

Energy and Climate Action Committee Meeting
Minutes – 9/23/2025
[Approved 11/04/2025]
Virtual Meeting

Meeting Start: 7:03PM

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

Committee Members Absent: None

Public: None

Community Choice Aggregation

Following the Select Board's approval of ECAC's product recommendations and delegation of signing authority to Hayley, Colonial solicited executable bids from three electricity suppliers. First Point was a clear winner for cost at the 35-month contract we sought.

Colonial has reported that there is no way to guarantee the provenance of renewable energy certificates (RECs). As we communicate to our Shutesbury consumers what RECs are and what they do, we can explain that we tried to obtain "clear-cut free" RECs but the market did not allow us to assure the solar component sourcing of MA Class I RECs in our supply.

Nate offered to confirm with Colonial that households with net metering should anticipate no changes to the credits they receive or the physical metering infrastructure at their homes.

ECAC reviewed a cover letter that will accompany Colonial's program outreach and discussed timing for community education outreach event. Pending Colonial's availability, ECAC decided October 21st at 6:30PM would work well and that we should use Zoom. Sending a Town Announcement about the meeting on the Friday before might improve attendance.

Nate will work with Gail to freshen up the CCA page on ECAC's section of the town website. Among the information we can bundle into CCA outreach opportunities are the Heat Pump and home EV charger discounts homes may receive on electricity.

Climate Leader Communities - Decarbonization Roadmap

Michael asked the consultants from ICF for a status update on the Decarbonization Roadmap. ICF replied that the modeling forecast and draft roadmap might be ready for our review by the end of next week (October 3). The roadmap is the last requirement Shutesbury must complete before applying for designation as a Climate Leader Community.

EV Chargers

Eric Stocker and Greg made a plan to visit possible EV charger sites. Greg has been in dialogue with Nick Valore of East Coast Renewables. Once Eric and Greg confirm spots to nominate, Greg will arrange a site visit with Nick.

Minutes

Gail moved to approve the minutes from 08/26/2025. Nate seconded. Vote to approve minutes: Michael DeChiara, Aye; Greg Day, Aye; Gail Fleischaker, Aye; Nate Heard, Aye

Nate moved to approve the minutes from 09/15/2025. Gail seconded. Vote to approve minutes: Michael DeChiara, Aye; Greg Day, Aye; Gail Fleischaker, Aye; Nate Heard, Aye

Next date

The next ECAC meeting is on October 28th.

Close

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

Respectfully submitted, Nate Heard.