



Learning, Education, and Advancement Discussion Session

Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 8, 2026 | 1:00 - 4:00 PM

President's Dining Room, Donovan Dining Center

Rhode Island College, 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave, Providence, RI 02908

Members of the public able to join via Zoom

Members in Attendance: Harry Oakley, Chris Kearns, Priscilla De La Cruz, Kurt Teichert, Peter Gill Case, Sue AnderBois (2:20 PM)

Others in Attendance: Josh Cornell, Katie Critelli, Craig Johnson, Claire Williams, Seth Handy, Olivia Krupinska, Emily Koo (virtual), Theo Smith (virtual), Olivia Poulos (virtual), Jordan Galluzzo (virtual), Gary Marino (virtual), Brett Feldman (virtual)

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Oakley called the meeting into order at 1:07 p.m.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Introduction & Icebreaker

Mr. Johnson welcomed the group and introduced the icebreaker.

4. Least Cost Procurement

a. Presentation on PUC's Proposed Standards Updates

Mr. Johnson began with an update on the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) standards for Least Cost Procurement (LCP), with five key issues that will be discussed by the Council.

b. Council Discussion

The Energy Efficiency Plan's proposed filing date has changed (moving from 10/1 to 9/1) which changes the vote deadline for the EEC. Two options of alternative timing were presented. Chair Oakley asked about the likelihood of each option as doable. Mr. Johnson talked about a Tech Work Session, with a collaboration of stakeholders such as OER, RIE, EEC, PUC, etc. Commissioner Kearns spoke about the possibility of the statute not being extended, that it will sunset in 2027 if not renewed/extended. Vice Chair Gill Case stated that it makes no sense that there is less time to review a three-year plan than a one-year plan. The Council discussed the benefits of Option 2 as the alternative approach. Chair Oakley asked about the next steps if the Council supports Option 2. Council Member Feldman shared that RIE is working on comments and would like to keep the 10/1 deadline. It was discussed how to establish/share the EEC's stance on



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this; (e.g., a letter from the Chair). Vice Chair Gill Case wanted to ensure the Council's support of the three-year plan is clear, and are in favor of postponing it one year (with the stated reasons) and keeping the 10/1 deadline. Chair Oakley asked when the decision will be made; Mr. Johnson answered in the next month or month and a half. Vice Chair Gill Case stated that the EEC can't do the job, as too many variables are changing at once. Council Member Teichert wanted more information on what a "binding" plan is, as to what is the revision and amendment processes. Council Member Feldman spoke about their proposed language for amendment (to be included in the Plan).

With regard to Council Budget & Expenses, the only major change is the timing. The Council will develop a 3-year budget, but needs clarification on whether budget is rigid to annual years or to the full term.

The requirement for RIE to include Economic Development Benefits is positive but questions remain including how to define "incremental" and reporting methodology.

Rate and Bill Impacts assessments remain, but several issues, previously identified, have not been addressed. The presentation included recommendations to address such issues.

5. Opportunities for Council Process Improvements

a. Discussion Framing by Chair and Vice Chair

Vice Chair Gill Case asked Chair Oakley his thoughts on the structure and efficacy of the EEC meetings. Chair Oakley stated that currently, the majority of time is spent on presentations, during which information coming at the Council rather than from the Council. He would like meetings to be more focused, similar to a business meeting. He spoke about the importance of return on investment. Vice Chair Gill Case posed the question of an expectation of council members to do 'homework' to reach the goal of less presentation and more discussion. to reach Harry's meeting goals – posed the question of councilors expectations and 'homework'?



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b. Council Discussion

Council Member De La Cruz agreed that it's effective to directly express expectations of council member and Mr. Johnson shared that some expectations are included in the by-laws. Discussion included how to balance the presentations with discussion so that council participation isn't rushed. The possibility of 1:1 (or small group) meetings with Mr. Johnson could assist councilors in meeting preparation. Council Member Feldman stated that the three-year intends to focus more on implementation of programs. Vice Chair Gill Case expressed interest in cutting-edge technology (such as on the Volts podcast). Council Member De La Cruz spoke about designing agendas to include experts in specific topics. Mr. Handy stated that the three-year plan allows for more specific and concrete goals. Council Member Teichert suggested that each member take a turn facilitating the meeting and checking with presenters. Mr. Johnson added that Councilors lean into their "seat" in leading topics that pertain to their subject.

6. Adjournment

Chair Oakley adjourned the meeting at 3:52 p.m.