

MINUTES

**Climate Action, Sustainability, and Energy Committee
February 23rd, 2026
2:00 PM
Newman Library, Room 101S or Zoom**

Present – Nathan King (presiding), Nick Quint for Carrie Cox, Catherine Shewchuk for Sean Kenny, Ella Jackson, Arturo Soriano, Kirsten Dean, Nam Nguyen, Matt Stolte, Teresa Sweeney, Emily Williams, Sheree Andrews, Alp Tural, Sweta Baniya, Susan Gill, Liza Morris, Yohan Sequiera, Kyle White, Cassidy Blackmore for Dwyn Taylor, Nick Woods for Simon Allen, Ian Dunbar for Kendra Paisley, Irene Leech, Meghan Marsh, Keith Goyne for Saskia van de Gevel, Ken Belcher, Ryan Zekra

Absent with Notice: Joshua Clemons, Grey Kieffer

Absent: Julie McClafferty, Jennifer Walters, Rumana Rani, Saswat Gautam, Nicci Ratcliff

Guests: Emily Vollmer, Yugasha Bakshi, Han Nugyen, Azeks Mittag, Rachael Budowle, Jules Ninde, Shayan Choudry, Emily Satterwhite, Linda Mainycel, Emon Green, Andrew Detwiler, Katia Ellis, Savannah May, Joshua Thompson, Nathan Li, Santino Cardenas, Sean McGinnis, Jenni Goodman, Chris Gyurisin, Mark Witt, Morgan Ralph, Charul Agrawal, Abril Carranza-M, Ron Meyers, Gavin Mason, Han Nguyen, Rob Emmett, Annie Lawrence, Adia Long, Barbara Wise, Karen Martens, Shannon Bell, Javad Torabinejad, Jeff Orzolek, Alexis Washington, Scott Kerklo

Nathan King called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm. A quorum was present.

1. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

2. Approval or Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of February 23, 2026

Nathan King noted that these minutes have been voted on electronically and can be publicly accessed on the [Governance Website](#)

3. Presentation

Nathan King, Campus Sustainability Manager, presented information highlights on the Green RFP program and an overview of the Green RFP process and timeline.

Yugasha Bakshi, PGG PhD candidate and Graduate Assistant at the Office of Sustainability, presented on the Green RFP review process and the 7 proposals recommended by the Green RFP subcommittee to adopt.

Nathan King, Campus Sustainability Manager, presented an overview of the CAC assessment process and timeline.

Nick Quint, Sustainable Transportation Manager, presented on 2025 CAC Assessment Process Goal 9 – Reduce single occupancy vehicle commuting to campus by 20 percent by 2025 and reduce transportation related GHG emissions by 40 percent by 2030.

Emily Satterwhite, Professor in Department of Religion and Culture, presented on 2025 CAC Assessment Process Goal 11 – Establish climate justice as a core value of the Virginia Tech climate action commitment.

4. Other Items

- Question by Irene Leech on Green RFP – There seems to be a \$1,000 difference between a 5-loop bike rack at Major Williams and a 3-loop bike rack at the Food Science and Technology building. If funds are available, can we put a 5-loop bike rack at the Food Science and Technology building as well?
- Question by Kenneth Belcher on Green RFP – Does the cost for aerobic digester cover installation? What is the source of the cost?
- Question by Rachel Budowle on Green RFP – Will the proposals that did not get picked up receive feedback on why they weren't selected?
- Question by Kirsten Dean – As a member of this committee, what can I do to help further the CAC progress?
- Question by Sean McGinnis on Gobbler Gears – How many bikes are in the fleet? What is the current mechanism like to get more bikes to make sure they're maintained? What are the limitations to expanding the program?
- Question by Irene Leech via Microsoft form – What do you view as low hanging fruit that could easily yield identifiable results for goal 11?
- Question from guest student – What is the advantage of the virtual solar power purchasing agreement over owning a solar facility?

5. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 3:39 pm.