

New Castle Climate & Environment Commission Minutes
November 20, 2025

Attendees: Chair Sharon Morris, Commissioner Candreia, Commissioner Julia Koch, Commissioner Kendall Bakich, Commissioner Leland, and Commissioner Nancy Barnes

Chair Morris called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Work Session

The CEC met in a work session prior to the regular meeting to discuss and draft a new mission statement, goals, objectives, activities and a proposed 2026 calendar of events.

CEC Mission

Commissioners drafted the following mission statement:

The CEC advances sustainable practices for our community to live harmoniously with nature and improve environmental resilience for future generations.

Motion: Commissioner Leland moved to accept the CEC mission statement. Commissioner Candreia seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

CEC Goals

Commissioners reviewed the following four goal statements:

1. Engage the community in environmental stewardship
2. Advise and inform local decision-makers
3. Collaborate for broader impact
4. Develop New Castle's Environmental Leadership

Motion: Commissioner Barnes moved to accept the goals with one change. Commissioner Bakich seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

CEC Objectives

Commissioners discussed and modified goal objectives.

Motion: Commissioner Leland moved to postpone consideration of the objectives until the December meeting. Commissioner Koch seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Action: Commissioner Barnes will send modified objectives to the group. The CEC will vote on them at the December meeting.

Proposed Calendar of Events, 2026

Commissioners discussed proposed activities and a calendar of events for 2026. Commissioners identified February 11th as the date for the film program and agreed to pursue the PR campaign in July or August in partnership with Down Valley Brewing.

Motion: Commissioner Bakich moved to accept the calendar of events. Commissioner Koch seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Nature Guardian Sticker Design

Commissioners reviewed graphic design options for a new CEC logo, sticker badge, and flyer template. Suggestions and alterations were discussed.

Action: Commissioner Koch and Chair Morris will collaborate with the graphic designer to convey the CEC's feedback and revise the design options.

Approval of October 16th Minutes

Approval of the October 16 minutes was delayed until the December meeting.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Leland reported that the Urban Wildlife Interface code had been updated – new homes will now require class A building materials. He also noted that the apartments being built near VIX park will use concrete (fire-resistant) boards.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Commissioner Nancy Barnes

Commission Chair Sharon Morris