enforcement: No update.
 - g. Housing Authority: No update.

- h. Electric leaf blower and grass trimmer: The Parks Department is updating its equipment guidelines in order to electrify more of its equipment.

3. Discussion Items:

- a. NHPS has expressed interest in purchasing a third set of bicycles, which would allow the bike education program to reach all second grade students each year. The purchase of an additional 50 bikes, plus lumber and hooks, plus another set of helmets and hair nets would be \$16,000.

- i. **Moved by Doug Hausladen. Seconded by Alder Carmen Rodriguez. Approved unanimously.**

- b. Further discussion of energy labeling.

- i. Steve: We are looking into whether energy consumption information can be shared with landlords
 - ii. Steve: Liam Brennan suggested waiving the fee for rental licensing to landlords who complete energy assessments.
 - iii. Melissa: Would this affect the budget?
 - iv. Steve: Likely not significantly.
 - v. Melissa: This is a good first step.
 - vi. Alder C Rodriguez: Would this effect elderly landlords? Would this create a financial burden on those landlords?
 - vii. Steve: The goal would be lower costs by waiving the fee.
 - viii. Steve: One next step is determining whether you can waive the fee.
 - ix. Doug: I think you'd need a fee waiver in the ordinance. I can take a look at the ordinance and see if it needs to be amended.

- c. Letter to the Mayor

- i. Jeremy: There is interest in continuing to fund the office. The budget hearings are a key venue for continuing funding and reaching out in advance of those hearings would also be impactful. Shared links to outreach documents.
 - ii. Ginger: What is the status of department level plans?

- iii. Steve: HannahZoe and I will be setting up department level meetings beginning in the new year.

Motion to adjourn: Moved by Doug Hausladen. Seconded by Linda Reeder. Approved unanimously.



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