

Washtenaw County Environmental Council

Tuesday, March 25, 2025. 5:00PM - 6:30PM

Virtual Meeting

Link to join:

<https://washtenawcounty.zoom.us/j/84042769611?pwd=V6X5wGGk5hvgKKFqbAlZg4aZxXjK0s.1>

MARCH FINAL MEETING MINUTES

- I. Call to Order
 - A. 5:02 PM
- II. Attendance
 - A. Anne Brown, Mark Coryell, Michelle Deatrick, Andrea Pierce, Gay MacGregor, Kris Olsson, Tyler LaBerge, Liz Ratzloff, Alex Bryan, Lauren Sargent, Ben VanGessel, Brian Geiringer, Annie Somerville, Yousef Rabhi
 - B. Not present: none
- III. Land Acknowledgement
- IV. Approval of the Agenda
 - A. Amendment to Agenda
 - 1. GM: Add data Centers to new business
 - B. Approval
 - 1. Moved: Liz Ratzloff
 - 2. Second: Gay MacGregor
 - 3. Approved by: Unanimous acclamation
- V. Approval of the Minutes of the February 25, 2025 Meeting
 - A. Approval
 - 1. Moved: Gay MacGregor
 - 2. Second: Liz Ratzloff
 - 3. Approved by: Unanimous acclamation
- VI. Public Comment/Citizen Participation: (up to 4 minutes per speaker)
 - A. Council Responses to Citizen Participation
 - 1. Jeff Alson, retired engineer EPA National Vehicle and Fuel Emissions Laboratory

- a) GM supportive of comments made and idea of public roundtable
- b) MD noting Resiliency Director is present to address comments later

B. Acknowledgement of written Citizen Participation

- 1. No written comments made

VII. Staff Reports

A. Acknowledgement of written Staff Reports and Communications

- 1. Welcoming Beatrice Miringu, Program Manager to Resiliency Office

B. Jason Fee, Director of Facilities Management

- 1. Update on redeveloping and environmental remediation for Eastside Recreation Center site

C. Resiliency Office Updates

- a) Verbal report not given – full written report in agenda packet

D. Other Updates

E. Other Staff Reports

VIII. Chair's Report

A. Contact List & Member Interest Survey, Committee Appointments

- 1. Reminder to fill out subcommittee survey
 - a) AS: unable to participate in additional committees
 - b) Tyler, Alex, Brian did not receive email yet

B. Request to Councilmembers to confirm participation at the May 27 meeting.

C. Other

- 1. Introductions of members

IX. New Business

A. Resolution recommending amendment to Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program to BOC originally adopted February 5, 2014

- 1. Discussion
 - a) YR: introducing resolution
 - b) LS: Strongly supports
 - c) MD: Comment on Resiliency Office involvement
- 2. Approval
 - a) Moved: Michelle Dietrick
 - b) Second: Andrea Pierce

c) Approved by: Unanimous acclamation

B. Other new business

1. Outreach committee to plan event, reporting Resilient Washtenaw progress and impacts of federal actions on ability to achieve goals

a) Discussion

(1) GM: supportive of idea

(2) YR: supportive of idea

(3) LS: supportive of idea, highlight EPA vehicle lab initiatives

(4) KO: suggesting additional ideas

(a) Community focused events with Resiliency Office to share more local work/impacts, how local gov can help

(b) How can community get benefits of federal programs

(5) LR: supportive of idea, suggesting additional ideas

(a) Impacts of firing of federal workers on climate plans

(b) Grow participation through integrating climate topics into other topics (housing, transportation)

(6) LS: additional comment in support

b) Approval

(1) Moved: Kris Olsson

(2) Second: Lauren Sargent, Liz Ratzloff

(3) Approved by: Unanimous acclamation

X. Motion to Amend agenda to move up elections

A. Moved: Andrea Pierce

B. Second: Yousef Rabhi

C. Approved by: Unanimous acclamation

XI. Elections: Chair, Vice Chair, Second Vice Chair

A. The Council will be electing a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Second Vice Chairperson

B. Chair

1. Yousef Rabhi nominates Michelle Deatrick

2. MD accepts nomination

3. No other nominations
4. Unanimous Voice Vote to approve Michelle Deatrick as Chair for March 2025 – March 2026

C. Vice Chair

1. Gay MacGregor nominates Anne Brown
2. AB accepts nomination
3. Unanimous Voice Vote to approve Anne Brown as Vice Chair for March 2025 – March 2026

D. Second Vice Chair

1. Liz Ratzloff nominates Gay MacGregor for Second Vice Chair
2. GM accepts nomination
3. Unanimous Voice Vote to approve Gay MacGregor as Second Vice Chair for March 2025 – March 2026

XII. Return to Other New Business

A. Data Centers coming to Ypsilanti Township

1. Discussion
 - a) AP: introduce topic for discussion
 - b) LR: offer to put together information for next meeting
 - c) YR: clarification question and comment on state funding
 - d) LS: comment on negative impacts
 - e) AP: would like to put together something to show opposition
2. Motion for advisory & recommendations committee to investigate, put together briefing, and draft resolution to oppose data centers project
 - a) Moved: Liz Ratzloff
 - b) Second: Brian Geiringer
 - c) Approved by: Unanimous acclamation
3. Additional discussion
 - a) BG: comment in support and about urgency to make resolution
 - b) AS: question about decision making ability
 - c) YR: comment on clarifying questions for action or resolution
 - d) A Bryan: comment on need to identify players, volunteering assistance on sub committee work on this

e) ABrown: comment in support of need to identify players

4. Motion for approval

a) Moved: Brian Geiringer

b) Seconded by: Andrea Pierce

c) Approved by: Unanimous acclamation

XIII. Communications and Reports

A. Councilmembers

B. Staff

C. Committees and Committee Reports

XIV. Adjourn

A. 6:30 PM

1. Motion: Liz Ratzloff

2. Second by: Yousef Rabhi

3. Approved by: Unanimous acclamation

Next Meetings

Tuesday, April 22, 2025

Tuesday, May 27, 2025