DRAFT (v2)

Greensboro Energy and Climate Action Committee
Minutes October 22, 2026

In Attendance: Liz Steel, Beth Meachem, Blake Auchincloss(on zoom), William Chidsey

1. Motion made by Beth to approve minutes from the July meeting. Blake 2nded. No further discussion. Minutes approved.

2. Debrief on Heat Pump 101 event. Committee felt the event was successful. Good attendance, good engagement by the public and good questions. As follow up a post will be put on FPF sharing the recording of the event and mentioning it can also be viewed on the HCTV
Website. A thank you email will be sent to Opie and Kristen Leahy in Hardwick thanking them For being collaborative partners. The committee felt a presentation in Hardwick on an energy topic would be beneficial working with either the Civic Standard or the Jeudevine Library. Thoughts were had on doing a workshop as part of the Hardwick University initiative.

3. FY 27 Action Plan. Looking at our budget we determined that we would research some options and carry through on initiatives mentioned in the petition and the town report.
Bill emphasized the importance of working on projects that benefit the town. Bill will research Pollinator friendly lighting and report back at January meeting. Blake will research book titles for adults that can be purchased For the lending library that will be hosted by the GFL. Beth will research some children's titles. Liz will reach out to VEEP to see if we can purchase a hands-on kit on energy savings that kids at the library can experiment with when they visit the library. We will talk with the GFL about having a designated shelf for displaying energy related books and information. Discussion was also had on holding an educational event for kids on energy savings using a kit from VEEP.

4. FY28 Budget. It was decided that we would ask for $1,000 appropriation from the Town.Money would be used to hire a consultant to help analyze potential benefits of having a community solar array and explore potential locations based on NVDA siting maps. The funds would also be used to support potential pollinator friendly lighting and adding to the lending library.

5. Beth shared her outreach efforts for weatherization assessments for municipal buildings. She will contact Sisler contractors to set up a time to look at the firehouse, historical society and town hall so we can get accurate quotes for doing the assessments. Dave Brochu indicated he thought he had money in his budget to cover the cost of the firehouse assessment. We would need to go to the Town to cover the cost of the for historical society and Town Hall assessments. Dave is open to putting electric heating units in the firehouse. He is getting quotes on propane versus electric units. He is also interested in putting solar panels behind the building. Beth mentioned her efforts to get folks to think about the long term and not just immediate needs when making decisions. Beth will ask Sisler for sample report for municipal buildings with similar occupancies.

6. Liz has drafted an annual report write up for the town report covering projects worked on in 2026 including the library MERP project, Heat Pump 101 event, RBES work and Window Dressers. She is sending this to committee members for review.

7. RBES Comms Campaign. Working with NVDA Liz will share her research and outcomes with the NEK Network in December. She noted the flyer is on the ECAC webpage of the town website. Kristen Leahy in Hardwick has been using the information Liz created. Beth suggested

that Liz reach out to Jane Woodruff on the DRB in Greensboro and share the info with her, as well in hopes of getting Greensboro more on board with this effort.

8. Discussion was had on the importance of posting valuable energy information on the town website page for the committee. We will ask Liz Hatch to put the graph from the Heat Pump 101 on the page instead of the current link.

9. Liz Will do a News Alert on the Fuel Assistance Program to encourage folks who need assistance this winter to apply. It is predicted that folks will be under financial stress this winter with the cost of fuel being high.

10. Liz mentioned that the window dressers build will be at the Craftsbury Outdoor Center from Friday 10/30-Friday 11/6. She will be away but asked that committee members consider signing up for a 4 hour stint. With 29 inserts going into our town hall she felt that Greensboro participation was really important.

11. Committee members were encouraged to sign up for the Municipal Climate Plan webinar on November 10th at noon. Beth will attempt to sign up for this.

12. Dates set for 2027 quarterly meetings on the third thursday of the month.
1/21, 4/15, 9/16 and 12/16.

13. Meeting adjourned at 7:30.