

GREEN NEW DEAL OVERSIGHT BOARD



Seattle
Office of Sustainability
& Environment



MEETING MINUTES

August 18, 2025

5:00 – 7:00 PM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT Peter Hasegawa, Hannah Lindell-Smith, Emily Pinckney, Nina Olivier, Rachel Heaton, Lizzy Baskerville, Roz Jenkins, Leah Wood, Akiksha Chatterji, Jamie Stroble, Fatima Kabba, John Sanchez, and Nancy Huizar

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT Brittani Cain, Matt Remle, Camille Gipaya, Stephanie Ung

GUESTS OSE Staff: Elise Rasmussen, Sara Cubillos, Jazzmin Fragiacomio
Akshay Iyengar (CBO)

ACTION ITEMS Approval of June Meeting Minutes

MEETING NOTES

Peter Hasegawa and **Nina Olivier** (GNDOB Co-Chairs) facilitated the meeting.

Meeting notes were taken by **Jazzmin Fragiacomio** (Climate and Environmental Justice Associate) and Elise Rasmussen (Interim Climate Justice Advisor).

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Nina Olivier started the meeting, reviewed the meeting agenda, and facilitated introductions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

Roz Jenkins asked if we do listening sessions with the public to get the word out about Board meetings.

Elise Rasmussen shared that we do outreach about these meetings via the GND Oversight Board newsletter, and Board-related community engagement events.

VOTE: APPROVAL OF THE JUNE MEETING MINUTES

The Board voted to approve the **June** Meeting Minutes. **Unanimous approval.**

STAFF UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elise Rasmussen and **Jazzmin Fragiaco** provided the following updates and announcements from OSE.

- Indigenous-Led Climate Initiatives Fund
 - Funding for Indigenous Led Climate Initiatives was originally supported and recommended by the GND Oversight Board. The purpose of this Fund is to support existing Indigenous-Led Climate projects that have the expertise to do this work and steward these lands since time immemorial.
 - Funding is open to Tribal governments, non-profits, and fiscally sponsored groups led by Native people. Eligible entities will be invited to apply.
 - OSE is partnering with The Seattle Foundation to administer this grant program.
 - **Elise Rasmussen** asked Board members to let staff know by 8/22 if they have ideas for eligible projects or have interest to be on the Application Review Committee.
 - Application will open in late September and close in late October.
 - Headwater People is the consultant who will be assisting the Application Review Committee as well as providing technical support to grantees.
 - Questions:
 - **Roz Jenkins** asked if there was consideration of hiring Indigenous people to implement and work on funded projects. **Elise Rasmussen** confirmed that workforce development and employment opportunities for Indigenous people is a priority.
 - **Lizzy Baskerville** asked if there are geographical limitations to being eligible for this grant. Lizzy also asked if they need to get permission from an organization before recommending them. **Elise Rasmussen** responded that there is no need to get permission because staff will reach out to the organization.
 - **Jamie Stroble** asked how many people we are looking for to be on the selection committee. **Elise Rasmussen** responded that we will get the correct number and follow up.
 - **Jamie Stroble** asked if applying entities need to be within the boundaries of Seattle and asked for clarification around who the grant intended for as the terms Tribal and Indigenous mean different things. **Elise Rasmussen** responded that we understand the historical and contemporary context of this work and projects and initiatives that are beyond Seattle city limits are eligible for funding.
- Clean Heat's PSE grant application update:
 - **Jazzmin Fragiaco** shared background and context around a letter of support from the GND OB for OSE's Clean Heat grant application to transition residential homes from oil and gas to electric in order to reduce emissions.
 - We were informed that OSE was not selected for the grant.

- **Hannah Lindell-Smith** asked if there might be another opportunity to apply for funding. **Jazzmin Fragiacom** shared that the Clean Heat team will pursue other grants from PSE when applications open.
- GNDob Onboarding Update
 - **Jazzmin Fragiacom** shared more information on upcoming onboarding activities for new Board members, which includes a Board Buddy system to facilitate a peer, 1:1 connection. Staff will be pairing returning Board members with new members to help foster a sense of community and provide the new members an opportunity to learn from their peers. Staff asked Board Buddies to meet at least one time before October 20 and set up a regular meeting cadence.
- Youth Climate Assemblies
 - **Elise Rasmussen** shared briefed the Board on how the Youth Climate Assemblies went. She shared that youth gathered across 8 hours to have youth-led conversations around impacts of climate change on youth and possible solutions to address those impacts. There will be another assembly later this year that will be Indigenous-led and focused.
 - These two assemblies, along with last year's assemblies, will help inform the City's Climate Action Plan update.
 - **Leah Wood** shared her experience as a note taker, noted how impressed she was the youth.
 - **Hannah Lindell-Smith** shared her reflections on providing a space to have youth provide direct input on policy.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Peter Hasegawa provided the following Executive Committee updates:

- Executive Committee elections will happen during the September meeting. **Elise Rasmussen** provided an overview on how Board leadership is selected.
- Rapid Response Pathway
 - The Executive Committee is soliciting input and feedback on a pathway for how the Board leadership can quickly respond to requests for letters of support.
 - **Jamie Stroble** stated that we should consider what to do if there are subject matter experts on the Board who are away and cannot respond promptly.

PRESENTATION: SEATTLE'S REVENUE FORECAST + BUDGET OVERVIEW

Presentation by **Akshay Iyengar** (City Budget Office)

- **Akshay Iyengar** provided an overview of the City Budgeting Office.
- Seattle has a Biennium Budget which means that Seattle adopts a two-year budget by adopting a budget for year 1 and endorsing a budget for year 2. The Endorsed Budget is only a framework and not legally binding.

- The Budget process runs from March – November. The proposed budget is developed by the City Budget Office and the Mayor’s Office between June and September based on economic and revenue forecasts, Department-proposed changes, and Mayoral priorities.
- City Council holds their own budget hearings and incorporates any amendments. The Mayor then signs the budget that will become the adopted legal budget for the next year.
- 2025 Adopted Budget: \$8.5 Billion Total Funds – Broken down by Program Area:
 - 47% Utilities and Transportation
 - 22% Administration
 - 11% Public Safety
 - 8% Arts, Culture, Recreation
 - 7% Livable and Inclusive Communities
 - 6% Education and Human Service
- Payroll Expense Tax (PET) Breakdown for the Green New Deal Program:
 - 2025 Adopted: \$18.5 million
 - 2026 Endorsed: \$19.3 million
- The August Budget Forecast showed a slight increase in the General Fund and a small decrease in PET for 2026.
- **Roz Jenkins** asked which category of the City’s budget is focused on the interest on debt and how much of the City’s budget is allocated to this. She also asked which category of the City’s budget is focused on retirement funds for police and how much of the City’s budget is allocated to this.

NEXT STEPS & ADJOURN

Peter Hasegawa moved to adjourn the meeting and **Nancy Huizar** seconded. The Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:05pm. **Unanimous approval.**