

MIGREENPOWER COMMUNITY IMPACT PILOT
LOW-INCOME SOLAR COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2025

Minutes transcribed from recording by Jessica Jamieson

The meeting was called to order at 11:07 AM by Chandler Kielbas.

At 11:07 AM Chandler Kielbas asked the Council if everyone had the opportunity to review the meeting agenda. Juan Shannon confirmed it had been reviewed. Chandler then asked if any additions needed to be made. Juan stated that he would like to discuss the function of the Low-Income Solar Council. Chandler asked when Juan proposes this should be added to the agenda and suggested this be a round-table item. Juan said that he did not have the meeting agenda pulled up but that adding it as a point during the round table discussion would work. Chandler asked if there were any objections and there were none, the change was accepted. Chandler then asked if any further additions needed to be made and there were none. Chandler then asked the Council to motion to approve the meeting agenda. Janis Hazel moved to approve and Darryl Folks seconded the motion.

At 11:09 AM Chandler Kielbas asked the Council if they had reviewed the meeting minutes from March 04, 2025, and asked if there were any questions about them. Janis Hazel confirmed there were no changes to be made. Chandler then asked the Council to motion to approve the meeting minutes from March 04, 2025. Juan Shannon moved and Janis seconded it. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

At 11:11 AM Chandler Kielbas introduced the first order of business which was the Solar For All Public Comments. Chandler explains that he originally assumed this portion of the meeting would be dedicated to drafting a public comment, but that Janis Hazel had taken initiative and written her own public comment, which Janis then shared on the screen. Janis explained that her comment took about 2 minutes and 45 seconds to read though aloud, and that members of the public are allotted three minutes each for public comment. She then elaborated that the parts of her comment highlighted in blue-- which included four bullet points-- were what should be said verbally in the meeting, and that the rest of the comment should be sent over to the Solar For All email. She then read aloud parts of her public comment which explained the MI Community Impact Pilot and its origin, the need for funding for this project, and a list of priority items the MI Community Impact Pilot aims to achieve. Janis then asked for any opinions on her piece. Chandler stated that he thought Janis's comment was fantastic and that there was not much he could think of adding. Chandler then asked Juan Shannon, Darryl Folks, and the wider Council if there were any changes that needed to be made. Darryl confirmed he could think of none, and Juan said that Janis did a great job. Chandler then asked if Kayla could sign off to allow the Council to use Janis's document at a future EGLE meeting. Kayla confirmed that she would

review the document and do that. Chandler then asked if there were any more comments to be made. Janis stated that this comment could be read off by her for the March 20, 2025 EGLE meeting and ideally one of the other Council members could read the statement on further meetings. Janis then voiced that when these comments are emailed to EGLE, it should be sent from a Council member directly using their personal email. Juan then asked if this meeting would be occurring on March 20, 2025. Janis confirmed this and then described that the EGLE meetings are designed to determine where the public would like funds to be allocated and that the meetings allow community members to voice their opinions. Chandler then elaborated that Juan would not have to attend this first meeting but rather come to one of the later ones in April. Juan then asked if he could be advised of the date and time of the April meeting. Janis told Juan that his meeting would be on April 10, 2025 and that he would have to register for it on the MI Solar For All website. The following meeting would be on May 14, 2025.

At 11:24 Chandler Kielbas moved on to the next order of business which was reviewing the RE-EIED Grant. Chandler explained that he wanted to take this time to ask any further questions about the grant and reminded the Council that the draft application would be sent in on March 20, 2025. He also reminded them that there would be an amendment period for the application in May 27, 2025 so the Council has a lot of time to evaluate it if needed. At this point Chandler asked the Council if they had any comments. Juan Shannon stated that he would like to discuss how various things have been done throughout the project. Juan said that the process of this grant has been that the Council is notified of an idea that DTE has and that they are given the option to sign off on it. He continued that DTE then negotiates and does whatever they must do, and the Council only gets it back when it is time to vote on it. He elaborated that if the Council is supposed to be advisory, he would like to know why they are not involved in the process of putting it together. He said that it would be more helpful if they could be included directly in the writing of the grant and allow for some debate and back-and-forth. Juan stated that he did not think this was fair and that he did not like it. He acknowledged that Janis had an opportunity to be involved in the writing process of the RE-EIED Grant and that he appreciated that, but as a Council, they have not collectively been involved. Chandler then answered that for clarity, when in the earlier meetings he had asked the wider Council if they would like to be involved in the grant writing process, Juan had stated that he did not want to be involved directly in the writing process but would like to review it. Janis had the opportunity to be involved in the grant writing process because she had said that she was interested in that. Chandler questioned if when Juan had said that he wanted to review the grant, this was not in line with what he wanted to do. Juan responded that Chandler was only speaking about the RE-EIED grant, and that it is important to consider how many DocuSigns the Council has been asked to sign until this point. He said that the Council was not involved in all of them. Chandler then stated that he could not speak to the history of the Council because he has only been involved for a short period of time. He said it is his belief that in his tenure he has expanded opportunities for members to be included, which is why he cannot speak on past grant opportunities as the RE-EIED Grant is the only one he has been involved with thus far. Juan said that when he thinks of review, he imagines that the

document could be pulled up and that there could be a dialogue on what should be included or not with whoever is doing the writing. He said that other businesses function by having a review process, adding necessary changes, then coming back for final approval. He continued that to say he did not want to be involved in the writing process did not mean he did not want to be involved in the vetting process. Chandler acknowledged that he could see what Juan was saying but invited him to remember that in the agenda for today's meeting they would be reviewing the document, and that there would be an amendment period in May which he made mention of earlier. He continued that realistically, the Council has the next six or seven weeks to continue to review the document and make further amendments. At this point they are at the end of their grant draft, but not the grant in general because there are many Council meetings before that final draft is due. Juan then asked why they needed to sign a DocuSign agreement right now if they are going to be reviewing later. To add some clarity, Chandler explained that the DocuSign vote was to determine if the team should pursue the RE-EIED Grant funding, not voting on the application document. Juan then countered that the Council had already voted on securing these funds. Chandler stated that they had only voted by email in February, and that the DocuSign was sent over so that the vote could be officially recorded in SharePoint. It was not another vote. Juan then said that he could no longer access SharePoint, though he was able to before. He continued that he recently found a link to record his hours but for a while he could not access them at all. Chandler answered that they could connect over email after the meeting to troubleshoot whatever the issue may be. Chandler asked if he had any further questions about the DocuSign to which Juan replied that he had expected to see the budget for the RE-EIED Grant broken down by line item. Chandler asks for clarification and Juan says that the budget is not thorough, but concedes that it is difficult to get the exact item-by-item cost without knowing the size of the plot of land. Chandler says that he agrees with Juan, and that the other issue is that the budget framework was given to the team by the MPSC as a chart to fill out, so they added as much detail as was required by that organization. Juan commented that he was confused where these numbers came from since DTE did not list the exact materials they would be using. Chandler again explained that these details could not be added into the framework the MPSC gave them without changing it entirely. Changing it would not follow the rules. Chandler then asked Juan if he had any further questions or if they could be saved for the round table. Juan replied that they could be saved for that discussion.

At 11:45AM Chandler Kielbas moved onto discussing Community Engagement and asked Janis Hazel if she would like to call out any events. Janis stated that she would be attending the March 20, 2025 EGLE listening session. Chandler then pulled up the action item registry and asked if Janis was ever able to follow up with EGLE on the other grant opportunity they had been speaking about in November. Janis said that this ended up being the Solar For All Grant. Chandler then asked if there were any additions to be made to the action item registry. Janis wanted an update on the grant opportunities she had sent over to the team and voiced that the Canton Community Foundation (CCF) needed to be involved at this point. Chandler stated that he had reached out to the CCF two weeks ago and followed up with them on March 17, 2025.

The Foundation had replied that they were reviewing the opportunities but had yet to comment. Janis then asked what the process would be moving forward if the team decided to pursue these grant opportunities and if grants would have to be routed through the CCF before DTE could start working on them. Chandler answered that it depends on if the grant requires a fiduciary and that there is no set guideline for how to pursue various grant opportunities. Chandler then confirmed with Kayla Maas that this information was correct. Kayla added that it all depends on whether DTE is permitted to accept the funds or if these needed to be routed through the CCF. Janis stressed that the deadlines for the grants she mentioned are coming up at the end of the month, so it is important to discuss them. Chandler stated that he had called the CCF out on that in his follow-up email but that he would give the Council an update soon.

At 11:51AM Chandler Kielbas moved to the round table discussion and gave the floor to Juan. Juan said that he would like to know his job description as a member on the Council and the Council's broader purpose. Kayla Maas responded that she needed a bit more clarity. Juan furthered that he would like to know the job description of the LISC, what they are there to do. Boratha Tan attempted to elucidate Juan's question, seeing if it pertained to the procedural aspects of the Council that Juan had mentioned earlier. He asked Juan if he felt like DTE was coming up with what they wanted to do and then just telling the Council to vote yes. Juan answered that this was generous, as DTE usually only tells the Council to vote on something once the action was already in progress or completed. Boratha asked if this sentiment was the origin of his original question about what his role would be. Juan answered that it was, because from his understanding, he is supposed to be acting as advisor in moves taken by the company in relation to what his community would be interested in. Kayla replied that she is aligned in this purpose, but mentioned that for some of community benefit structures, DTE is covered by the settlement agreement with the MPSC in the way they must offer these services. Still, she continued that the Council is meant to be a collaborative process and if there are concerns with the voting process, it is totally acceptable to withhold a vote or ask for more information. She then asked if this answered his question to some extent. Juan responded that it helped a little bit, but mentioned that at various times it has not felt like Council members are involved in the process, especially involving the Canton Community Foundation (CCF), as he said he was told this would be discussed after break, but when the Council reconvened, the partnership had already been signed. Chandler then asked if there was something that Juan disliked about that CCF agreement in particular. Juan replied that he did have some questions that were not in front of him, but his concern was rooted in the process in obtaining the agreement, feeling like there was no chance to review it after they came back from break. Kayla said that she understands his concern, and will take this into consideration when conducting future processes, potentially adding additional time to review documents before voting. She furthered that she wants Juan to feel like his voice is heard and that though Chandler and her do not have a full picture of the past, going forward she wants to make sure that everybody has an opportunity to share what they want and that they will make a commitment toward this end. Juan answered that he appreciated this. Chandler asked if there were any final questions. Juan then questioned if the team was still

good for the April 9, 2025 event in Parker Village, because he was about to start promoting it. Chandler responded that previously he had thought that that was the Parker Village opener, but that Juan is going to have a time earlier than that. Chandler then asked if April 9th was a dedicated DTE meeting. Juan specified that yes, this is what he meant. He thought that this could be a meeting that allowed community members to weigh-in on a solar array in Highland Park. He said that he is receiving word that the City of Highland Park does not feel like they have a big enough space for the solar construction. Juan had found one property owned by the City that might work, but Highland Park has plans for this already, though there is no movement on those plans so far from what he can tell. If the community begins talking about the possibility of the solar array, it may convince the administration to use the land for this purpose. Chandler then asked if Parker Village was putting the event together or Juan directly. Juan replied that it was Parker Village. The April 5th event would have various forms of entertainment like a DJ, but the April 9th meeting was dedicated to having community members voice their opinions on one of many potential developments within the city. Chandler then asked if the timeline for DTE at this event on April 9th was still 11AM to 2PM. Juan confirmed this. Kayla added that to make sure everyone is prepared for that April 9th meeting, she would like to meet with Juan and Chandler ahead of time to discuss talking points, structure, and who will need to be on the meeting. Juan said he agreed.

At 12:04PM the meeting was adjourned.