

MIGREENPOWER COMMUNITY IMPACT PILOT
LOW-INCOME SOLAR COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 3, 2025

Minutes transcribed from recording by Jessica Jamieson

The meeting was called to order at 11:06 AM by Chandler Kielbas.

At 11:06 AM Chandler Kielbas asked the Council if additions needed to be made to the June 3rd, 2025, meeting agenda and there were none. Chandler then asked the Council to motion to approve the meeting agenda. Darryl Folks moved to approve, and Boratha Tan seconded the motion.

At 11:07 AM Chandler Kielbas asked the Council if any changes needed to be made to the meeting minutes from May 20th, 2025. There were none. Chandler then asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Darryl Folks moved to approve, and Janis Hazel seconded the motion.

At 11:08 AM Chandler Kielbas introduced the first item on the agenda, the Solar For Savings update. Chandler explained that the DTE team was having difficulty ascertaining whether or not EGLE truly has the Solar For All funding, a concern mentioned many times by members of the public and Council. He furthered that the team is currently waiting for this confirmation, where they will then proceed with the grant process. Janis Hazel inquired where the team had been hearing this from, as from her experience at the Climate Conference and the Solar For All listening sessions, EGLE has stated they have the funds. She then asked if a document of some kind had been circulating. Chandler responded that he does not have all the information on that, but that there are many concerns about clawbacks by the federal government. He then stated that he was not aware of these confirmations by EGLE and kindly asked if Janis had any documentation regarding that. Janis answered that she did not have a written statement, however, in public meetings this has been what the leadership has said. Dr. Joy Wang has stated that the funds have been authorized and appropriated at the state level. Chandler said that this was very interesting and thanked her for sharing that information. He then asked if EGLE had officially confirmed that they were no longer concerned about clawbacks or the existence of the funding. In a very recent Low-Income Solar Council meeting, members were concerned about the existence of the funds as well. Janis answered that at the Climate Conference on April 23rd and the Solar For All listening session on May 14th, various leaders of this grant have confirmed that the funding is secured. She added that she would like to get the grant application submitted sooner than later, but not because she is concerned about

clawbacks. She then suggested emailing or meeting with Joy Wang directly as she does not believe the team should spend significant resources and time on their Solar For Savings proposal if the funding does not exist. Juan Shannon stated that this development did not surprise him, as every day the federal situation changes. Janis agreed and furthered, though, that at this time there has been no executive order concerning the Solar For Savings funds. Chandler explained that Dr. Wang does not necessarily have the complete authority to confirm the funding will not get paused because the federal government is responsible for that. However, he stated that Janis raised some very good points that he will certainly be speaking to the DTE team about. He added that he was unsure if they could make the Solar For Savings June 30th deadline at this point, but this is just one piece of the larger Solar For All funding, and there will be other opportunities in the future. Janis then asked if the team is definitively not applying for the Solar For Savings grant in either the June or July deadline period. Chandler said that this is not definitive, as much foundational work has been done toward the grant application already. Janis then asked if there was a follow-up from the Canton Community Foundation on the questions they had concerning this grant. Chandler confirmed that they are very supportive of Solar For All, and that this grant application can be put together relatively quickly because the information is largely similar to the RE-EIED Grant. Even if the team did not get official confirmation for two to three weeks regarding the existence of the funds, they are confident that they could put something together by July 30th. Janis then asked what the process is with the CCF because it has implications for future grant applications in terms of time-sensitivity. For instance, she never heard back on some smaller grant opportunities she had shared earlier in the year. Chandler explained that there were a few concerns with those grants, as some of them were only available to municipalities and it is unlikely DTE could secure small increments of funding because, with a 3-million-dollar project, it's difficult to prove that a smaller sum such as \$50,000 would be utilized any time soon with other grant funding not already allocated. It has also taken some initial time to get everything set up with the CCF in terms of getting familiar with DTE's programs and getting the proper information in place. They are supportive of the Solar For Savings initiative if this ends up working out, and they will be an incredible partner moving forward. Juan then asked if there will ever be a meeting with the CCF and LISC. Chandler responded that that is a good idea and could be scheduled for later in the summer. Juan asked the level of control the CCF has over what kind of grants DTE chooses to pursue. Chandler replied that they have no control over applications that DTE chooses to pursue itself, but that for any partnership with them as our fiduciary as a 501(c)(3) non-profit, they would have to give their consent on any application they plan on jointly pursuing. Juan then said he would be happy to learn about their various goals and build some type of relationship with the CCF.

Boratha Tan agreed on wanting to meet with the CCF. Chandler noted this and thanked Juan and Janis for their comments.

At 11:28 AM Chandler Kielbas moved to reviewing community engagement initiatives. Janis Hazel mentioned that this month she has not gotten many notices for events pertaining to the Council. She furthered that she is not sure if the Detroit City Council Green Task Force will be meeting on June 19th because it is a federal holiday, and she will update this item when she gets word on that. Chandler asked if everyone had the opportunity to see the status of the RE-EIED Grant that he had provided to the Council via email. He recounted that at this point the amendment period has passed, and hopefully they will hear about an update on that in the next couple months as the MPSC works to review applications. Juan Shannon asked if his request for different language had been implemented into the application. Chandler responded that they had sent Juan an email explaining how the original language of the grant accurately reflected the program and if he couldn't find that email, Chandler would send it to him again.

At 11:32 AM Chandler Kielbas moved to the action item register and asked Janis Hazel if she had sent any specific Council meeting invitations to the Wayne County representative or Tepfirah Rushdan. Janis replied that she is waiting for a response from the Detroit Office of Sustainability to see if Tepfirah can come to the June 17th meeting. She also put a request in for Alex Smith, the Project Manager for Sustainability and Initiatives in Wayne County to join the June 17th meeting as well. She furthered that she is familiar with someone from EGLE's Materials Management division and that she would reach out to them. Chandler thanked Janis and added inviting the CCF to the action item registry as well. Janis then asked if Chandler was going to reach out to Joy Wang concerning federal funding. Chandler replied that he could not reach out because that is not within his ability to do so, but that upper management is having these sorts of conversations, and Chandler would let the Council know what decision they reach when he hears back. David Binkley said he could try to have some folks on his team reach out.

At 11:37 AM Chandler Kielbas opened the roundtable discussion and asked for any final thoughts. Juan Shannon mentioned that the Energy, Sustainability, and Tech Fair has been confirmed for July 19th with the VIP reception occurring on the 18th. They have secured many influential speakers. He specified that the event on the 18th would be from 8 PM to 11 PM and the event on the 19th would be from 10 AM to 8 PM. It will be held in Parker Village in Highland Park and the website will be going up shortly. There were no further round table items to discuss.

At 11:42 AM the meeting was adjourned.