

July 18, 2025 CAST Minutes

Present: Dana Clawson, John Reid, Lee Michaelides, Jen Durgin, Beth Malow, Justin Righter

Minutes of the June 2025 minutes: Approved

Coordinator's Report: SB approved Norwich Solar's installation of 6 EV chargers in South Main Parking lot. Trail Blazers, the job training program for woman, will start in a week with full enrollment in the class.

Styrofoam Recycling: New England Gressroots awarded a \$850 grant for the project. WRJ Rotary (a non-profit) is discussing if it will accept a grant from Justin's employer in support of Styrofoam recycling. Justin reported the grant fund is close to its aggregate limit, so there is an urgency for submitting the application. A meeting is set for August 25 with area DPW directors about getting a foam processor installed in the Upper Valley.

Newsletter Item: John says CAST's work should be better promoted. CAST should work with JD to regularly post in the Hartford News. His idea is to submit a least one item per month. Topics worthy of coverage include Clifford Park Food forest; Window dressers; Culvert Crawlers and styrofoam recycling. Jen suggested submitting newsworthy metrics and hot weather recipes or low carbon recipes from the food forest at Clifford Park. John suggested an item about projects in Radcliffe Park and he will touch base with Resilient Hartford for climate related items. Beth will write window dressers for the August submission. Lee will do Culvert Crawlers.. Dana will ask JD about deadlines for the second August newsletter.

State Climate Action Plan: John suggested a discussion of the new state climate action plan for the September meeting. Justin asked how federal cuts will impact the plan. Dana answered that the plan won't be impacted, but the decrease in federal changes will translate into unfunded mandates.