

Energy and Climate Action Committee Meeting
Minutes – 7/22/2025
[Approved 8/26/2025]
Virtual Meeting

Meeting Start: 7:01PM

Committee Members Present: Michael DeChiara, Gail Fleischaker, Nate Heard

Committee Members Absent: None

Public: Frank McGinn and Greg Day

Public comment: None

Decarbonization Roadmap - Climate Leader Communities

On Thursday, committee members will meet with Building Committee representation and DOER-funded consultants, ICF's Ryan McCue and Nate Connors, to conduct a tour of municipal buildings. The tour will gather information on greenhouse gas sources at municipal buildings and inform a strategy for future decarbonization.

The group will start the tour at Spear Library at 9AM and should wrap up by 1PM.

Community Choice Aggregation

On July 16 DPU held a public hearing that Colonial Power Group attended, with their attorney, on Shutesbury's behalf. Regarding the publishing and posting requirements for the hearing, Colonial handled the placement and cost of the ad in the Daily Hampshire Gazette. Hayley Bolton and Grace Bannasch posted a Notice of Filing and Request for Comments on the town's website.

Denise Allard of Colonial advised that the meeting was largely pro forma and reported afterwards that there were no surprises. It went well. The next step is to wait for an Order from DPU, which we can expect by the end of September. Nate will reach out to Colonial to request a presentation on electricity sourcing and product identification.

Lighting

Frank McGinn described efforts to identify and replace older lights with new LEDs with motion sensors. The Fire Department and others want this. Climate

Community grants might be able to fund these kinds of energy efficiency enhancements.

EV Chargers

Haley is in dialogue with East Coast Renewables.

The Recruitment of New Members

Greg Day joined the meeting and discussed interest in climate issues and shared enthusiasm for future committee work.

Nate recommended Greg Day to full membership on the Energy and Climate Action Committee. Gail seconded. Vote to recommend Greg Day to the Select Board: Michael DeChiara, Aye; Gail Fleischaker, Aye; Nate Heard, Aye

Minutes

Nate moved to approve the minutes from 06/03/2025. Michael seconded. Vote to approve minutes: Michael DeChiara, Aye; Gail Fleischaker, Aye; Nate Heard, Aye

Next date

The next ECAC meeting is on August 26 at 7:00PM.

Close

Gail moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:04. Nate seconded. Vote to adjourn: Michael DeChiara, Aye; Gail Fleischaker, Aye; Nate Heard, Aye

Respectfully submitted, Nate Heard.