

MIGREENPOWER COMMUNITY IMPACT PILOT
LOW-INCOME SOLAR COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
JULY 15, 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 if everybody had the opportunity to review the meeting agenda for July 15th, 2025, or if any additions needed to be made. There were none. Chandler mentioned that they would briefly speak about the new information release from EGLE as a part of their “New Business” section. He then asked the Council to motion to approve the meeting agenda. Boratha Tan moved to approve, and Darryl Folks seconded the motion.

At 11:08 AM Chandler Kielbas asked the Council if they had read the meeting minutes from July 1st, 2025, and if any changes needed to be made. There were none. Chandler then asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Darryl Folks moved to approve, and Boratha Tan seconded the motion.

At 11:10 AM Chandler Kielbas introduced the first item on the agenda, which he explained was originally planned as a brainstorming session, but now also included the EGLE message from the previous evening. He explained that EGLE was adding an additional \$20 million to the original \$8.875 million in funding. They have spent about \$7.9 million thus far, and there should still be about \$21 million available. He said the Community Impact application would be up for consideration in the upcoming round. EGLE also elected to move the third deadline back to September 30th, 2025. Chandler asked if there were any questions or comments. Janis Hazel said she was glad that they were adding more funding for the project. Chandler added that EGLE indicated that future Solar For All opportunities would try to leverage federal tax credits, which he thought was intriguing considering the current political atmosphere. There were no further comments. Chandler moved to the brainstorming session, where he told the Council to continue to be on the lookout for potential grant or land opportunities, even if the ideas are unconventional. He said he is continuing to work with Michele Flournoy and Leona Medley on a potential land opportunity in Detroit and Highland Park on the Joe Louis Greenway. In his opinion, the sooner a piece of land is secured, the sooner the Pilot can secure funding. Janis then mentioned how Julie Jozwiak, Chandler and she met with Tepfirah Rushdan (Director of the Detroit Office of Sustainability) and Trisha Stein (Chief Strategy Officer of Detroit) on July 2nd. They spoke about how the Community Impact Pilot could potentially use land that was not utilized for the Solar Neighborhoods project in Detroit. Janis explained that

Tepfirah and her team were familiar with the Impact Pilot, and they discussed various locations and city-owned rooftops that could host solar arrays. Janis explained that they will have to get in contact with the Detroit land bank once again to do research on what properties are city-owned and that Tepfirah and Julie would help with GIS support at a later date. Janis said that she was planning on sending a thank you letter to their team, and suggested they meet again towards the end of the month. Chandler thanked Janis for her work on this and her explanation.

At 11:28 AM Chandler Kielbas moved to reviewing community engagement initiatives and handed the discussion to Janis Hazel. She mentioned that she attended an EGLE briefing for the MI Healthy Climate Challenge grant competition. At this briefing, they previewed a further \$2 million grant opportunity leveraging elective pay with other tax incentives to bring clean energy solutions to schools, community organizations, faith-based organizations, etc. She asked to meet with an EGLE representative at a later LISC meeting and share their slides once they have released more information. She added that during this meeting she brought up concerns to the EGLE representatives about short turn-around times for these grant deadlines, which many other municipalities and organizations agreed with. In addition, the Detroit City Green Task Force might have space at their table during the African World Festival on July 18th, 19th, and 20th. Chandler expressed his agreement about the necessity of longer lead-times on these applications. Juan Shannon mentioned he had a meeting scheduled to get the makeup date for the Energy, Sustainability, and Tech Fair in Highland Park because the original date has been postponed. Janis also mentioned that she received a message letting her know that the LISC was not selected to provide community engagement for the MI Solar For All program through the \$10,000 grant they applied for. There were no further comments.

At 11:42 AM Chandler Kielbas moved to the action item register. He changed the date of the Energy, Sustainability, and Tech Fair to “To be decided”, marked “Inviting Tepfirah Rushdan to a meeting” as completed, added “Follow up steps with Tepfirah Rushdan” as a new item in progress, and marked “Inviting CCF to a future meeting” as completed. He explained all three members of the CCF team have agreed to join the September 16th LISC meeting. He asked for any comments and there were none. Chandler then asked Juan to send over some times to look over the Highland Park land opportunities they discussed in a previous meeting.

At 11:45 AM Chandler Kielbas opened the roundtable discussion and asked for any additional thoughts. Janis Hazel asked what the next steps would be for Solar For Savings. Chandler answered that it is his understanding that once the initial application is submitted, the project is eligible for all the funds in that round and any subsequent funds in future rounds if not selected at first. They would not have to reapply. Jessica Jamieson then thanked Janis for her contributions with the \$10,000 Community Townhall grant and for securing a meeting with Tepfirah Rushdan and Alex Smith (Wayne County Representative).

At 11:51 AM the meeting was adjourned.