

MIGREENPOWER COMMUNITY IMPACT PILOT
LOW-INCOME SOLAR COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
April 15, 2025

Minutes transcribed from recording by Jessica Jamieson

The meeting was called to order at 11:04 AM by Chandler Kielbas.

At 11:04 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. Janis Hazel suggested the Council could go through a survey from Guidehouse that would allow DTE to share their community solar project and potentially find other partners or resource examples. Chandler said that at least 10 minutes could be allocated to this as a round table item. Janis agreed. 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 Juan Shannon seconded the motion.

At 11:07 AM Chandler Kielbas asked the Council if they had reviewed the meeting minutes from April 01, 2025, and asked if there were any questions about them. Juan Shannon expressed that he did not think the meeting minutes from April 01, 2025, accurately reflected the disappointment that he had. Chandler then requested that Juan email a proposed revision to the previous meeting minutes that would more accurately reflect his sentiment. Juan confirmed that he would do this. The vote for the meeting minutes from April 01, 2025, was postponed until the next meeting on May 06, 2025.

At 11:08 AM Chandler Kielbas introduced the first order of business, the RE-EIED Grant review part three, allowing the Council to bring up any questions or proposals they would like to discuss concerning the grant. He reminded the Council that public comments in support of the grant are due by May 09, 2025. Following this, the three-week amendment period will conclude, and the final application will be due on May 27, 2025. Janis Hazel stated that she had already begun contacting people for supportive comments. Chandler then asked if there were any other questions, and Juan Shannon confirmed there were not. Chandler reminded the Council that after sending out the final modified application, grant winners would be announced in October, and awards would be received on January 01, 2026. Chandler once again opened the floor to any comments about the grant and asked the Council if they wanted to review any specific section. Janis confirmed that she had no comments. Chandler then thanked Boratha Tan for calling attention to the idea that the Marathon land could be potentially qualified as a brownfield site a couple meetings ago, with specific grants available for that. He said that with research, he might have found a new grant available through this stream that DTE could apply for. He added as well that during the RE-EIED Grant amendment period, a modification could be potentially made to add the Marathon site if the deal with them is secured in the coming weeks.

At 11:15 AM Chandler Kielbas moved to the next item on the agenda, reflecting on the recent Highland Park event that two other DTE team members and himself attended on April 02, 2025, at the New Grace Baptist Church in Highland Park, with over 200 community members in attendance. He said it was an interesting event, and that the Council members should feel free to share any further events that they would potentially want DTE to attend in the summer and fall. Juan Shannon then asked if the Mayor or Community and Economic Development Director Carlton Clyburn were there. Chandler said that he did not think the Mayor was in attendance, and if Director Clyburn was there, they did not speak. He said though that he met with the Pastor and a couple other city officials, including people from the Highland Park City Council. Juan asked who from the Council and Chandler responded that he had possibly met with Temeko Manica. A different Council member sent Chandler an email following the event as well, and Chandler said that if Juan wanted, he would look into the name. Juan said that it is not a huge deal, and that he was just wondering. Chandler furthered that he met city officials from Detroit as well, but nobody from River Rouge. Juan asked if he had been mentioned in any of these conversations, and Chandler responded that they only spoke about the LISC Council, and Juan's role, to the Pastor.

At 11:20 AM Chandler Kielbas jumped to old business, and began reviewing community engagement with the Council. He then handed this discussion off to Janis Hazel. Janis reminded the Council that on April 26, 2025, it is the Detroit City Council Green Task Force Earth Day Awards. She said that a lot of people working in the environment are there, and that she is going to speak to them about the project and potentially obtain some positive remarks for the RE-EIED Grant in the future. Janis then mentioned that the last Michigan Solar for All meeting will be held on May 14, 2025. She asked Darryl Folks if he could make comments during this meeting. He replied that he would check his calendar and get back to her. Chandler then took the opportunity to mention that by the end of April, EGLE will have released their Solar for Savings RFP which is around \$8.8 million dollars of funding, with \$6.5 million dedicated to community solar. EGLE has not released the exact date of that yet. Going into May, Chandler said to anticipate a large grant application that the Council members will have an opportunity to get involved in if they choose. Juan Shannon then asked if any of this money is tied to federal funding. Chandler responded that likely this money is connected to federal funds, but that EGLE has said that they are confident the funding they have for this grant is secure in their possession, though it is important to take this with a grain of salt. Chandler then asked if anyone else had any questions or suggestions and there were none.

At 11:30 AM Chandler Kielbas moved to discussing the action item register and asked if anything needed to be added. Janis suggested adding the Guidehouse questionnaire, which would be completed later in the meeting. Janis also mentioned that she found three grants that could be applicable to the Pilot that she dropped in the chat.

At 11:33 AM Chandler Kielbas moved onto the round table discussion, where he handed it off to Janis Hazel to walk the Council through the My Solar for All Guidehouse matchmaking

questionnaire. For the questionnaire, she asked if DTE would be applying to this grant as a non-profit organization. Chandler confirmed they would most likely be applying as a registered 501c3 because they would be partnered with the Canton Community Foundation (CCF). Chandler questioned if this form was supposed to be filled out from the perspective of DTE or the CCF, and if it was the latter, the CCF would have to do the application themselves. Janis said that the form would be on behalf of the Council, but Chandler expressed concern that this could be hard to demonstrate through the form. Janis suggested pulling language directly from the MIGreenPower brochure. Chandler then asked Janis what she believes to be the full value of the matchmaking session. Janis responded that she just wanted to bring the survey to the entire Council to see if they wanted to participate, as it was mentioned briefly in the EGLE meeting. She furthered that if the Council participated in a matchmaking program, they could potentially identify financing partners or more grants. Chandler invited Sam Shannon to add input if he was available because he is involved with Guidehouse. Janis moved on to the next question, asking which type of projects the Council was interested in. Chandler said to focus on residential community solar, though rooftop solar is an option, it just is not as economically viable. Juan Shannon disagreed that rooftop solar was more expensive than ground mounted solar, and that the difference in expense is negligible. Chandler replied that he would be interested in seeing statistics on that, and from his understanding rooftop solar is more expensive. Janis continued to the next section of the survey which asked about which types of organizations they would be most interested in connecting with. After this, the survey asked which specific criteria/qualifications they were seeking in a collaborator. Janis reiterated that she just wanted to bring this to the Council's attention and demonstrate the questions the survey asked. She said that she would email it out to everyone and bring it to Sam to answer the Council's questions. They then moved to the next section of the round table. Juan mentioned that he was recently invited to the University of Michigan- Ann Arbor to give a lecture on sustainability and the following weekend he would be speaking at the University of Los Angeles. The Council congratulated him. Boratha Tan then asked Juan if Parker Village would be having its Spring opening on Monday, April 21st. Juan confirmed this was happening and Chandler added it to their community engagement file.

At 11:51 AM the meeting was adjourned