

# EDUCATION COMMITTEE DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 31, 2025 | 3:00 - 4:00 PM

The Nature Conservancy, 159 Waterman Street, Providence, RI 02906

With remote participation available via Zoom.



**Members in Attendance:** Peter Gill Case, Sue AnderBois, Kurt Teichert

**Others in Attendance:** Steven Chybowski, Georgia Cheney, Katie Critelli, Luke Meunier, Rachel Sholly, Toby Ast, Grant Dulgarian

## 1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Gill Case called the meeting to order at 3:07 PM.

## 2. Vote on Meeting Minutes

Council Member AnderBois motioned to approve the June 6, 2025 Education Committee Meeting Minutes. Vice Chair Gill Case seconded. Council Members AnderBois and Gill Case voted in favor, Committee Member Teichert abstained, and the meeting minutes were approved.

## 3. Community of Practice Update

Ms. Sholly of the Council's consultant team shared preliminary slides from the URI Community of Practice (CoP) initial takeaways. She led a discussion on what questions should be asked of URI as the Council plans the 2026 budget. Because the sample size was very small, Vice Chair Gill Case would like the slides to include the actual numbers in an update and the Committee members suggested that edits are needed to clarify the data findings. While trust increased significantly, the CoP only resulted in two home energy audits. The Committee discussed how to increase participation in audits. Mr. Chybowski spoke about the intended function and goals of energy efficiency ambassadors. Mr. Ast of Rhode Island Energy (RIE) spoke about pre-weatherization barriers. Vice Chair Gill Case suggested that the EEC could hire someone to create video footage of the program. Mr. Chybowski suggested the possibility of using OER's Communications team. Committee Member AnderBois spoke about opportunities to direct more money into weatherization.

## 4. 2026 Public Education Budget and Activity Planning

Vice Chair Gill Case shared that the proposed 2026 budget was approved at the last EEC full council meeting. Ms. Sholly recommended including URI at the next meeting to discuss ideas and edits raised in the previous discussion. It was also suggested that Ms. Felder and Ms. LeGrand from RIE be invited to join the meeting and discussion.

## **5. Upcoming Meetings**

- Friday, October 3, 2025 @ 8:30 A.M.
- Friday, November 5, 2025 @ 8:30 A.M.

## **6. Public Comment**

Luke Meunier

Mr. Meunier commented about his role with the URI Community of Practice and his thoughts on the intent of the initiative.

Grant Dulgarian

Mr. Dulgarian asked about energy efficiency regarding the transportation system and spoke about the Washington Bridge and the opportunity for an environmental impact study.

## **7. Adjournment**

Vice Chair Gill Case adjourned the meeting at 4:03 P.M.