

Clean Energy Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

ATTENDEES

1. Allean Brown
2. Anne Phillips
3. Avery Evans
4. Beth Graham
5. Bonita Johnson
6. Chandra Farley
7. Dr. Erica Holloman-Hill
8. Khalifa Lee
9. Dr. Matt Cox
10. Michelle Midanier
11. Susan Evans

ABSENT

1. Angela Clyde
2. Blair Beasley
3. Ciannat Howett*
4. Codi Norred
5. James Marlow
6. Dr. LaToria Whitehead
7. Jennette Gayer
8. Lauren Westmoreland
9. Maggie Kelley Riggins
10. Odetta MacLeish-White
11. Rex Hamre
12. Sheryl Brown
13. Solomon McBride
14. Zoe Landers

Chief Sustainability Officer Chandra Farley welcomed the Clean Energy Advisory Board at 1:05 p.m. on Thursday, October 12, 2023. Thirty-two people were in attendance, including the Clean Energy Advisory Board Resource Network.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

a. Welcome

I. Opening Remarks

- **City of Atlanta Mayor's Office of Sustainability and Resilience Updates – Chandra Farley, Chief Sustainability Officer**

Thank you to the Clean Energy Advisory Board, the Resource Network and everyone for joining us today for our last Clean Energy Advisory Board meeting of the year. I look forward to hearing the reports from our Working Groups and the progress accomplished to date. As many of you know, City of Atlanta joined the Capital Good Fund, Savannah, and Decatur to

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submit a Georgia Local Government Coalition Application for Solar for All. Solar for All is the historic \$7B opportunity available through the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. <https://www.epa.gov/greenhouse-gas-reduction-fund/solar-all>

Atlanta, Savannah, Decatur, DeKalb County and Athens Clarke County have been working collectively on various federal funding opportunities. The last few months, we have focused on building a statewide residential solar program (Georgia BRIGHT) with Capital Good Fund. [Georgia BRIGHT](#) shaped the basis of our Solar 4 All application and program vision. THANK YOU to everyone that continues to work tirelessly to make sure Georgians reap the full benefits of the Inflation Reduction Act and for the 75 letters of support to date.

I am really excited about all of the work everyone has done this year through the Resource Network Strategy Decks, and the incredible work from the City of Atlanta “Sustainability Innovation Lab” building a Vision and Key Pillars, both place us in a good position to kick off 2024 with our broader communitywide engagement. The information lays the foundation to start developing a reimagined Sustainability and Climate Resilience “Action” Plan for the City of Atlanta that will launch in 2024.

b. Clean Energy Advisory Working Groups Reports and Open Discussions

- I. **Clean Energy Funding Working Group – Presenter:** Dr. Erica Hollomon-Hill, CEO, Ayika Solutions, Inc.
 - i. **Goal:** Identify partnerships and define funding strategy to accelerate pathway to 100% Clean Energy including Green Banks, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, historic climate legislation, the Inflation Reduction Act and the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund
 - ii. **Committee Members:** Anne Phillips, Dr. Erica Holloman*, James Marlow, Khalifa Lee, Sheryl Brown*, Solomon McBride, Belinda Morrow, Auna Tyson, Adelaide Steedley, Dr. Olugbemiga Olatidoye (*Co-Chairs**)
 - iii. **2023 Key Focus Areas:**
 - Expand City of Atlanta Clean Energy Funding
 - Identify Opportunities to Secure Federal Funding
 - Expand Private and Philanthropic Funding
- II. **Community and Partner Engagement Working Group – Presenter:** Bonita Johnson, Senior Physical Scientist, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Jeanette Lovett, RAD Program Analyst, Atlanta Housing Authority
 - i. **Goal:** Advance 100% Clean Energy for all Atlantans by 2035 through community driven solutions, and partner engagement, building a roadmap to reduce energy burden in underserved communities.
 - ii. **Committee Members:** Bonita Johnson*, Codi Norred, Lamia Lopez*, LaToria Whitehead, Zoe Landers, Susan Evans, Adrienne Rice, Jeanette Lovett, Spencer Tomlinson, Amina Robinson, Tabitha Schwartz, Gwen Smith, Janelle Wright, Preston Poag Jr., Shannon Goodman, and Garry Harris (*Co-Chairs**)
 - iii. **2023 Key Focus Areas:**

- Develop Action Plan anchored in equity and environmental justice to support the WeatheRise ATL Program to reduce Energy Burden in underserved communities.
- Expand Youth and Senior Engagement to influence behaviors through education and drive sustainability best practices.
- Strengthen Community and Partner Engagement to advance 100% clean energy goals for all Atlantans.

III. **Decarbonize Atlanta Working Group – Presenter:** Freddie Stevens, Director of Housing, Grove Park Foundation

- i. **Goal:** Developing opportunities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by strategizing energy code updates through an equitable lens and programs to leverage clean energy funding reallocations.
- ii. **Committee Members:** Ciannat Howett, Lauren Westmoreland, Maggie Kelley Riggins, Matt Cox, Odetta MacLeish-White
- iii. **2023 Key Focus Areas:**
 - Develop a Strategic Plan for updating a local stretch energy code.
 - Create a process matrix and estimates of Residential Energy Efficiency programs to measure impact.

IV. **Transportation Infrastructure Working Group – Presenters:** Avery Evans, M.I.S Urban Studies, Georgia State University John R. Seydel, Deputy Chief, Sustainability Officer, City of Atlanta, Mayor's Office of Sustainability and Resilience

- i. **Goal:** Support the creation of a Transportation Demand Management Plan across the City of Atlanta Departments. Advance Micro-Mobility Programs and Policy. Pursue grants and partnerships to support EV Adoption in Atlanta's Fleet and Community Wide
- ii. **Committee Members:** Jennette Gayer*, Avery Evans*, Allean Brown, Rex Hambre, Khalifa Lee, Auna Tyson, Adair Garrett, Kimberly Scott, Rebecca Serna, Richard Thomas, Michelle Wynn, Ashley Finch, Patrick King II, and Matt Stephens-Rich (Co-Chairs*)
- iii. **2023 Key Focus Areas:**
 - Transportation Demand Management
 - Bike, Pedestrian, and Micro Mobility Programs and Policies
 - Transit Infrastructure
 - Electric Vehicle Infrastructure
 - Autonomous and Emerging Tech

c. **Public Comments – None**

d. **Wrap-up and Next Steps**

- **City of Atlanta Mayor's Office of Sustainability and Resilience Updates – Chandra Farley, Chief Sustainability Officer**

- Mayor Andre Dickens was excited to lead the relaunch of the community- driven Clean Energy Advisory Board earlier this year and is committed to this work.
- 2023 was a transition year for the Clean Energy Advisory Board. Thank you to the inaugural board members who stayed an extra year for continuity of the work.
- **BOARD TERMS**
 - The Clean Energy Advisory Board includes up to 26 Members Appointed by the City of Atlanta, Mayor's Office of Sustainability and Resilience and serve a two-year term.
 - 6 of the 26 Member Board are Appointed by the most [Energy Burdened Neighborhood Planning Units](#): H, R, S, T, X, Z
 - 4 of the 26 Member Board seats are allocated to youth, including an ACE (Atlanta Clean Energy) Warrior
 - The Total Number of Clean Energy Advisory Board Seats Open 2024 – 2026 Term: 10 Seats and 6 Neighborhood Planning Unit Seats
- **CLEAN ENERGY ADVISORY BOARD – TRANSITION PLAN**
*Indicates Board Member's Term Ends December 31, 2023**
 - Chandra Farley, Co-Chair and Chief Sustainability Officer, City of Atlanta, Mayor's Office of Sustainability and Resilience
 - **Angela Clyde, Chair, City of Atlanta, Neighborhood Planning Unit T ***
 - Avery Evans, M.I.S. Urban Studies, Georgia State University
 - **Allean Brown*, NPU-S**
 - **Anne E. Phillips*, APAB President, Neighborhood Planning Unit Chair, NPU-Z ***
 - **Blair Beasley, former Director of Climate Strategies, Ray C. Anderson Foundation**
 - Bonita Johnson, Senior Physical Scientist, Water Division Environmental Justice Coordinator, White House Environmental Justice Interagency Council-Regional Committee Co-Chair, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
 - **Ciannat Howett*, Assistance Vice President, Sustainability, Resilience and Economic Inclusion, Emory University and Emory Healthcare**
 - Codi Norred, Executive Director, Georgia Interfaith Power and Light
 - **Dr. Erica Holloman-Hill*, CEO, Ayika Solutions, Inc.**
 - **James Marlow, President, Southface**
 - **Jennette Gayer*, Director, Environment Georgia**
 - **Khalifa Lee*, Executive Board Vice Chair, City of Atlanta, Neighborhood Planning Unit-H**
 - Lamia Lopez, Environmental Science Student, Spelman College
 - **Dr. LaToria Whitehead*, President & Founder LS Whitehead Group, LLC and Spelman College**
 - **Lauren Westmoreland*, Vice President, Energy and Sustainability, Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future**
 - Maggie Kelley Riggins, Senior Program Manager, Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance
 - **Dr. Matt Cox*, CEO, Greenlink Analytics**
 - **Odetta MacLeish-White*, Director, Georgia Initiatives, Center for Community Progress**
 - **Rex Hamre, National Director, Sustainability, JLL Project and Development Services**

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- **Sheryl Brown***, Owner, Thrive Public Relations Atlanta and Director, ACE Warriors, NPU-R
 - **Solomon McBride**, Manager, Just Energy, Partnership for Southern Equity
 - Susan Evans, Program Manager, Atlanta Housing Authority
 - Zoe Landers, Environmental Justice Student, Clark Atlanta University
- **INTERESTED IN JOINING THE BOARD?**
 - Complete the "[Clean Energy Advisory Board Expression of Interest Form](#)" by Thursday, November 30, 2023
 - New Board Announcement – December 2023

Announcements

- Bloomberg American Cities Challenge November 1-3, 2023
- Keep America Beautiful "Recycle Day" - Atlanta City Hall November 15, 2023
- Neighborhood Planning Unit University – Proposed "Climate Action in Atlanta" Course for 2024

CLOSING

- The next Clean Energy Advisory Board Meeting is scheduled in 2024.
- Location: TBD
- The meeting was closed at 3:15 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by: Beth M. Graham, Executive Consultant and FUSE Fellow, October 18, 2023

Minutes Approved by: Chandra Farley, Chief Sustainability Officer