



Atlanta City Hall  
Old City Council Chambers  
March 14, 2023  
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

## Clean Energy Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

### ATTENDEES

- Avery Evans\*
- Beth Graham
- Blair Beasley
- Bonita Johnson
- Chandra Farley
- Ciannat Howett\*
- Codi Norred
- Dr. Erica Holloman-Hill
- Jennette Gayer
- Khalifa Lee
- Maggie Kelley Riggins
- Dr. Matt Cox
- Michelle Midanier
- Michelle Wiseman
- Susan Evans

*Virtual\**

### ABSENT

1. Angela Clyde
2. James Marlow
3. Dr. LaToria Whitehead
4. Lauren Westmoreland
5. Odetta MacLeish-White
6. Rex Hamre
7. Robbie Hunter
8. Solomon McBride
9. Sheryl Brown

Chief Sustainability Officer Chandra Farley welcomed the Clean Energy Advisory Board at 11:15 a.m. on Tuesday, March 14, 2023.

### ORDER OF BUSINESS

#### I. Welcome and Introductions

- Clean Energy Advisory Board Working Groups and Virtual Participants
  - **Clean Energy Funding**
    1. Chandra Farley, Chief Sustainability Officer
    2. Dr. Erica Holloman-Hill, Director, Environmental Justice Programs, West Atlanta Watershed Alliance
    3. James Marlow, President, Southface
    4. Khalifa Lee, Executive Board Vice Chair, Neighborhood Planning Unit-H
    5. Sheryl Brown, Thrive Public Relations Atlanta and Director, ACE Warriors, NPU-R
    6. Solomon McBride, Manager, Just Energy, Partnership for Southern Equity

- **Community and Partner Engagement –**
  1. Beth Graham, Executive Consultant and FUSE Fellow
  2. 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
  3. Codi Norred, Executive Director, Georgia Interfaith Power and Light
  4. Lamia Lopez, Environmental Science Student, Spelman College
  5. Dr. LaToria Whitehead, President & Founder LS Whitehead Group, LLC and Spelman
  6. Robbie Hunter, President, Graymont Drive Neighborhood Association, NPU-S
  7. Susan Evans, Program Manager, Atlanta Housing Authority
  
- **Decarbonize Atlanta**
  1. Michelle Midanier, Clean Energy Program Associate
  2. Blair Beasley, Director of Climate Strategies, Ray C. Anderson Foundation
  3. Ciannat Howett, Assistance Vice President, Sustainability, Resilience and Economic Inclusion, Emory University and Emory Healthcare
  4. Lauren Westmoreland, Vice President, Energy and Sustainability, Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future
  5. Maggie Kelley Riggins, Sr. Program Manager, Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance
  6. Dr. Matt Cox, CEO, Greenlink Analytics
  7. Odetta MacLeish-White, Director, Georgia Initiatives, Center for Community Progress
  
- **Transportation and Infrastructure**
  1. John R. Seydel, Deputy Chief Sustainability Officer
  2. Angela Clyde, Chair, City of Atlanta, Neighborhood Planning Unit T
  3. Avery Evans, Graduate Student, M.I.S., Urban Studies, Georgia State University
  4. Jennette Gayer, Director, Environment Georgia
  5. Rex Hamre, National Director, Sustainability, JLL Project and Development Services

## II. Open Discussion

### a. City of Atlanta Taskforce – Chandra Farley, Chief Sustainability Officer

Atlanta Mayor Andre Dickens established a new taskforce to further engage the community on plans for the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center and surrounding green space.

The Office of Sustainability and Resilience recommended members from the Clean Energy Advisory Board Community and Partner Engagement Working Group for consideration of serving as a member of the task force. The task force will be named this month with recommendations made in July.

The approximately 40-member South River Forest and Public Safety Training Center Community Task Force will provide recommendations to the City in four key areas related to the Training Center and future green space site:

1. Parks & Green Space
  2. Visioning, Memorializing, and Repurposing the former Atlanta Prison Farm Site
  3. Sustainability and Resilience
  4. Police, Fire and E-911 Training Curriculum
- b. “Atlanta Clean Energy Fund” – Matt Cox, PhD and CEO Greenlink Analytics**  
Energy burden around the City of Atlanta is very high. The data shows that a high rate of energy burden is a strong predictor of evictions. Also a highly racial issue as all of the areas with high-energy burden are also predominantly Black communities.

Greenlink Analytics put together recommendations and created a new energy burden flyer that were presented to City Council with solutions for reducing energy costs and jobs creation. (Please see attached “Atlanta Energy Equity” March 2023 flyer.)

- In 2019, Atlanta ranked in the top 5 nationally for energy burden
- Atlantans will see a 40-50% increase in utility bills due to the 2022 GA Power rate case
- Utility companies are making \$1B a year off of Atlanta areas
- **Action Item: Matt Cox will write an “Atlanta Clean Energy Fund” Letter and present to the Clean Energy Advisory Board for signatures of support**

### iii. Working Groups Breakout Session

- a. **Clean Energy Funding – Chandra Farley**
    - Dr. Erica Hollomon-Hill
    - Khalifa Lee
  - b. **Community and Partner Engagement – Beth Graham (Meeting Date: March 30, 2023)**
    - Bonita Johnson
    - Codi Norred
    - Susan Evans
    - Michelle Wiseman
  - c. **Decarbonize Atlanta – Michelle Midanier**
    - Blair Beasley
    - Maggie Kelley Riggins
    - Dr. Matt Cox
  - d. **Transportation Infrastructure – John R. Seydel**
    - Jennette Gayer
- **Action Item: Select Co-Chairs and Working Group Meeting Date and Location in April 2023**

### iv. Public Comments – None



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

**a. Clean Energy Advisory Board Co-Chair Nomination – Chandra Farley**

- Dr. Erica Hollomon-Hill recommended as Co-Chair of the Clean Energy Advisory Board
- Chandra Farley recommended Dr. Erica Hollomon-Hill to serve as Co-Chair of the Clean Energy Advisory Board
- The recommendation received a unanimous vote confirming Dr. Erica Holloman-Hill as the 2023 Co-Chair of the Clean Energy Advisory Board

**vi. Announcements**

**a. Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance (SEEA) Job Openings – Maggie Kelley Riggins**

- Please visit [SEEA Careers](#) for morning information

**b. ReBuild ATL – Deconstruction Workforce Training Program**

- Spearheaded by [Lifecycle Building Center](#)
- Email: [channon@lyfecyclebuildingcenter.org](mailto:channon@lyfecyclebuildingcenter.org)

**CLOSING**

- The next Clean Energy Advisory Board Meeting is tentatively scheduled on May 11, 2023.
- Location: TBD
- The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

**Minutes Submitted by:** Beth M. Graham, Executive Consultant and FUSE Fellow

March 15, 2023

**Minutes Approved by:** Chandra Farley, Chief Sustainability Officer