
Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3) EQUITY & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE WORKING GROUP MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: 10-21-20

Meeting Time: 9:30 -10:55 pm
ET

Meeting Location: Zoom link:
<https://ctdeep.zoom.us/j/97684966064>

AGENDA & NOTES

Welcome and Announcements

*Co-Chairs Lee Cruz Community Outreach Director, Community Foundation for Greater New Haven
Marianne Engelman Lado, Professor Yale University*

Marianne directed attendees to review the Working Group report located at the following link:

<http://portal.ct.gov/-media/DEEP/climatechange/GC3/GC33-working-groups>

Update on GC3 Process

Rebecca French – all public comments received need to be incorporated in the Working Groups' report and submitted no later than November 6, 2020. Rebecca stated that the next step is for the report recommendations to be reviewed by the Governor's Council. The Governor's Council has two subcommittees that will have to prioritize the recommendations for the Governor Lamont. Rebecca stated that the public comment period closes today at 11:59 pm. Rebecca also mentioned that two members of this Working Group, Lee Cruz and Brenda Watson are members of the Governor's Council.

Diane Lauricella asked if there can be an extension of the public comment period as she had heard that several folks need more time as they juggle school kids and work. Webinar Series – Doctor Mark Mitchell stated that the webinars were going well and that many GC3 members were attending. Diane Lauricella offered to help prepare the EJ webinar about regulations.

2. Public Participation

Public Participation document and recommendations update was presented by Alex Rodriguez.

Nefeli Bompti offered to assist with public participation through the UCONN School of Engineering

Brownfields Program.

Lee Cruz recommended providing a simple video that you can use explaining how to use zoom for the general public as a tool to engage the public and increase participation.

3. Recommendations to the GC3 Workgroups

Mitigation comments and report update- Sena Wazer & Brenda Watson
Mapping Tool comments were received and incorporated by - Marianne Engleman Lado

Alex Rodriguez recommended that climate change be incorporated in the state science curriculum through legislation.

Sue Quincey from CTDEEP joined the meeting as it was ending and will be submitting comments regarding climate change education to the GC3 public comment link.

Laura Cahn requested that the use of pesticides is of concern and that it needs to be discussed in this planning process.

Brenda Watson asked about prioritizing legislation to address cumulative impacts like New Jersey's bill to reduce air pollution in environmental justice communities.

Lee Cruz recommended funding for battery powered bicycles and other alternative vehicles

Aaron Goode recommended an important article about civic engagement, environmental justice and climate change <https://civic.duke.edu/2017/04/civic-engagement-environmental-justice-and-climate-change/>

Brenda Watson recommends engaging the CCM.

Brenda Watson recommends that legislation capture facility placements are they equitable? And that there is a need to increase funding for mitigation strategies in LMI communities.

Diane Lauricella remarked that towns can amend their POCD before ten years – and that a CGA Bill to reduce to five years and is there planning assistance for the towns available from OPM? OPM support to provide funding to the municipalities for planning assistance is important.

Mark Mitchell there is a fine line between Adaptations versus Mitigation.

4. Discussion of EEJ Report

Marianne Engleman Lado requested that all comments received and minutes taken at the Public Forum on October 13 be submitted to her as she will be finalizing the Equity and Environmental Justice Working Group report. Marianne

Public comments

Next Steps and Adjourn

ATTENDANCE

Working Group Member	Title	Organization	Present
Marianne Engelman-Lado	Co-chair, Professor	VT Law School, Yale School of Public Health & Yale School of the Environment	X
Lee Cruz	Co-chair, Director of Community Outreach	Community Foundation for a Great New Haven	X
Saranda Alka	Intern	CT League of Conservation Voters	
Alexander Rodriguez	Community Organizer	CT League of Conservation Voters	X
Sena Wazer	Co-Director	Sunrise CT	X
Laura Cahn	Chair	New Haven Environmental Advisory Council	X
Mary-Beth Hart		CT DEEP: Land and Water Resources Division	
Rebecca French	Director	Office of Climate Planning	X
Kathy Fay	Director of Community Sustainability	Neighborhood Housing Services of New Haven	
James Albis	Senior Advisor to the Commissioner	CT DEEP	X
Aaron Goode		New England Grassroots Environmental Fund	X
Lynne Bonnett		Greater New Haven Green Fund	
Rosalynn Grzywinski	Administrative Assistant	CT DEEP	X
Brenda Watson	Executive Director	Operation Fuel	x
Nefeil Bompti	Professor	UCONN	
Diane Lauricella	Consultant	CCEJ	x
Cynthia Jennings		CCEJ	x
Mark Mitchell	Professor	George Mason University	

Starley Arias		CTDEEP	
Deb Sims		East End Community Council	
Sue Quincy		CTDEEP	

Associated Staff	Title	Organization	Present
Edith Pestana	Administrator	CT DEEP: EJ Program	X
Doris Johnson	Outreach & Education Coordinator	CT DEEP: EJ Program	X
Max Teirstein	Intern	CT DEEP: EJ Program	X

