

Ready for Solar

1/28/2016 Meriden Library

Attendance: Terry Donoghue, August Koch (Norwich Technologies)

Ron Eberhardt, Evan Oxenham, Nancy Wightman, Mary Boyle, Bill Cable, Steve Ladd

Upcoming events {both are on Thursdays}

Feb 18 Plainfield Library: Are You Ready for Solar?

Mar 17 Plainfield Elementary School: PV Installer Exposition

Terry Donahue -- Timing: net metering is dormant at the present time; new formula 2 to 2.5 megawatts will probably be allocated to Liberty: 60% residential, 40% commercial. Not going to last long. There's a cue from before so we need to get into the cue.

At the end of 2016 PUC is mandated, required to study how net metering is fair for consumer. The utilities need to submit a rate plan. Rate adjustment and reimbursement is determined; there will be an annual net metering, then a recommendation of a fair rate adjustment. Systems already approved/in use will be grandfathered in.

Get Simplified interconnection application in ASAP! An engineered system: talk to vendor; site visit; one line diagram, specify amount, meter. Once you get the letter from the utility you're okay.

Connect behind the meter; house first. Never export. Some people send all their power directly to the grid and the power to the house comes back in from the grid.

"above the cap" still accept distributed ??? {Please help me with this part of my notes}.

RECs = renewable energy credits

Get that cap! Ask all the vendors to put into the contract that if no net metering the deposit will be refunded and the customer can walk away from the contract.

"Get \$1K back if have the incentive of the tier pricing," says Terry when explaining why having one vendor -- Norwich Technologies -- would be an advantage to the consumer. Our committee replied that we have decided we want to give the people a choice.

Terry and August left after this presentation.

Plainfield – Cornish Energy Committees began the meeting:

We see the major priority of *Ready for Solar* is helping people through the process, i.e. get the people to the vendors. Once the people choose the installer, the installer will assist in the rest of the process.

We will:

Monitor the net metering progress: how many in the cue?

Being part of *Ready for Solar* has a moving deadline because the incentive IS the net metering.

Steve: What is an average size system that we should use in the slide show presentation? 5 kW

Other subjects to discuss on Feb 18: tax credits, the cap and the numbers on the cap, the rebates.

Printed posters were handed out so we could put them up in: Stores, libraries, post office, places of business, social gatherings, churches.

Mary tasks: go to VNews to put article into Local & Regional Briefs. Need a good news article; e-mail Nancy with e-mail address of Cornish principal; design poster for March 17 event.

Nancy task: check with owner to erect *Ready for Solar* sign in front of store on Rt. 120

Solar Installers: instruct them to limit presentation to 5 minutes each

- Energy Emporium
- Norwich Technologies
- Solaflect
- Prudent Living
- Sun Works

Next meeting: Feb 11 @7 PM Meriden Library

Ready For Solar PEC & CEC March 10, 2016 7:30 PM Meriden Library

Attending: Evan Oxenham, Ron Eberhardt, Steve Ladd, Nancy Wightman, Janice Orion, Mary Boyle, Bill Cable.

Solar Installer Expo

Meet at 6:30 PM. We set up tables. Steve has been in touch with the presenters.

Intro. 5 vendors 5 min introduction. Introduce session and mention Open Houses then Q&A afterwards.

Get password for internet connection.

Bring extension cords.

Do a 3 min. intro. – Mary “PEC and CEC will be available for questions, advice, and education.”

DIY table” computers with pictures.

No food.

Chairs: Steve will talk directly with Bob.

Steve will continue to update the e-mail list



Try to get two weekends for Open House and have enough lead time to prepare and publicize:

April 2 and April 16. Time TBD by homeowner 10, 12, or 2

Contact homeowners who will commit to open house.

Ron April 2

Evan, Bill, Bill will Ask Fitchs, Ann Yeats April 16

Evan will ask Rod Wendt

Ron will ask Sue Taylor and Mike Sutherland, Maura Hart & Frank Perrotti

Steve will ask Lee & Betsy Rybeck Lynd & Colburns, Richard Morse

Nancy will ask Polly Rand & Beth Lum; she will follow up with Kit Hawkins about her interest in Ready For Solar.

Ask Joanna to contact Demassi re: hosting an open house



Follow up and track progress.

Solar installer will notify Steve Ladd when a household signs up for site visit.

Ready for Solar Meeting Minutes

4/14/2016

Meriden Library 7 PM

Attendance: Evan Oxenham, Nancy Wightman, Mary Boyle, Bill Cable

Ready for Solar Open Houses April 16

Distributed balloons for those hosting an open house this Saturday. Thanks Nancy!

What's next?

1. Need to make sure we get follow-up from solar installers that had site visits; follow-up on actual installations. Generate a spreadsheet to keep track?
2. Gala in the fall (Sept?) to celebrate and acknowledge those residents that had solar installations.
3. After this project is completed gauge interest in heat pumps... organize an info session.

Upper Valley Energy Committee Roundtable at Montshire Museum in Norwich on May 3rd 5PM.
Get help with grants for solar projects & energy projects in NH?

Cornish asked for help with "portfolio" energy use database to monitor Town of Cornish energy consumption. We had data input for a few years then accumulated data for the next few years but lost access to the database, unfortunately.

Solar Installers:

- Energy Emporium
- Norwich Technologies
- Solaflect
- Prudent Living

Next meeting: in June? TBD

Cornish and Plainfield Energy Committee Minutes

CEC / PEC meeting, June 9
Meriden Library, 7:00 pm

Attending: Mary Boyle, Joanna Sharf, Bill Cable, Evan Oxenham, Nancy Wightman, Steve Ladd

1. Solarize Phase 2 with Cornish Energy Committee – 28 residences expressed interest, 11 site visits, 9 have said they will install, ? who may actually sign contract to install...

Energy Emporium
Norwich
Prudent Living
Solaflect

30% actually proceeding to install based on those who that have expressed interest
Evan will put this info on our Solarize 2 Google Drive.

Net metering – bill was passed, capped was extended by 50 megawatts.

What happens when the cap is exceeded?

Tomorrow is the new proposal/document at PUC meeting/working session.

Find out when public meeting will be scheduled and notify our list.

2. Update on Meriden Town Office windows – Michael O’Leary

Next stage: windows should arrive in the next couple of weeks to be installed in six to eight weeks. Used the Moose plate grant to help fund this for historical preservation.

Will continue to track data on the energy portfolio, Portfolio Manager. May consider applying for another Moose plate grant; complicated by dissemination of funds. Michael will look into this with Andy Roeper of Wind Mountain Window Historic Preservation

3. Button UP Workshop – Evan

Join together Cornish & Plainfield

<http://www.nhsea.org/content/button-nh>

“If your local group, chamber or town committee is interested in hosting a Button Up NH Workshop in your community, e-mail Robbin Adams at PAREI at

robbin@plymouthenergy.org or call (603) 536-5030

These workshops are being funded by Eversource, Liberty Utilities, NH Electric Co-op and Unitil. The Plymouth Area Renewable Energy Initiative (PAREI) of Plymouth, NH is working with local groups statewide to bring this important information to the public on behalf of New Hampshire’s utilities. All Button Up NH Workshops are free and open to the general public.”

Evan will follow up on scheduling a workshop

4. Cold climate heat pump seminar (Campaign?) – deferred until next meeti

5. Warrant articles to commit Plainfield and Cornish to 30% renewable energy by 2030 and 100% renewable energy by 2050.

Work on wording and put on our 2017 Plainfield & Cornish town meeting warrant article by petition. <much discussion ensued> Setting an objective we want to reach. The town would want to commit money to it. Need to word it so there are some minimal guidelines. 100 cities throughout the U.S. commit to 100% renewable energy by 2050 per Sierra Club. Program by Sierra Club to get Hanover and Upper Valley towns to climb on board. Training is provided to design this for presentation to town. – Joanna Sharf is our liaison with Hanover. Evan, Steve, Bill, and Joanna are interested in attending the training.

Three parts of this: Grid, Heat, Transportation

Idea: Could we find a mutual location between the two towns for solar and/or wind?

New idea brought up by Nancy W.: brochure for renewable energy ideas

Next Meeting – July 7 at 7:00 pm, Meriden Library

Cornish and Plainfield Energy Committee

Meeting Minutes, July 7, 2016, Meriden Library, 7:00 pm

Attending: Mary Boyle, Bill Cable, Evan Oxenham, Nancy Wightman, Steve Ladd, Ron Eberhardt, Joanna Sharf

1. Minutes from previous meeting were approved. Evan will put on Google Drive

2. Solarize Phase 2 with Cornish Energy Committee

Mary will try to get data for Cornish via Connect Cornish about PV installations.

Evan will send an e-mail out to installers to get more accurate info about installations they've done, at least the numbers.

3. PUC "Net Metering" hearings

a. DE 16-576 Electric Distribution Utilities. Development of New Alternative Net Metering Tariffs and /or Other Regulatory Mechanisms and Tariffs for Customer-Generators Update on Meriden Town Office Windows

b. Meetings (from PUC Calendar)

- i. Monday, July 11 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM DE 16-576 Alt Net metering Tariffs- Technical Session (Hearing Room A – Rm 103) Leighton, Adele
- ii. Thursday, July 21 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM DE 16-576 Alt. Net Metering Tariff – Technical Session (PUC – 1 – Hearing Room A – Rm 103) – Leighton, Adele

These are technical meetings so probably not appropriate for an "action."

4. Button Up Workshop &/OR try to get a program together to help residents get an energy audit. 1st do some research. 2nd Maybe put an announcement in

ConnectCornish to see if household may qualify for a free energy audit. 3rd see if there are some funds available to help people insulate their houses as a next step... grants? Bill will ask David Grobe about the low interest loans for insulating homes. Ron found info on CPACE in NH is commercial... no program

Evan will contact Button Up for Feb 22, 2107

5. Warrant articles to commit Plainfield and Cornish to 30% renewable energy by 2030 and 100% renewable energy by 2050.(building and transport). Need to plan

really well and start now. It is an ongoing process. Talking about a 14 year time period to attain this goal. Once we (Evan, Joanna, Steve, & Bill) get to a training to roll this out we may want to have a subcommittee that engages parents with school children.

Joanna will keep us informed about future events to launch this program. August 3rd or August 10th (aerial photo) and in October is the "hard launch" with politicians and speakers. Evan will help on this, too to get the Upper Valley Core Team together.

6. Brochure for renewable energy ideas Nancy will begin working on this. If you have any ideas to include in this brochure, please e-mail her.

7. Cold Climate heat pump seminar (Campaign) - shelve this for now? Too much going on now.

Next Meeting – August 11 at 7:00 PM, Meriden Library

Cornish and Plainfield Energy Committee

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Next Meeting – August 11 at 7:00 PM, Meriden Library

Cornish and Plainfield Energy Committee Meeting Minutes

CEC / PEC meeting, September 15
Meriden Library, 7:00 pm

Attending: Nancy Wightman, Bill Cable, Evan Oxenham, Mary Boyle, Steve Ladd

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** approved by all present
2. **Plainfield Town Hall**
 - a. Storm windows. Now that the large storm windows have been installed the main windows can be taken down.
 - b. Work on main windows: restoration can now begin
3. **Plainfield Town Garage Study Group**
 - a. Report completed - see http://www.plainfieldnh.org/ptgsg_rpt.htm
 - b. Recommending replacing the town garage in the next 5 years; taking this to town meeting March 2017
4. **Solarize Phase 2**
 - a. Plainfield records. To be done by Evan. Installers will be consulted.
 - b. Cornish records: Mary still needs to write an article in ConnectCornish to ask Cornish residents if they have solar panels.
5. **PUC "Net-Metering" hearings.**
 - a. Technical session yesterday. Lee didn't get to this one.
 - b. Should start adjudicatory sessions in October
 - c. Finish date now looks like March 2017
6. **Button Up Workshop/Weatherization**
 - a. Steve will look into what each utility offers.
 - b. Put an announcement in ConnectCornish to see if household may qualify for a free energy audit through their own utility company.
 - c. Low interest loans for insulating homes - Bill left a message for David Grobe to see if he would be interested in finding somebody to speak about this if we had a public
7. **Steve Ladd updated the Plainfield Energy Committee website on the town's website.** Lots of ways to promote going to the website. ConnectCornish and Plain Facts.
8. **Portfolio Manager:** Plainfield has updated their data on the municipal buildings. Churches? Cornish needs help to put gather energy data.
9. **We need new members for both CEC and PEC.** Each committee will seek more committee members.

10. Ready for 100 (100% renewable electrical grid by 2030, 100% renewable energy by 2050 (building and transport)).

- a. Joanna – Alison Samuell is the community organizer for the Upper Valley Ready for 100. A brainstorming session was held at Joanna's about best way to approach UV towns. Hopefully have a presentation for selectman and conservation commission members, town residents.
2nd week in November – Successes So Far! Speakers, harvest festival, Joanna will be making up posters to get info out. Also, Green Energy Times online version, Valley News, town electronic bulletin boards.
- b. Performance Contracts for NH Towns – Evan... some improvements may save loads of money. LED lights, converting to digital controls, insulation, PV. Need an energy audit to do this. There are a few tools to use -> Energy Efficient Investments, Inc. may be an option for energy audits. Cornish had the Town Office done but only basic. Recommendation was a more extensive audit.
- c. Passive house building standard
- d. Church buy-in: Meriden Congregational Church would be interested in being part of Ready for 100. Dealing with Climate Change is a moral imperative. Evan will approach Ruben at the Plainfield Community Church. Mary will ask somebody from the Baptist church in Meriden.

11. Brochure for renewable energy ideas

- a. Steve worked on this with edits. We asked him to e-mail us his copy. This brochure is an educational tool that selectman could hand out to town residents.

Next Meeting – October 13 at 7:00 pm, Meriden Library?

Cornish and Plainfield Energy Committee Meeting Minutes

CEC / PEC meeting, October 13, 2016
Meriden Library, 7:00 pm

Attending: Nancy Wightman, Bill Cable, Evan Oxenham, Mary Boyle, Steve Ladd, Joanna Sharf

12. Minutes of Previous Meeting: approved by all present

13. Solarize Phase 2

- a. Plainfield records. To be done by Evan. Installers will be consulted.
- b. Cornish records: Mary still needs to write an article in ConnectCornish to ask Cornish residents if they have solar panels.

14. Button Up Workshop/Weatherization

- a. Steve looked into what each utility offers. Kind of circular discussion. Steve will go to the Lebanon Button-Up next Wednesday to learn more. Simple test to take to see if qualify for an audit. Steve will see how strict the utility is. Bill may go, too.
- b. Put an announcement in ConnectCornish to see if household may qualify for a free energy audit through their own utility company? Wait for Steve's report.
- c. Low interest loans for insulating homes – David Grobe recommends that residents go to their own utility company. David's job is working with Vermont residents only. See a. and b. above.

15. Ready for 100 (100% renewable electrical grid by 2030, 100% renewable energy by 2050 (building and transport)).

- a. Study group meets once a month. Next meeting on Monday 6:30 p.m. at Bugbee Senior Center, 262 N Main St, WRJ. Joanna, Evan, Steve & Bill are going. **Carpooling from Plainfield Library.**
- b. Daniel Reicher speaking at Dartmouth. "Energy & Society."

16. Brochure for renewable energy ideas.

- a. Steve will make updates from the mark-up copy of Nancy.

17. "Renewable Energy Tool Belt"

- a. Respond to survey from Kate Epton. NHSEA.
- b. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/toolbelt>

18. We need new members for both CEC and PEC. Each committee will seek more committee members. Suggestions from Nancy Mogielnicki:

- a. Look at the list of people who recently installed solar for possibilities, OR

- b. Send an announcement out to the “current mailing list” e-mail list that Steve maintains. Each town will sort for their residents to reach out with personalized e-mail.

New business: Local Energy Solutions is having their annual meeting Saturday, November 19, 2016 in Concord 8:00 a.m. – 4 p.m. Breakout sessions and speakers. Utility people will be there. Gov’t people will be there. Steve, Bill, Nancy, and Mary are interested in going. **Anybody else? Let’s carpool!**

www.nhenergy.org/les-conference.html

Next Meeting – November 10 at 7:00 pm, Meriden Library?