

Low-Income Solar Council Meeting - Minutes

Tuesday September 28th, 2021

Attendance

- DTE: Michael Rivet, Lindsay Wold
- MPSC Staff: Julie Baldwin, Cody Matthews
- Vote Solar: Will Kenworthy, John Delurey
- Guidehouse: Cherish Smith

Review Action Items

Agenda

- Discuss fundraising budget and proposal
 - Team to populate list with potential funders and partners; council point person will be recorded as well
 - Team agree to aim to have seed funding proposal ready for final review by next meeting 10/12
- Learn about and discuss Consumer Energy's Sunrise Program
 - Sunrise Program is currently in the pilot phase, non-profit partner raises funds and subscribes to Sunrise program and pays for subscription; participants are selected and screened by the non-profit partner; participants are assigned a subscription and enrolled into the Solar Gardens Sunrise Program where they receive monthly bill credits based on solar energy generated)
 - Non-profit monitors status within the program; when subscription expires it may be reassigned to same participant or another individual/family; regular communication to customers; non-profits can include energy efficiency initiatives
 - MPSC to scan through comments from intervenors on Sunrise Program
- Begin drafting process ideas for selecting low-income community representatives
 - Council discussed doing a round of communications to organizations and discussing best practices for how we solicit suggestions for low-income council representatives
 - Opportunity to tag up with community action agencies that support implementation of DTE's Energy Waste Reduction (EWR) programs
 - Council agreed to begin documenting best approach for community engagement and identifying community members to serve on the Council (i.e., what we are looking to accomplish, how we are going to adequately gather and review member suggestions, what is required by council members, etc.)

Closing Remarks/Next Steps