

Green New Deal Oversight Board Minutes

MEETING SUMMARY	Date: 1/27/25
	Time: 5:00 - 7:00 PM
	Location: Zoom
MEMBERS PRESENT:	Debolina Banerjee, Camille Gipaya, Nancy Huizar, Emily Myers, Hannah Lindell-Smith, Keith Weir, Steve Gelb, Emily Pinckney, Andrea Ornelas, Nina Olivier, Matt Remle, and Lizzy Baskerville, Rachel Heaton, Stephanie Ung, Jess Wallach
MEMBERS ABSENT:	Ken Workman, Peter Hasegawa, Eunice How
GUESTS:	Elise Rasmussen (OSE), Sara Cubillos (OSE), Rebecca Zaragoza (OSE), Faduma Fido (PEL), Laura Nash (PEL)

DECISIONS MADE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">VOTE: Approval of the December Board Meeting Minutes
----------------	--

MEETING NOTES

Emily Pickney and **Nina Olivier** (GNDOB Executive Committee members) and **Elise Rasmussen** (Climate and Environmental Justice Associate) facilitated the meeting.

Meeting notes were taken by **Rebecca Zaragoza** (OSE).

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Written comment from Grace Cheong at the Sunrise Project: Writing to share about [Insure Our Future's 2024 Scorecard on Insurance, Climate Change, and the Energy Transition](#). The key insights include:

- Climate change accounts for over one-third of weather-related insured losses in this century.
- Climate-attributed portion is outpacing the growth of insured losses.
- Climate losses appear to exceed premiums earned from fossil fuels.
- Industry action has stagnated and falls short.
- Insurers are exacerbating climate risks and withdrawing coverage for climate risks. This poses risks to affordable insurance coverage and financial stability.

The Sunrise Project hopes the Board will review the report's findings and comment on their significance publicly.

Keith Weir commented that the anticipated losses are going to be more than \$600 billion.

VOTE: APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES

The Board voted to approve the December meeting minutes. **Unanimous approval.**

STAFF UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elise Rasmussen provided the following staff updates:

- Upcoming Meetings:
 - February 24th – Next GND Oversight Board Meeting (due to holiday)
 - GND OB meetings will resume its regular meetings on the 3rd Monday of the month starting in March.
 - Jan. 28th Lunch and Learn is cancelled.
 - March 25th – Lunch and Learn: Focused on the Shape our Water Plan and the intersection between that plan and climate justice and community resilience.
 - TBD April – Connecting the GND OB to the Outdoors – Hosted by Rachel. This is an opportunity to learn about and spend time on tribal land and be outdoors. **Elise Rasmussen** will send out a scheduling poll.
- Communications Updates:
 - Inaugural GND OB Newsletter was sent out last week. Monthly newsletters will be published on a monthly basis. [Sign up here](#) to receive monthly Board Newsletters and share with your networks.
 - The [Board's Website](#) and the [GND Website](#) have been updated.
 - Rebecca Zaragoza will be on staff through 2025 and will be supporting the Board's external communications and community assemblies work.
- Recruiting for New Board Members:
 - 8 Open Seats
 - 3 Seats for Re-Appointment
 - Application to apply to the Board will open in mid-February/early-March.
 - Board members are encouraged to share this announcement with their networks and if there's interest to participate in the application review process.
 - Nancy Huizar expressed interest in being on the review and interview committees.
 - Matt Remle expressed interest in being on the interview committee.
 - Stephanie Ung expressed is interest in the review committee.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Emily Pickney provided the following Executive Committee updates:

- Greenhouse Gas Inventory (GHG) Partner Briefing:
 - January 29th at 10AM
 - Meeting information will be shared with the Board. Invite only.
 - Purpose of the meeting is to learn more about the key findings of the City's GHG Inventory Update and next steps as the city looks to update its 2013 Climate Action Plan.
 - **Staff** will check about receiving a report back on the meeting.
 - The Board expressed interest in receiving a Lunch and Learn on the GHG Inventory.

COMMUNITY ASSEMBLIES BRIEFING & DISCUSSION ON NEXT STEPS

Faduma Fido and Laura Nash from People's Economy Lab briefed the Board on the climate justice community assemblies process.

- OSE and the GNDOB partnered with People's Economy Lab (PEL) in 2024 to convene community assemblies and gather public input on priorities for improving climate resilience across workplaces and communities.
- Community assemblies are participatory spaces to make collective decisions or public recommendations to influence the actions of either government or member-based community organization. They are useful for structured deliberation and shared power in decision-making. The Community Assemblies Team includes:
 - OSE - Government Partner
 - PEL - Movement Partner
 - MLK Labor and ULMS - Anchor Partners
- The assemblies focused on community climate resilience and climate workforce. They both addressed access and equity and how the community can better prepare for the impacts of climate change.
- **Faduma Fido** described the notetaking and observation process that the team followed during the assemblies to note the varying comments and interactions. This helped inform adjustments in future sessions, but also how to address certain tensions.
- The team is currently analyzing the assembly outcomes and drafting preliminary anchor reports on the process and findings.

Discussion

- **Steve Gelb** asked how we can more clearly connect this work to the goals of the Board to reduce climate pollution.
- **Lizzy Baskerville** stated that recommendations can be categorized by feasibility. Further categorization can be based on the appropriate responsible entity for implementation.
 - **Faduma Fido** responded by saying that community members were brought together to discuss issues and develop recommendations in response to those issues, and they are looking to the Oversight Board on how to organize the recommendations. Ultimately, this report is a call to action from the community to decision-makers.
- **Jess Wallach** stated that opportunities for deeper analysis would be useful.
- **Keith Weir** suggested identifying the top 3 areas that could lead to real impact.
- **Faduma Fido** shared how these assemblies were the first in Washington state to invest in this engagement model, and this led to further investment at the state level. No other state is doing community assemblies.
- Next Steps:
 - Prepare the final report.
 - Identify the Board's role in aligning outcomes with broader GND goals.

NEXT STEPS & ADJOURN

Steve Gelb moved to adjourn the meeting and Nancy Huizar seconded. The Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:01pm. **Unanimous approval.**