

## **2020 Plainfield/Cornish Energy Committee Minutes**

### **MINUTES FOR JANUARY 7, 2020 MERIDEN LIBRARY, 7 TO 8:30**

ATTENDEES: Evan Oxenham, Jennifer Lenz, Nancy Wightman, Steve Ladd, Joanna Sharf, Doug Heaton, Nick Cohen. And Suzanne Rendahl and Brad Atwater, Facilities Manager for Plainfield.

Minutes of December 3 approved.

NEW MERIDEN LIBRARY: Suzanne Spencer/Rendahl and Brad Atwater presented an energy use/efficiency plan for the proposed new library. The Bensonwood Builders are known for their building integration, tech knowledge and energy efficiency. Cap of \$1 million, will be 45% larger, less energy usage and should cost less for utilities. The Plainfield Committee will discuss and get back to the Library Committee with an endorsement consistent with Town philosophy/RF100.

WEATHERIZATION: All set for the 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will need two computers for trying out NHSaves website, Resource table for handouts - STEVE. NANCY. ABC will also join us as a contractor. Financing? STEVE? Neighboring communities also invited. Be there at 6:30 if you can.

Clarification for NHSaves square foot requirement: Square Footage means ALL finished rooms. Upstairs, downstairs and basement if finished.

PLAINFIELD SOLAR WARRANT ARTICLE: Will be tabled to next year. Too late to for Planning Board Meeting.

NEW HAMPSHIRE RESOLUTION FOR CLIMATE ACTION (Carbon fee, cash back petition): 66 Towns are gathering signatures for this petition. Some push back from Legislature on this, but whatever happens, it shows support from constituents that action is necessary.

COMMUNITY POWER (community aggregation): Evan attended a "Local Govt. Community Power Meeting" held in Concord on Dec. 20 - Well attended by several towns. The meeting was to work out a business agreement for Towns to work together. At this time, community aggregation is basically an accounting operation of choosing energy for a town but receiving one bill from one's Utility Co. Potentially cheaper but there are differences for net metering residences and for those without solar. Those with solar would probably opt out. Lebanon will launch this year, Hanover and Keene next year. Aggregation is successful in CA and in a region in MA. Selectboard will appoint a committee and the committee will develop a plan for 2021.

Next Power Meeting, January 10, 1pm to 2:30 pm. EVAN will send our information to join via internet.

Tabled EDUCATION SERIES planning for next month. Long discussion on Lebanon's Battery Program. Doug Heaton requested info from Liberty on this program and it seems that he will lose his net metering rights. Joanna and Evan both had different info on this: Evan from Lebanon meetings and Joanna from Liberty. Doug says he will take it to the next level and sign up. He'll let us know what happens! Brad Atwater mentioned Bob Reels and Andrew Hatch both from Liberty might come and give us an overview of the plan.

Interesting addition: Australia is developing a Lithion Ion Sulphate battery way superior to current ones.

**NEXT MEETING:** February 4<sup>th</sup> at the Plainfield Library. Evan and Steve will be gone, but JENNIFER will open the library for us.

(Those with names in caps have a job to do.)

### **MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 4, 2020 PRML, 7 TO 8:30**

**ATTENDEES:** Jennifer Lenz, Nancy Wightman, Joanna Sharf, Doug Heaton, Nick Cohen, Ron Eberhardt. Dick Gendron.

Minutes of January 7<sup>th</sup> approved.

**WEATHERIZE II:** Qualifying for NHSaves was discussed. If unqualified, homeowner can contact Utility and receive help or ask contractor to help. **JOANNA** will contact Cornish participants with helpful suggestions and will put a weekly short notice about the program in connectcornish. Utility contact info can be found at [Plainfieldnh.org/energy/weatherize/weatherize2020html](http://Plainfieldnh.org/energy/weatherize/weatherize2020html). Cover is a volunteer button up type organization. With specifications on who qualifies for help. It does not do attic to cellar insulation but caulks windows, doors, etc. It has a blower and thermal camera. **NANCY** will invite Marie DeRusha and Stephanie Schell (welfare) and Jan Lord and Jodi Schubert (Aging in Place) for our next meeting.

**SUSTAINABILITY** meetings at the Cornish General Store on Sundays, Feb. 9, 16, 23 at 3pm. As sponsors, we should support and participate. Nancy will try to attend all. We will bring our Weatherize II flyers. **JOANNA** will bring them to Nancy.

### **EDUCATIONAL SERIES:**

- April, Soil. Carbon Sequestration. Joanna will contact Cat Buxton
- A warm month, E-Bike
- Community Power (Aggregation)
- Hemp
- EXPO
- Hydrogen Storage. (Science Daily)

**TWO YEAR PLAN:** All would like to see another Solarize program.

**ENERGY ROUNDTABLE:** Joanna, Dick, Nancy, Jennifer, Nick signed up to go. March 18, 5 to 8 pm. Fireside Inn, Lebanon. Dinner at 5pm. Free admission.

**COMMUNITY POWER:** No new news from Henry Herndon.

**MICROGRID:** A microgrid is a self contained renewable resource and batter storage array. It is an emergency back up power source for towns. The fairgrounds in Cornish is a good location.

**PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT PROGRAM:** This is a program that organizes Town building energy usage. It is a free federal software program. Plainfield is using it.

**NEXT MEETING:** MARCH 3 AT THE MERIDEN LIBRARY, 7pm.

## Minutes MARCH 3, 2020 MERIDEN LIBRARY, 7PM

ATTENDEES: Joanna Sharf, Steve Ladd, Brad Atwater, Nick Cohen, Doug Heaton, Dick Gendron, Jennifer Lenz, Nancy Wightman

MINUTES APPROVED for Feb. 4

WEATHERIZE II: 14 prospects in Drive. Contact new signees (Nancy left email for Joanne Clifford.) March 31 is cut off date for low rate audits. We will invite participants to our May meeting at the Philip Read Library for a \$100 drawing.

SUSTAINABILITY TEAS: these were fairly well attended. Plastic waste and recycling seemed to be the main concern. Nancy sent out the latest notes to those of you who requested.

EDUCATIONAL SERIES:

- APRIL: Cat Buxton (\$250) and Henry Swayze (\$100). Not confirmed yet. Available date requested is Thursday, April 16. Time will be at 7 if OK with presenters. (**Joanna** will work this out with Cat.) Location will be the Cornish Town Hall. Topic will be related to CO2 sequestration. (5 things we can do in the garden... that's the gist) **Jennifer** will ask Plainfield Conservation for a donation and the PEC will donate. We will have to chip in to make up the difference, about \$100. **Jennifer** will make the poster when date confirmed. Posters will be distributed within the next two weeks. **Nancy** will put ad in VN.
- MAY OR JUNE: Vital Communities will bring us 4 E-Bikes for town use for a month. Two are cargo bikes. This will be an electric bike event at the Cornish Town Hall, similar to the last one. Hopefully **Bill** will be able to demonstrate a conversion again and we will have other interesting types of solar bikes, etc.
- SEPT/OCT: Community Power (Aggregation) with Henry Herndon. **NOTE!** June 5, there will be an informational meeting on Community Power. A Summit drafting the organizational structure. Where?
- HOUSE TOURS: Paget Rd. efficient house and others

SOLARIZE FOR 2021: Briefly discussed. **Brad** and **Steve** will get together statistics for solar kW generated in first two solarize programs and resulting CO2 reduction.

UPCOMING EVENTS. This Friday at 7, Lee Oxenham will explain the Carbon Fee Warrant Article. **Nancy** will open and be there at 6:30. March 18 will be the Energy Roundtable at the Fireside Inn in W. Leb. Dinner (free) at 5. Register thru Vital Com.

REPORT ON PLAINFIELD MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS. From Brad Atwater, Facilities Manager.

NEXT MEETING: April 7 at the Meriden Library as we will meet with weatherize participants in May at the PRML.

Nancy, secretary

**Minutes, April 7, 2020 Zoom Meeting Time: 7:00 - 8:30 pm**

**Attendees:** Evan Oxenham, Jennifer Lenz, Steve Ladd, Brad Atwater, Shideko Terai, Joanna Sharf, Nancy Wightman, Jenny Wightman, Dick Gendron, Will Brown.

**1. Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Approved

**2. Weatherization**

- a. Weatherization without volunteers. Check on Kim Dixon, Emily Lewis (Nancy will) and Joshua Laskcall from Meriden.
- b. Extend raffle period to May 31 and may have a virtual drawing on that date.
- c. NH saves is pausing their work. Steve will reach out to all contractors to see if any are continuing to do work.

**3. New Hampshire Resolution for Climate Action**

- a. 24 towns out of 34 that worked that submitted resolution for town vote passed the resolution. Note that the resolution commits the town select board to send a letter supporting a carbon fee. Cornish passed its resolution, but Plainfield postponed its town meeting to June 13, so no vote.
- b. The signed petitions will be submitted to the NH House of Representatives when it next meets in person.
- c. As the Cornish Select board must submit to state, Nancy asked that Lee confirm when Cornish actually submits results to the state. Johanna said that the select board had until April 10 to submit the letter.
- d. The Cornish Energy committee should contact the Cornish select board after April 10 if Cornish has not submitted the voting results.

**4. Next Educational Presentation:**

**a. Cat Buxton and Henry Swayze?.**

- i. Johanna suggested a zoom meeting for Cat Buxton, need to postpone the current April 16 date.
- ii. Nancy suggest starting a series in the fall (that is moving Cat Buxton to an in person meeting).
- iii. Possibly ask Cat to talk on soil climate and hope and have Henry involved.
- iv. Need to ask Cat if its ok to sharing links for her series that is going on now (Johanna).

**b. Other meeting topics:** solarize and community power.

**c. One issue:** how to get people to participate in a zoom? Investigate Zoom webinar. Go to meeting.

**d. Possible curation of talks of online presentations.**

- i. Present a topic to read and then discuss the topic in a “book club” meeting. Scenario: 1) here is a link to video, and 2) at xyzzy time, tune into a community zoom discussion meeting. 3) see what kind of interest is engaged
- ii. 1) pick a topic (e.g soils/gardens, Johanna suggested “How to make your lawns into sponges to increase infiltration from rain or vegetation that sequester carbon” 2) Pick a moderator.

- iii. Lots of variables: 1) interest level 2) technical difficulties for connecting to zoom 3) choosing a temporal topic —> to test the waters. Hard core or light weight topic.
- iv. Try to run the “book club” trial in the next 10 days within the energy committee test run
- v. Jenny might collect a few videos and to possibly discuss. Jen will send a few options, share w the energy committee. The energy committee will choose, and then post on fb, connect Cornish, Plainfield website
- e. **May or June:** Vital Communities will bring us 4 E-Bikes for town use for a month. Two are cargo bikes. This will be an electric bike event at the Cornish Town Hall, similar to the last one if restrictions have been lifted. Hopefully Bill will be able to demonstrate a conversion again and we will have other interesting types of solar bikes, etc. If need to do Zoom meeting perhaps Bill: can assemble a bike on video.
- f. **June 5, Community Power Summit**
- g. **Sept/Oct: Community Power (Aggregation) with Henry Herndon**
  - i. Need Henry Herndon presentation this year to educate townspeople for NEXT year implementation.
  - h. **House Tours:** Paget Rd. efficient house and others – defer to next year?
- 5. **SOLARIZE for 2021:** Briefly discussed.
  - a. Brad and Steve will get together statistics for Plainfield solar kW generated in first two solarize programs and resulting CO2 reduction.
  - b. Will obtain these from town records of properties that have solar installed and the capacity (kW) of each installation- to get the master list - and that might have some size capacity. Then reach out to the individual property not on town master list but on Energy Committee list for capacity and date of installation.
  - c. Steve - cross reference the town list with the Energy Committee list to check accuracy.
  - d. Cornish - Johanna said Cornish has 50 homeowners. Know the number of panels panels but not specific numbers per house. Add Peter Berlin to list - he has 2 trackers
  - e. If we do solarize in 2021, we need to check into INCENTIVES for 2021 and also the typical price per kW because prices have come down even if credits have diminished. (Evan comment – in 2021: Owners of new residential and commercial solar can deduct 22 percent of the cost of the system from their taxes).
- 6. **Next Meeting** – Tuesday May 5, Zoom meeting.

**Minutes MAY 5, 2020, 7-8:30pm ZOOM MEETING**

**Present:** Evan Oxenham, Ron Eberhardt, Steve Ladd, Jennifer Lenz, Brad Atwater, Bill Cable, Shideko

Terai, Nancy Wightman, Jeni Wightman, Joanna Sharf

**Minutes from April 7, 2020 Meeting.** Evan will make corrections re: attendees & spelling of Peter Burling's name. Minutes approved with those corrections.

**Weatherize 2020.** At the direction of the NHSaves program, contractors are prevented from entering houses and doing work because of COVID-19 at least until May 31. COVID policy will be revisited on that date.

Steve Ladd says 3 households are committed to going forward:

1. Jim & Susan Neill
2. Bob Mathewson
3. Laird Klingler

Nancy said Jo Evarts of Cornish is interested in moving forward with ABC.

NANCY will check into Monica Matthews & Emily Lewis.

We need to follow up on Kim Dixon, Joshua Lasceau. Joanna also intends to participate in program.

Steve sent email on April 9 to all participants & only heard back from the 3 above.

Date for raffle for all who have an energy audit is now extended to July 15.

STEVE will send another email to all about May 31 COVID policy date and the new raffle date.

### **Education.**

JENNIFER LENZ will let us know about upcoming webinars by Didi Pershouse.

Nancy said Woodstock film series was great -- especially Seed to Seed and The Sequel.

We all decided that we would prefer to have the Cat Buxton & Henry Swayze presentation be live. So we will need to wait until it is safe to do that. Maybe next year?

Jeni W. suggested posting on CC about energy projects that people have worked on.

Shideko suggested posting thought-provoking ideas.

Evan mentioned posting case studies.

Joanna suggested a series entitled "Did you know. . . ." Ex.: Cornish School installed LED lights at no up front cost last summer & save ton of energy for school.

ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS will email the whole team as often as they can with blurbs about ideas/projects to be posted on CC.

If no one objects to the ideas submitted, JOANNA will post 1 or 2 ideas per week in CC.

JENN LENZ will post it on Facebook.

STEVE will gather all items posted each month and send them in one monthly email to our Energy Email list.

Brad mentioned that there are 2 ongoing weatherize projects in Plainfield: Philip Reade Library & the Fire Station. Shakes to Shingles is the contractor. That would be good to post on CC.

SOMEONE - JENN L.? should post on CC asking if anyone has tried the Hugelkultur gardening

method, and report on their experience. So far, Evan & Nancy have tried it. Have a competition btwn Plainfield & Cornish Hugelkultur?

### **Energy Committee Web Sites.**

Alexys Wilbur is a good web site designer. Maybe it's worth paying her to improve our web sites?

STEVE will try to get web visiting statistics for Plainfield website.

**E-bikes.** Bill says it's in process. They're working on a policy for safe lending of bikes. Jeni W.

suggested putting a bike rack at the Plainfield Store and locking bikes to it. We are 2nd town on list.

Localmotion is the company behind this project. Ron would know more on latest info.

**Community Power.** Summit is on June 5 - Zoom webinar.

EVAN will ask Henry Herndon if he can do a presentation on community aggregation for Plainfield/Cornish in the Fall.

Nancy suggested it would be great to get a Valley News reporter to come to the Fall event.

**Tabulating Plainfield & Cornish Solar.**

Brad spoke with Steve Halleran. Determined that there are 71 solar sites in Plainfield.

Steve says there is 770kw installed according to his records.

EVAN, STEVE & BRAD will share their lists and combine all info, and gather unknown details from solar owners.

Brad suggested it would be great to post production numbers on CC.

JOANNA will email Cornish solar owners to request production numbers from them.

**Solarize 2021.** Evan provided info on federal & state solar credits/rebates & cost per kw in NH (listed in today's Agenda).

**Portfolio Manager Webinar.** Several of us watched it. Evan said there is a new positive development in that we can now download Eversource energy data automatically for municipal buildings.

EVAN will send webinar info to Brad.

**Next Meeting will be Tuesday, June 2, 2020, 7pm on Zoom.**

### **JUNE 2, 2020, 7-8:30pm ZOOM MEETING**

**Present:** Evan Oxenham, Ron Eberhardt, Jennifer Lenz, Bill Cable, Shideko Terai, Nancy Wightman,

Jeni Wightman, Joanna Sharf & Nick Cohen.

**Minutes from May 5, 2020 Meeting.** Minutes approved.

**Weatherize 2020.** No new update at this point.

**Ebikes.** Ron will find out status. Update: Ron spoke with Bethany Fleishman, Transportation Coordinator at Vital Communities. She has been in touch with Localmotion re: the program. They are working out some kinks, but her best guess is that the ebikes committee will have a meeting within the next couple of weeks and we'll be able to roll out an abbreviated program in late June or early July.

**Community Power.** Summit is on June 5 from 1-4pm - Zoom webinar.

Jen Lenz, Joanna, Nancy & Evan are signed up.

Intro video on community power is very informative.

**Tabulating Plainfield Solar Production.**

Evan sent out spread sheet to Plainfield members. Will send it to Cornish as well.

81 locations incl. residential, commercial, municipal & KUA.

831 kw of installed power yields 831 Mwh per year.

JOANNA will email Cornish solar owners to obtain Cornish data.

JEN LENZ will find out square footage of all houses in Plainfield to calculate town energy usage.

**Education.**

Evan spoke with Henry Herndon about doing a presentation on community aggregation for Plainfield/Cornish in the Fall, and Henry is very willing to do that either in person or via Zoom.

DID YOU KNOW . . . ? Series.

RON wrote up a blurb on electric vehicles that will be posted on Connect Cornish by Joanna.

JOANNA will write a blurb on community power for this series.

EVAN will put together Plainfield solar production data to post for this series.

EVAN will check into status of Lebanon EV charging stations for another post for this series.

NICK COHEN will write up something about the energy efficiency of microwave ovens -- how they have reduced U.S. energy usage by 2%.

BILL is working on a solar oven -- using the sun to cook food. Please write that up for this series also.

EVAN mentioned that San Francisco is renovating a power plant into sustainable housing. Please write that up for this series.

It is recommended that we spread out the posting of these episodes every 2 weeks.

Please email your written submissions for this series to all energy committee members, and after comments, Joanna will post it to Connect Cornish.

### **Transportation.**

Shideko wondered if there is new funding for a bus on Rte. 120. There seems to be renewed activity.

**Next Meeting will be Tuesday, July 7, 2020, 7pm on Zoom.**

## **COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR July. 7, 2020**

ZOOM, 7 TO 8:30

ATTENDEES: Evan Oxenham, Joanna Sharf, Jennifer Lenz, Dan Poor, Nancy Wightman, Ron Eberhard, Shideko Terai, Bill Cable.

Minutes of June 2 approved.

WEATHERIZE: Steve sent report: no new contacts and three unaccounted for: Monica Mathews, unable to connect with, DAN will give it a try. Bill/Lois Fitts, waiting for contract from Bob Eldridge. Sheila Flannagan, said she is moving slowly and understands she won't be ready for the raffle. New contacts: JOANNA will speak to Sarah Gillensl. Cassedys on 12A have contacted Yankee Thermal for an audit.

RAFFLE will be extended to a July 29 Zoom meeting at 7pm. EVAN will write a notice and send to NextDoor and NANCY to Connectcornish. STEVE will send notices of raffle change and update on NHSaves new incentives.

E-BIKES: we will have 2 or 4 bikes from August 10 to Aug.30. RON, BILL, JEN L. will organize. They will be meeting with Sandy Bender of Local Motion July 9 for more details. Bikes will be stored and cleaned between each use at Jen's, inspected weekly and insured by Local Motion. Users will sign up for a time to be determined. An event to experience and learn about these bikes is planned for Aug. 15 at the Fairgrounds or Colby Park. Selectboards have been notified. BILL will write a notice for list serves.



DATA COLLECTION: Plainfield has 81 solar locations for a total of 831 kW installed. Joanna sent out notices to Cornish Solar residences and is waiting for responses.

**JEN L.** will find average electricity use for households using square footage or google!

CPNH INTAKE FORM. Filled out by Joanna and Evan for committees.

EDUCATIONAL/DID YOU KNOW SERIES: Battery article well received. Several contacted Dan. Suzanne Spencer joined the Liberty Utilities battery program and has offered for us to observe the process. Dan independently has batteries with NHEC.

A Plainfield resident has offered her induction oven for a house tour post pandemic.

**BILL** has built a solar oven and is able to bake bread with it - another article for series.

**EVAN** and **NICK** contributions in the works. Community power article after Cornish Selectboard approached.

Joanna suggested a post about NHSaves rebates for energy efficient appliances.

CPNH Zoom Presentation with Henry Herndon being planned for Sept 16<sup>th</sup>. **EVAN** working on this.

PUBLICITY: Connecting with communities discussed. Inviting others to listen in on our Zoom meetings? Websites should include joint and town committee minutes on town sites. Evan has all joint meetings on file. **SHIDEKO** thought it would be good to make minutes available and will post minutes on websites.

NEXT MEETING: Aug. 4, 7 pm. Zoom.

## PLAINFIELD AND CORNISH ENERGY COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 4, 2020

PRML, 7 TO 8:30

ATTENDEES: Jennifer Lenz, Nancy Wightman, Joanna Sharf, Doug Heaton, Nick Cohen, Ron Eberhardt. Dick Gendron.

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Interesting addition: Australia is developing a Lithium Ion Sulfate battery way superior to current ones.

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(Those with names in caps have a job to do.)

### **Minutes August 4, 2020 Zoom Meeting 7 - 8:30 pm**

**Attendees:** Evan Oxenham, Jen Lenz, Shideko Terai, Joanna Sharf, Nancy Wightman, Jeni Wightman, Ron Eberhardt, Nick Cohen, Bill Cable.

**7. Minutes of Previous Meeting:** approved

#### **8. Weatherization**

- a. Raffle – reviewed. Three attended: Nancy, Steve, and Evan, plus Jo Evarts who won the raffle. All eligible people who participated in Weatherize were thrown into the drawing. Event lasted about 20 minutes.
- b. Free Weatherize Webinar with NHSaves – Vital Communities Monday, 8/17 at 12 noon. Blurb will be distributed soon.

#### **9. E-bikes:**

- a. All slots booked – Bill, Jenn, Ron. Jen has been telling people about how to pick up the bikes.

- b. Demo days in Cornish and Plainfield. Many are still open. Transport of bikes: Jen L has a truck so for the Plainfield PRLM parking lot 8/22: Ron will use Jen's truck to bring bikes to library and return the bikes to Jen's. Evan will take extension cords for all three chargers to Plainfield PRLM. Joanna and Evan will make themselves available to help. Cornish Town Hall 8/15: Nancy will open the door. Bill will take extension cords for Cornish. Jen's truck is available to transport bikes from her house to Cornish & back.
- c. *This is the last Friday to send out an announcement WHERE the demos will be.* Bill will put the announcement in *ConnectCornish*. Shideko will put a reminder in the *NextDoor Digest*.

**10. Tabulating Plainfield & Cornish Solar PV**

- a. **Cornish:** Joanna has until 9/4/2020 to gather data.
- b. **Plainfield has this data.**

**11. Next Educational Presentation:**

**a. Did you know. . . ? Series.**

- i. Ron wrote up a blurb on electric vehicles.
- ii. Nancy / Joanna wrote on community power.
- iii. Evan wrote up:
  - 1. Solar PV Electricity Generation in Plainfield. 7.5% are solar powered.
  - 2. Lebanon EV charging stations.
- iv. Evan To Do
  - 1. San Francisco is renovating a power plant into sustainable housing. He will have a write it up by 8/18.
- v. Nick Cohen will write up something about the energy efficiency of microwave ovens -- how they have reduced U.S. energy usage by 2%. He will send it to Joanna soon but no later 8/25

**b. September 16: Community Power (Aggregation) with Henry Herndon at 7 PM.**

- i. Evan contacted Henry Herndon checking on his availability for Sep 16 and the details of his presentation.
- ii. Publicize in the usual ways. Joanna will post on ConnectCornish. For Jen to post on Facebook submit poster anything except PDF. 12% Solution. Shideko will make posters from blurb for ConnectCornish.
- iii. Evan will host and send out the links.

**12. New Business:** We need to reignite efforts for Town Plans for RF 100. So, we need to work on aggregation plans for each town.

**13. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM <I'm smiling>**

**14. Next Meeting** – Tuesday September 1, 2020 at 7 PM by Zoom.

**Minutes Sept 4, 2020 Zoom Meeting 7 - 8:30 pm**

**Attendees:** Evan Oxenham, Shideko Terai, Joanna Sharf, Nancy Wightman, Jeni Wightman, Dick Gendron, Ron Eberhardt, Richard Thompson, Dan Poor, Cable, Zack Hallock, Nick Cohen.

**Amended Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Approved

**Welcome to Richard Thompson and Zack Hallock:** Richard is on the CES facilities committee. He is excited to become more active on the Energy Committee now that he is retired. Yay! Zack grew up in Cornish; wants to be a resource regarding renewables & is an Energy Broker. Yay!

**Weatherization – Review of Webinar – Vital Communities:** straightforward per Evan. “Most of what we’ve seen before.” Gordon Tuttle presented. Talked about rebates and they’ve increased but Liberty probably not going to have much \$\$ available for long.

**E-Bikes Lending Program – Review:**

Successful! Some said they would buy bikes. Get a list of bike shops that sell E-Bikes from Vital Communities. Regarding odometer readings: showed Radwagon mileage was 245, Hard Rock was 208, and Turbo Como was 108 miles. Thanks to everyone!

State DOT Survey on Transportation corridor has closed but a few of us did participate.

Re: 3-Phase Power. There is a 10-mile stretch along Rt. 12A without it. An idea from Jeni W: branding Bike Lane on Rt. 12 A **plus** 3-Phase Power **plus** EV charging station. Re-imagine. Build an aspiration. Maybe a Did You Know?...Series. What about Rt. 120? Maybe get hold of GIS map and map out how to put land to better use, i.e. looking at Regional Planning and rural land development. Check on a Tuck intern? April Salas, maybe check with her for names for interns? Jeni might be able to pursue this idea in a year. Zack says connection costs are too great without 3-phase so this is a good project for us.

**Tabulating Plainfield & Cornish Solar PV:** Cornish – Joanna is still working on this. Shideko offered to help input data on the spreadsheet.

**Community Power:** Zack hasn’t been working on this especially but comes across this quite often in his line of work. Good link on EPA and he will forward this info to us.

**Clean Energy NH/Local Energy Solutions – Conference Oct 29-30:**

More information - <https://www.cleanenergynh.org/les-conference>

**Educational Presentations:**

Did You Know...? Series

Electric vehicles – Ron. Done

Community power – Nancy/Joanna. Done

Solar PV Electricity Generation in Plainfield, Lebanon EV Charging Stations. Evan. Done

Microwave Ovens – Nick Cohen. Done

Solar Oven – Bill Cable. Done

Induction Cooktops – Bill Cable. Done

Renewables are a Good Investment – Joanna. Done

Evan suggests “EV Charging for Dummies” by Rocky Mountain Institute

Nancy suggests “Electric Vehicles”: look for email Nancy sent by Jessica Wilcox

***Community Power Zoom Presentation with Henry Herndon Sept. 16 at 7 PM\* Registration required for Zoom Link***

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYrf--rqTojHdfldEZJvUCvOMUmnOp2d4R0>

Notices placed in ConnectCornish, NextDooor, VNews Calendar (print & online) - done  
Mailchimp email list - done

Poster – done; Paper copies: Evan will distribute in Plainfield; Nancy will distribute in Cornish.

Facebook - Shideko will send .ppt of poster to Jen Lenz to post on Energy Comm. FB page

#### **New Business:**

STILL TO DO – Work on Aggregation plans for each town.

EV charging station at Plainfield Country Store: do some research; Steve will look at the meter. Then we might approach Elaine, the owner.

Steve mentioned the Virtual Button-Up October 6, 2020 at 7 – 8:30 PM. We are Co-Sponsors and our only responsibility is to publicize. We'll still hold PEC-CEC meeting.

**Adjourned at 8:20 PM** Whew!

**Next Meeting** – Tuesday October 6, 2020 at 7-8:3. 0 PM by Zoom.

### **Meeting Minutes, October 6, 2020 on ZOOM at 7:00 - 8:30 pm**

**Attendees:** Evan Oxenham, Lee Oxenham, Jennifer Lenz, Steve Ladd, Shideko Terai, Joanna Sharf, Nancy Wightman, Nick Cohen, Dan Poor, Rich Thompson, Zack Hallock

#### **1. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

#### **2. Tabulating Plainfield & Cornish Solar PV**

- a. Cornish – **Shideko & Joanna** will attempt to get this together by our next meeting 11/10

#### **3. Clean Energy NH – Local Energy Solutions Conference**

4. *Virtual* Conference – October 29 – 30, 2020. More information - <https://www.cleanenergynh.org/les-conference> See LES Conference agenda accompanying this agenda.

#### **5. NH Electric Cooperative's vote to establish high speed internet service through the NHEC.**

- a. Nick discussed the NH Electric Cooperative's vote to establish high speed internet service through the NHEC. The vote items include elimination of the "non-profit" statements in the policy. Why do they want to do this? It may be about getting CARES \$\$\$. Is it necessary for internet service, and do we want that? Working with a vendor that is not non-profit. Lee suggest that Nick contact Don Kries, consumer advocate – a committed "co-op"erator. **Lee will email Nick.** Lee is writing a bill about extending broadband to everybody in NH.

#### **6. Next Educational Presentation:**

##### **a. Did you know. . . ? Series.**

- i. Electric Vehicle Charging for Dummies. **Evan** will write this article based on Rocky Mtn. Institute
- ii. A follow up on electric bikes. **Bill** will write this article. Include resources. Consult with Steve (Fat tire mtn bikes) & Jenn.

- iii. Renewable energy jobs and button-up jobs. **Joanna** will write this article.

**b. September 16: Community Power (Aggregation) with Henry Herndon**

- c. Feedback? Steve L. & Evan agreed that it was disappointing presentation. We advertised it for a technically higher level so Henry could have gotten more technical for the audience that attended. Not worth putting up the recording right now on town websites. But we won't give up on this yet. Suggest someone present this topic again at a more foundational level with target audience being Plainfield & Cornish. Once the aggregation plan is available, we can educate the attendees better. NH Community Power doesn't have much funding. The problems are at the PUC level governing Community Power. The rules aren't clear. Lee saw a really good video by the California experience. **Shideko** will send the slideshow.

**7. New Business:**

- a. EV charging station at Plainfield Country Store: Steve looked at the meter. **Steve** will approach Elaine, the owner with his data and explain how much electricity an EV will actually use on a charge. Thanks, Steve!
  - b. We need to work on aggregation plans for each town. Maybe after the General Election we will be more motivated.
  - c. CLIMATE ACTION: The Legislature set up an "Emissions Commission" to take a science-based look at climate change in NH and figure out next steps and they might or might not recommend emissions-cutting legislation, or firm targets.
  - d. **Zack** will share on his social media contacts (mostly LinkedIn) who live in NH and spread the word to make public comments **Everyone** Make comments directly to the Emissions Commission. Opened up to public comments by Nov. 12. We are facing a climate crisis. Mention any of the effects. "Action is critical to moose, etc. ..." In order to do so, they should have firm targets with measurable data. We had them but these fell by the wayside by Republican pressure. Important priority is to get to Net zero by 2050 as proposed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) – the UN. *This is a real moment for climate action. It is a #1 priority to voters.* Lee will send out a copy of a bill that NH passed in 2009, an earlier climate plan that has been forgotten that says it will have to meet particular timeline of targets, asking DES to provide measurable data.
8. You can send comments to Senator Tom Sherman, chairman of the Emissions Commission. [Thomas.Sherman@leg.state.nh.us](mailto:Thomas.Sherman@leg.state.nh.us) Or <http://nhemissioncommission.com/public-comment> – there is direct access on their website. There is a designated place to write in your comment – helpfully designated as Public Comment.
9. Comments may also be submitted in the mail to:

1. "b-fresh consulting"
2. ATTN: Emission Commission Public Comment
3. 114 N. Main St, Suite 303
4. Concord, NH 0330

10. **Plainfield Specific Business:** Brad Atwater wants to report on work being done in Plainfield. Impacts new Meriden Library, Plainfield Library, Meriden Town Offices, Fire Stations. Need Plainfield specific meeting -- in November sometime. **Evan** will talk to Brad to set this up.

11. **Adjourned** at 8:10 PM

12. **Next Meeting** – Tuesday November 10 at 7 PM

### Minutes, November 10, 2020 on ZOOM, 7:00 - 8:30 PM

**Attendees:** Evan Oxenham, Jennifer Lenz, Dan Poor, Shideko Terai, Bill Cable, Joanna Sharf, Nancy Wightman, Nick Cohen, Zack Hallock, Jordy Green, Ron Eberhardt

1. **Introductions** – Welcome Jordy Green! Each of us introduced ourselves and gave a little background.
2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** – approved
3. **Tabulating Plainfield & Cornish Solar PV**
4. Plainfield did tabulate their town solar PV already. **Joanna and Shideko** will be working on the Cornish data by phone over the next two weeks.
5. **Clean Energy NH – Local Energy Solutions Conference**
6. Evan attended. His take-away was regarding passive houses and the need to get a heat pump clothes dryer.
7. **Next Educational Presentation:**
8. **Did you know. . . ? Series.**
  - i. **Articles written** can be found on the town websites. **Steve & Shideko**
  - ii. **Proposed**
    1. Electric Vehicle Charging for Dummies – **Evan** still to do
    2. Heat Pump Clothes Dryers – **Evan**
    3. DIY eBike conversion workshop summary by **Bill** plus provide the link to the presentation on ConnectCornish.
    4. Upper Valley eBike Lending Library success story. **Bill** will confer with Ron and Jen before he writes the article. Ron gave a summary of the wrap-up meeting and next steps for next year. Plainfield & Cornish will host this again next spring.
9. **DIY eBike conversion workshop over Zoom!** Sponsored by Norwich Energy Committee (Linda Gray). Great attendance of 36. Will be interesting to see how many convert a bike on their own. Karl Kemnitzer gave a lively, yet technical demonstration by video on how to convert an eBike. Q&A was interspersed after certain segments of the conversion process. Bill was a technical advisor on the discussion panel to give his opinions and



comments. The video link will be available through CATV in the next week. **Bill** will be sure to send it to the committee so it can be published on the town websites.

#### **10. Community Power (Aggregation)**

11. Community Power NH – change in NH law is “opt out” so everyone will be included unless they opt out. Public Utilities Commission (PUC) is currently writing rules, and these have yet to be sorted out. Utilities are making this difficult to accomplish. Until rules are finalized, we can’t really do anything at the town level. Henry Herndon said there was a Zoom meeting of the PUC. The PUC determines who can attend the meetings. Members of the public may have to justify their presence. **Shideko** will check with Clif Below on what justifications must be met to attend these meetings. We were reminded that the aggregation plan has to be approved at town meeting. A petition was presented to the PUC and several from PEC\_CEC did sign it asking that they move ahead on writing the rules. *However, it was pointed out by many on this committee that in the meantime education is critical, so....*
12. ...Need another presentation making sure to *urge select board members and other town leaders to attend* – Discuss at our December meeting to plan this for January. Important to get selectboard members from both Plainfield and Cornish there. Five-year electric supply agreement to cut costs for commercial buildings. **Zack**, would you be willing to explain what all this means? Which entities have these electric service agreements? Municipal buildings? Schools? Businesses? **Zack** Hallock volunteered to review the presentations that Henry gave. Zach might present with **Nick** Cohen and have Henry there as expert consultant. **Evan will get the Herndon recordings to Zach and the PEC\_CEC members.**
13. **EV charging station at Plainfield Country Store** – **Steve** looked at the meter. He volunteered to approach Elaine, but we haven’t yet heard if he did or how it went because Steve has been out of town.
14. **New Business** – Work on aggregation plans for each town has been suspended until PUC sets rules.
15. **Plainfield Specific Business:**
16. Brad Atwater reported on work being done on buildings in Plainfield.
17. Plan to convert all heating in town buildings to heat pumps. Include building more town PV arrays (with storage?), and perhaps microgrid. Impacts new Meriden Library, Plainfield Library, Meriden Town Offices, Fire Stations.
18. Next Plainfield Energy committee meeting – Monday, November 16 at 7 pm

**Next CEC-PEC Joint Meeting** – Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at 7:00 PM by Zoom

**Adjourned at 8:10 PM**

#### **CEC PEC Meeting Minutes, December 01, 2020 on ZOOM, 7:00 - 8:30 PM**

**Attendees:** Evan Oxenham, Jennifer Lenz, Ron Eberhardt, Brad Atwater, Dan Poor, Shideko Terai, Bill Cable, Joanna Sharf, Nancy Wightman, Zack Hallock, Jordy Green, Steve Ladd, Nick Cohen, Guest  
**Speaker:** Dean Berg.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** – Dan moved to approve, Joanna seconded. Minutes approved.
2. **Dean Berg** – Green House Gas (GHG) emission-reducing app prototype ready around January. March/April app will be ready. 65-85%GHG are human derived and dependent on fixed resources. The app engages public on a more relational level to change behaviors toward more energy efficient ones. Different approaches are used. Community involvement to accelerate town initiative (Ready for 100, for example); app features is customized to the town. Provides incentive to reduce GHG emissions. Businesses in the towns would offer a coupon as residents accumulate points to be redeemed. It encourages participants to buy local (sustainability standpoint) Green actions = carbon points. Dean showed some of the screens on the app. Behavior changes because you can see points accumulate, perform suggested actions which introduces other energy efficient possibilities. Then redeem these carbon points. *How do the actions get verified?* Based on honor system. Validated by different ways. Can scan QR code to confirm the participant did the suggested activities. For example, went to a local farmers market, or watched a specific video, or read a specific article. (20 total screens are in the app but basically 3 or 4 *core* screens. Redeem points at local businesses. Pilot: Lebanon in midsummer. Upper Valley pilot. It was suggested to Dean that the app be offered as far south as Claremont. Offered to renters and homeowners and limit to 80-100 businesses (diverse set). *How much reduction can possibly be accomplished in 3 mos.?* Data is aggregated. Verifiable grams of carbon reduction. Can then determine which neighborhoods are primarily driving the GHG reduction program the best or which have the most participation. First, start with baseline carbon footprint using public data and justify by people in the household. Don't want to put a roadblock right away with lots of paperwork and pages of survey questions. App will use a default specific to the town. THEN feed some survey questions to the users. Hope to get people to fill out enough questions eventually to gather good data. Exploring upscale versions. The Chamber is on the committee. Looking for towns in upper valley to participate. Works with Vital Communities. Questions to be sent to Dean. Just doing planning meetings now. We can join in January or maybe later. Roll out Upper Valley pilot in April.
  - a. Email from Jon Chaffee from Sustainable Lebanon to Joanna:
  - b. "Sustainable Lebanon is participating in an Upper Valley pilot of a mobile phone app designed to engage citizens in reducing their greenhouse gas emissions and enable them to obtain rewards for their actions as discount coupons at participating businesses. We hope to enroll 300 or so residents for 3 months starting in April or May 2021. If it works well, if there are reductions in the range of 20%, and there is good participation from households and businesses, we would roll out a full scale engagement of citizens some time in late 2021.

Sustainable Lebanon sees this as a way to reach out to our mailing list of Lebanon Residents. Sustainable Woodstock is participating. Vital Communities. There is a working advisory committee. Hanover said they are too busy. Norwich just dropped out (it was a little too pilot for them at this point) and Hartford is in disarray without a point person. I was keeping it simple until this development, but I'm now getting in touch with you to see if you think Plainfield might be interested in the pilot.

3. The developer of the App is Dean Berg. His web site is: <https://pathtoagreenhome.com/>

#### 4. Recording Energy Committee Meetings

5. After some discussion we decided by consensus that we could store on Google drive and keep for a month and see how it goes and then revisit where we want to go from there.

6. **Tabulating Plainfield & Cornish Solar PV:** Cornish – Joanna and Shideko will be working on this soon.

#### 7. Next Educational Presentation:

- a. **“Did you know. . . ?” Series.**

- b. **Proposed:**

- i. Electric Vehicle Charging for Dummies – **Evan** still to do
- ii. Heat Pump Clothes Dryers – **Evan** still to do
- iii. DIY eBike conversion workshop summary by **Bill** still cogitating.
- iv. Upper Valley eBike Lending Library success story – **Bill** is still cogitating
- v. A couple of articles about the lighting improvements using LED in municipal buildings like the firestations and provide links? - **Brad**

- c. **Educational series:** Purpose is to let people know we are around and provides evidence that we are providing education to our townspeople which is often required when applying for grants.

- d. **Community Power (Aggregation)**

- i. Zoom access to PUC sessions. \*Ask Clif Below\* – **Shideko** will call him tomorrow.
- ii. Need another presentation targeting select board members and other town leaders. **Zach and Nick**. Still hasn't been done. Jen will get energy invoice to Zach from Plainfield Library so the presentation will start with something public can relate to.

8. **Next year plans for “E-Bike Lending Library.” Report by Bill Cable** – Funding for 2021: Need \$2,500 to execute the program. This year, donations of \$8,610 were raised. \$7,610 was used to execute the program to buy three bikes, insurance, and sundries to maintain bikes, plus the transport of bikes to the lending sites and payment to the Vermont Local Motion based in Burlington. There was \$1,000 left but there may be a few outstanding expenses. We're exploring funding sources now. If each lending town chips in \$200 and we encouraged donations from each borrower, it would come close to raising the \$2,500 needed. There will be a meeting in January to discuss this in more detail.

9. **EV charging station at Plainfield Country Store**— Steve looked at the meter. He will approach Elaine, the owner to discuss the costs and the benefits of having the charging

station and the effects of how much the charges to an EV owner would disincentivize the use of the charging station. **Steve** promised he will get this back on his radar screen.

#### **10. Ready for 100 Plans**

- a. **Cornish**- Nancy reminded us to update our plan for the next two years. Planning includes the four areas we identified: Education, Local, State, Data collection. Cornish Energy Committee contributed to the Town Master Plan by implementing a survey. The suggestions were included in the Master Plan.
- b. **Plainfield** - Plan to convert all heating in town buildings to heat pumps. Include building more town PV arrays (with storage?), and perhaps microgrid. Working on Ready for 100 plan which will be incorporating these items.
- c. **Heat Pumps – Jordy** is reaching out to people for their experience with heat pumps to show that heat pumps are more efficient. Environmental benefit of heat pumps. **Brad** would like some research to present a proposal to Meriden. Example when boiler failed. Show it as a Ready for 100 solution! The boilers are aging. Helpful for the bigger picture down the road. The environmental bump in the road. Fits in as ongoing discussion.

#### **11. New Business**

- a. Work on aggregation plans for each town – *Thanks to Zach we now have template!* Each town can begin work using this template (and assuming that the PUC rules will not be a problem). Yay Zach!! Next big step will be investigated **by Zach**. The timeline is a possible hurdle to jump.
- b. Start thinking about our Town Reports. May want to collaborate on writing these to list the accomplishments of our PEC\_CEC collaborative. Plainfield's town report is due January 15. Cornish's is due January 21. Let's start making our list of activities and send to Shideko before next meeting. She will write a generic report and then it can be customized for each town to include the town's energy committee's individual accomplishments as well.
- c. Consensus about the app: Table until next month.
- d. Try to plan to schedule presentation of Zach & Nick sometime at end of February or at least before town meeting.

#### **12. Town Specific Business:**

- a. Next Plainfield Energy committee meeting – Monday, December 21 at 7 pm
- b. Cornish next meeting is Dec 7.

#### **13. Next CEC-PEC Joint Meeting – Tuesday January 5 at 7:00 pm?**

**Adjourned at 8:24 PM**