

Environmental Justice Council (EJC)

Meeting #19

Thursday, March 13, 2025

Location: Framingham Public Library (Costin Room), 49 Lexington St, Framingham, MA
01702

6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Meeting location: In-person

Meeting documents: [Agenda](#), [Slides](#)

Council members:

- María Belén Power, EEA Undersecretary of EJ & Equity (In-person)
- Kalila Barnett
- Madeline Fraser Cook
- Melissa Ferretti
- Cheryll Holley
- Caroline Hon
- Namrita Kapur
- Lydia Lowe
- Marcos Luna
- Peter Maathey
- Sofia Owen
- Jen Salinetti
- Patricia Spence
- Ari Zorn
- Miles Gresham

1. Welcome and Overview of Meeting Logistics

María Belén Power welcomed all attendees. María Belén acknowledged the resignation of former councilmember Namrita Kapur.

Sophia Spungin provided an overview of the meeting logistics, including the use of the question and answer (Q&A) box and the availability of interpreters.

2. Agenda Overview

María Belén Power reviewed the meeting agenda.

3. Roll Call/Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

María Belén conducted a roll call of the EJC members. At the start of the meeting, the following council members were present: **Kalila Barnett, Melissa Ferretti, Cheryll Holley, Caroline Hon, Lydia Lowe, Marcos Luna, Sofia Owen, Jen Salinetti, and Patricia Spence**

The following council members were not present: **Madeline Fraser Cook, Peter Maathey, Ari Zorn, and Miles Gresham**

María Belén opened the floor for a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. **Melissa Ferretti** motioned to approve. **Kalila Barnett** seconded the motion. All present council members accepted the minutes, except for **Jen Salinetti** and **Madeline Fraser Cook** who abstained due to not attending the previous meeting.

4. First Public Question and Answer Session

No public participants provided comments virtually or in-person.

5. Presentation from Eversource, Framingham Geothermal Pilot Project.

Guest speaker **Nikki Bruno, Vice President of Clean Technologies of Eversource**, provided a presentation on the Framingham Geothermal Pilot Project. Eversource conducted community outreach, held community events, and canvassed to provide information to consumers on the implementation of their geothermal project.

Council members inquired about the changes being made to the project after the initial pilot, clarified the term “Rate case”, how Eversource is monitoring the customer experience, and to the extent in which this project is being utilized as a case study and expanded.

6. Presentation from Eversource, Understanding your Natural Gas Bill.

Guest speaker **Erin Engstrom, Director of Regulatory Affairs of Eversource**, provided a presentation on understanding the details of an Eversource natural gas bill. The bill components include delivery and supply, with the delivery charge itemized by the customer charge, distribution, revenue decoupling, and distribution adjustment. Eversource has two programs to assist with consumer affordability, the Energy Efficiency and MassSAVE programs.

Council members inquired about how the MassSAVE program impacts energy affordability, the rebate program, and how to improve accessibility for lower-income communities.

7. Second Public Question and Answer Session

A public participant thanked the councilmembers and presenters. No additional questions or comments were made.

8. Next Steps and Adjourn

María Belén reminded council members of the next meeting in **Pittsfield, MA**. **María Belén** inquired if council members were interested in particular topics. **Caroline Hon**, **Marcos Luna**, and **Sofia Owen** suggested topics for the upcoming meetings.

María Belén requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Caroline Hon** motioned to adjourn. **Melissa Ferretti** seconded. Sophia Spungin conducted roll call and all present council members approved. The meeting adjourned at **8:08 pm**.