

# Plainfield & Cornish Joint Energy Committee 2021 Minutes

Meeting Minutes, January 05, 2021 on ZOOM, 7:00 - 8:30 PM (recorded)

**Attendees:** Evan Oxenham, Ron Eberhardt, Dan Poor, Shideko Terai, Bill Cable, Joanna Sharf, Jeni Wightman, Nancy Wightman, Zack Hallock, Jordy Green, Steve Ladd.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting** -- Approved

**Dean Berg** - GHG emission reducing app – Not sure how secure the data will be, so we decided we won't advertise as towns, maybe as individuals. We can collect more data after Shideko alpha/beta tests the app. Joanna will send Shideko Dean Berg's contact info. Pilot app not expected to be launched until March or April.

**Short Points of Interest from Recent Zoom meetings/webinars**

**b.a How to Build a Resilient Uninterruptible Microgrid Using Energy Storage** (slides from meeting and meeting notes attached; Nancy tried to join). Evan provided the recording of the webinar.

**b.b Weatherize Seminar:** Steve, Bill, & Shideko attended. More advanced; Andy is a dynamic speaker. The UV Climate Action Digest. Recordings available so need to post these on the town websites.

**b.c Legal Considerations - ?** Maybe someone can fill this in and Shideko will amend these minutes.

**Next Educational Presentation:**

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

**Proposed**

1. Solar panels – 85% efficient after 25 yrs. -Joanna
2. Green energy business has sustained itself during pandemic esp. solar panels, heat pumps
3. DIY eBike conversion workshop summary by **Bill**. 2 articles and then a survey will go out regarding the topic of a eBike Lending Library.
4. Upper Valley eBike Lending Library success story - **Bill**

b. **Community Power (Aggregation)**

1. Zoom access to PUC sessions – **Shideko** emailed Cliff Below but no response yet. Evan was asked to keep reminding us about our letter writing to PUC Council & Governor. Discussion regarding Sununu appointing Michael Brown as director of the PUC and its affect upon community power.
2. Need another presentation targeting select board members and other town leaders. **Zach** and Nick. Not much progress connecting with Nick but did work on a plan for the approach used in the presentation: using town's invoice identifying components of delivery and identifying components of supply. Community aggregation centers around the supply side of the bill. Makes sense for our two towns in terms of having the ability to solicit a rate rather than the utility company telling us what it will be. Zach intends to prepare presentation in two weeks as his self-imposed deadline. We need to start talking it up to the selectboard members. Zach said he would love to catch up with Scott Baker. Cornish town meeting may take advantage of an alternative form in early March using virtual meeting. Dan said it is a busy time for school board. We agreed by consensus to schedule this public presentation for Earth Day, April 22. Zach said anytime. He'll have it ready by second week in February.
3. Shideko added minutes from Cornish Selectboard. She wasn't aware of this:  
"Town of Cornish Selectmen's Meeting Minutes Friday, September 11, 2020 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm Present: John Hammond, Scott Baker, Lyle Parry 1. BOS reviewed mail and invoices. 2. Rosa Sousa talked about a building permit for Jonesville Road. 3. Skip Erskine talked about Highway Department business and about pouring a concrete slab for the new dumpster to sit on at the Recycling Center. We voted to install it before winter. Also talked about changing the catch basing at the Town Hall that needs to be replaced. 4. **Board voted to appoint the**

**members of the Cornish Energy Committee to be the Cornish Energy and Electric Aggregation Committee.** 5. Lois Fitts talked about the noise in the Town Hall at voting and had an idea to stop some of the echo. 6. The Board voted all in favor to change town legal counsel from Buckley & Zopf to Drummond and Woodsum Attorney at Law. 7. Board left to do site visits and visit the Highway Department. Respectfully submitted, Scott Baker”

#### **EV charging station at Plainfield Country Store**

Jordy Green spoke to Anne and Elaine. See e-mail that Evan sent out with tonight’s agenda. Jordy explained that the difficulty is that electricity is highest cost of doing business there at the Country Store. Billing is not very clear. Refrigeration is the highest consumption of electricity. Both Anne and Elaine said EV charging station is a slow charger (it is actually a Level 2); not used that often. Unlocked? We agreed that it isn’t an advantage to have the charging station left unlocked. Jordy agreed to have another discussion with Elaine. Not a condition of sale when Elaine bought the store from Anne so having the charging station is a matter of visibility for the work of both the Plainfield & Cornish Energy Committees. So we will proceed in a friendly way. Get this back open again. Steve Ladd calculations were made using residential rates, not commercial rates. Tried to look up rates for Eversource. Most depended on fixed overhead. Steve offered to study this a little further before Jordy approaches Elaine. Helping Elaine figure out her electric bill may be a way to engage Elaine and educate her on what is actually using the electricity in her business, i.e., how much electricity is being used each year. Jordy can get a copy of the electric bill and give to Zach who can explain the details of these bills.

#### **Energy Survey of Town Residents, Businesses**

Base this on work done by the Sharon VT Energy Committee in 2018

Get New England Grassroots Economic Fund grant

The presentation from Sharon VT Energy Committee was attached to tonight’s agenda by Evan. If you haven’t taken a look, consider this as a possible template for a survey by Plainfield. Cornish will discuss this at their next meeting on Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>.

What did Cornish do for their survey? Shideko explained the process & timeline used to work with Planning Board and added questions to the survey to determine the energy portion of the Cornish Town Master Plan. Plainfield will work on this. Google Forms survey: **Bill & Steve** will work on this together. Although an email survey won’t include those residents who don’t have email, it will reach many people; as an alternative, could have a hard copy of the survey available to pick up at the town libraries and/or residents could be alerted by word-of-mouth in different ways such as phone calls.

#### **Ready for 100 Plans**

**Planning** includes the four areas we identified: Education, Local, State, Data collection- What about a “joint” plan. That is what we should be concerned about.

**Cornish** - Update plan for the next two years.

**Plainfield** - Writing Ready for 100 Plan. Evan busy working on this. Modifying plan so ready for next Plainfield Energy Committee meeting. Basis for municipal is weatherization and look at electrification. Maybe Town Hall will be first? Still pending decision (tomorrow night). Plainfield has ready has done a lot.

**Green energy projects** are going to be run through the State. Fed programs will be run through the state. Not optimistic. Funding is available through utilities.

**Town Reports-** Submitted to Plainfield. **Joanna** is working on Cornish’s which is due

**New Business – Bill:** Weatherization. Bill applied for free weatherization materials: sliding window COVER Home Repair. Colleen O’Neil is on the Board of Directors. COVER has a lot of weatherization supplies for DIY homeowners because of COVID-19 pandemic. Bill plans to do a “Did You Know?” article about his experience getting supplies from Cover and installing them.

**NEXT MEETINGS:**

(Next Plainfield Energy committee meeting – Monday January 18 at 7:00 pm (We will try to keep to the third Monday of month as a regular meeting time)

(Next Cornish Energy Committee meeting – Monday, January 11 at 7 PM; we meet on the second Monday of the month as a regular meeting time)

**\*\*\*Next CEC-PEC Joint Meeting – Tuesday February 2 at 7:00 pm\*\*\***

**Meeting Minutes, February 02, 2021 on ZOOM, 7:00 - 8:30 PM (recorded)**

**Attendees:** Evan Oxenham, Dan Poor, Brad Atwater, Shideko Terai, Bill Cable, Jen Lenz, Joanna Sharf, Jeni Wightman, Nancy Wightman, Ron Eberhardt, Jordy Green, Nick Cohen, Doug Heaton, Steve Ladd.

**Minutes of 01-05-2021** – approved as amended

**Dean Berg GHG emission reducing app – Shideko** reported that she has joined the team getting sponsorship from businesses. The app (being developed by Path to a Green Home) is a way to encourage behavior that helps to reduce carbon footprint and rewards the participant through gift coupons. The app is called Sustainable Nature App or SNAPP. Shideko hasn’t tried out the app yet, but she is excited to see how it works. She will continue to report back to us.

**Plainfield Store** – Jordy: a lot of education given to Elaine regarding her electric bill. Next step: ask her to give Zack permission by solar power installer to monitor electricity. **Zack and Jordy** can give her more consulting sessions. Hopefully, goodwill can move us in the direction of generously take off the \$5 fee for EV charging station use and unlock it during the day. The charging station shows up on PlugShare®. “Elaine is smiling and interested.”

**Next Educational Presentation:**

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

**Proposed:**

2. Do you know what a Heating Degree Day Is? – **Doug Heaton** said what got him interested are articles in VNews etc. For ex., Antartica degree day calculations 10° and -10° doesn’t reflect colder climates. Much discussion and we agreed it is a good topic for ConnectCornish. Modifier on degree days is the K Factor used by oil companies. **Brad** is interested in having a conversation with **Doug**.
3. Chemistry of Batteries – **Evan**. Much discussion. The idea arose from an article that Dick Gendron mentioned. Nancy & Evan worked on it. Beginning with Battery Basics with subsequent installments; concentrate on solar, bikes, cars. Batteries that are rechargeable and the differences. Flow batteries. Cost vs. Benefit. Lynch pin to new battery technology leading to RF 100 and battery applications.
4. eBike series second installment by **Bill** on E-Bike lending library. 3<sup>rd</sup> installment will be a survey and more like “Let us know...”

5. Solar panels – 85% efficient after 25 years by **Joanna**. Nancy would like an article in the next few weeks.
6. Green energy business has sustained itself during pandemic esp. solar panels, heat pumps. **Joanna** She has other topics in mind as well.
7. Article about experience getting supplies from COVER and DIY weatherization. Delayed because of weather but will write a short article and not as comprehensive – **Bill**

### **Community Power (Aggregation)**

1. Need another presentation targeting select board members and other town leaders. Last meeting, we **scheduled this for Earth Day, April 22**. **Nick** will call Zach.
2. HB 315 – Need everyone to oppose this bill by registering on the Gencourt website. Once the information is available **Evan** will alert us. It WILL destroy Community Power in NH. Need selectboard to sign off on this and Ron said meeting is tomorrow. Asked **Evan** to attend meeting. Hearing has not been scheduled for HB315. Can submit testimony by email.
3. Sign on to letter that Henry Herndon wrote and Evan has distributed to us via email. Evan said the PUC will convene on Feb 15 so time is a wastin'.
4. Carbon pricing public hearing took place yesterday. This bill is asking for a study committee to look at regional and national carbon pricing and what potential impact this would have on NH. More details to come...
5. Note that at its September 11, 2020 meeting the Cornish Select Board voted to appoint the members of the Cornish Energy Committee to be the Cornish Energy and Electric Aggregation Committee. **Joanna**

### **Energy Survey of Town Residents, Businesses**

1. Plainfield has developed a survey in Google Forms which has been sent out for review by the Plainfield Energy Committee. Evan has been working with Steve Ladd. 4 people have responded. Feedback was discussed. Takes about 5 minutes. if you have the information requested on hand. Trying to get a baseline of energy usage in the town. Generally, consensus is that the survey is long. Suggested could be three smaller surveys by topic. Plainfield has GIS to get square footage. Brad Atwater suggested looking at aggregated data from town tax card. Jen suggested looking at Zillow real estate. **Brad** volunteered to call CAI.
2. Cornish will look at the survey some more. Cornish has Avatar as a source for data.

### **Ready for 100 Plans**

1. **Cornish** - Plan to update for the next two years is in the future as more other priorities are at hand.
2. **Plainfield** - Writing Ready for 100 Plan. Delayed by need to write comments on HB 315 and work on Plainfield Energy Survey.

**Other business – Nancy** would like a solar expo for the fall. **Jeni** thought about a solarize campaign among municipalities. Doug enquired about Cornish Town lighting. Doesn't qualify for programs that Eversource has. Low runtime. Doug is staying on this.

### **Next Meetings**

Next Plainfield Energy committee meeting – Monday February 15 at 7 PM (We will try to keep to the third Monday of month as a regular meeting time)

Cornish – Monday, February 8 at 7 PM. We meet on the second Monday of the month as a regular meeting time.

**Next CEC-PEC Joint Meeting – Tuesday March 2 at 7:00 pm**

## Meeting Minutes, March 02, 2021 on ZOOM, 7:00 - 8:30 PM

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

### Minutes of 02-02-2021 – Approved

**Dean Berg GHG emission reducing app “SNAPP”** – Shideko suggested the four area hospitals as possible supporting businesses because of their programs to reduce medical waste responsibly and have made improvements that can reduce green house gas emissions. Also, a list of possible businesses from Plainfield, Cornish, and Claremont was submitted; for example, the bicycle shop, Claremont Cycle Depot was on the list. Communication with Reb MacKenzie who chairs the Claremont Energy Committee was initiated. Reb is interested. The sponsor letter and the video that demos the app will be sent to her. Shideko drafted a version of the SNAPP Sponsor Letter that doesn't call our region the "Upper Valley." As Ron pointed out and Nick said in a previous meeting, geographically Claremont is part of the Upper Valley. Unfortunately, there is a misperception that sometimes snubs Claremont from activities such as this, thus the rewording of the letter to be more inclusive. Next steps: Someone is working with Upper Valley Business Alliance & Vital Communities to figure out an approach to getting sponsorship money from 20 companies that were identified. A team is working on a marketing plan. And a Project/Program Manager position was posted last week. Do you know of anyone that might be a good fit? *Embedded link to video that demos SNAPP (page 4) and more concrete info can be found in the attached letter. See pages 3 & 4 of these notes.*

**Plainfield Store EV Charger** – Updates. Zack met Elaine on-site. Nothing glaringly wrong with the system. Eversource bills didn't show details; most solar was used behind the meter meaning used at the store and no surplus energy went out to the grid. Brite Light helping to manage the system. To get a real time dashboard, it will probably come from Eversource to install the program to determine if it is solar, grid, or a mixture. Zack is waiting for a call back. Waiting for this dashboard to walk Elaine through it to understand her energy use. Steve Ladd read the charging meter in Sept. Zack can get a reading on March 19/20 and then compare with the Sept reading. Elaine uses a 3<sup>rd</sup> party supplier. 8 cents flat so good rate. All this won't impact anything but will be a resource of education for Elaine and may help EV charging station be more of a resource than a perceived hindrance to her business.

### Next Educational Presentation:

#### A. “Did you know. . . ?” Series.

#### Proposed

Nancy said we need more new articles.

- EV charging article already written by Joanna and ready to submit to ConnectCornish.
- Jordy will write an article about electric pickup trucks/delivery trucks and get it to Nancy tonight
- Bike series by Bill with survey will be held off until May
- Solar panels – 85% efficient after 25 yrs. -Joanna will get more out soon.
- Green energy businesses have sustained themselves during pandemic esp. solar panels, heat pumps, and vehicles like Jaguar. - Joanna
- Stonyfield Yogurt Company - Joanna
- Nick mentioned getting lots of info about energy. He will pick a few and get to Nancy. Pick an excerpt or an introductory paragraph. “If Nancy can understand it then others will.” He will send articles to Nancy.
- Article about experience getting supplies from Cover and installing – Bill

**B. Community Power (Aggregation) – Community Power Presentation (intent as part of RF100 goal):** Scheduled for Earth Day, April 22 at 7 PM - virtual. Zack will write the blurb by next week and send it to all of us. Targeting select board members and other town leaders like zoning board, finance committee, planning board, and school board. Invite them by EMAIL before April. Provide info and have it discussed in an upcoming selectboard meeting. Ask for list from Michele for Plainfield. Cornish info for the boards is in the Cornish phone book. Evan will set up Zoom details and registration information plus a reminder with the Zoom link the day before the event. Steve will send out to email list. Other electronic outreach such as Connect Cornish, Vital Communities newsletter, LEC, etc. Zach and Nick have made progress on the plans for the presentation. Zack will produce the video (from Henry Herndon's) including an ex. redacted Philip Read Memorial Library electric bill to identify components. He will send it to Nick for review to present in a way as to strike balance with audience. Will have it ready in a few weeks and no later than by end of March.

**HB315** NHPR The Exchange had a good program on this with Henry Herndon. Legislative work sessions on the bill in partnership with Clifton Below to draft amendment. Clean Power NH. House ST&E will meet this Friday to hold a formal work session on the bill and proposed amendment which may make HB315 possible. Had 2 sessions since there were so many speakers to testify. ST&E is likely to hold its Executive Session vote on the bill on Monday 3/8. Most of committee work will finish up next week. Crossover will have another round of public hearings. Lee & Evan will keep us informed. Note: Henry Herndon has a virtual meeting on March 18 10:30 to Noon to join Community Power coalition. Evan will attend and could report back to us on this. Others from Cornish are encouraged to attend.

### **Energy Survey of Town Residents, Businesses**

Plainfield has developed a survey in Google Forms which has been sent out for review by the Plainfield Energy Committee. Steve Ladd says we should get this survey out soon and note that it is to Plainfield residents only. **Brad** volunteered to call CAI to see if we could get community wide aggregated data from town tax card. Cornish is invited to model a survey after Plainfield results come back.

**Energy Expo:** Plan for fall Saturday, Sept 11 and next weekend as rain date. At Plainfield School, What? Solar & Weatherize, heat pumps, electric tools, E-Bikes. Liberty for batteries and other companies - Joanna. EVs show and tell. Contact vendors to make presentations now. Solaflect has been installing Sonnen batteries. Steve & Evan will contact Revision, Norwich Technologies, Kim Quirk, etc. Continue discussion next month and nail down details. Bill will talk with Cover.

**Community Wide Solarize Campaign?** Wait until next year. Which communities, when, etc?

**Other business –** Miller's about Barrington Power - Zack's impression: got hung up with tax status. Originally as residential rate but instead town deemed as higher tax bracket. Barrington is eating more costs than the system can generate. The hope was town would re-rate tax structure. Zack reached out to Avatar. Joanna said Cornish Energy Committee will discuss this further.

**Adjourned around 8:10 PM**

### **Next Meetings**

Next Cornish Energy committee meeting – Monday March 8 at 7:00 pm

Next Plainfield Energy committee meeting – Monday March 15 at 7:00 pm

**Next CEC-PEC Joint Meeting – Tuesday April 6 at 7:00 pm**

March 2021

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

SNAPP (Sustainable Nature APP) is a new app that provides guidance to individuals in making sustainable choices resulting in lowered carbon footprint. Sustainable Lebanon is sponsoring the 3-month pilot of the app soon to be launched in our region of the Connecticut River Valley. The app rewards people when they have chosen sustainable actions by letting them pick a coupon offered by participating local businesses. The idea is to promote both shopping locally and helping the planet. The app is created by Path to a Green Home / Greenopia and has been developed to engage individuals and households of any demographic throughout our region.

There is no charge for your business to participate. Businesses will be listed in the app's directory and may offer incentives or discounts as you choose. The program will also provide a 'green' rating for each participating business at no charge (note green leaves next to business name in app screen to right). This will provide further incentive for local consumers concerned about the environment to shop your business.

Additionally, we have sponsorship opportunities for businesses who want to further support sustainability in the our region of the Connecticut River Valley. Sponsors will be provided significant visibility as it relates to the pilot. This includes being listed on all marketing materials and listed as a sponsor within the mobile app itself. Please see sponsorship details on the following page.

Thank you for your time and we hope that you will consider supporting this sustainability initiative, SNAPP.

With Kind Regards,

### SNAPP Sponsorship Opportunities

As noted in the letter, we have sponsorship opportunities for businesses who want to support sustainability even further in the Upper Valley.

Sponsors will be provided significant visibility—including being listed on all marketing materials and listed as a sponsor within the mobile app itself.



For more information about the SNAPP initiative, a demo of the app, and a sign-up form, please visit the web page [here](#).

Sponsorship Levels:

Level	Cost	Recognized in app directory & on website	Enhanced listing in app directory	Recognized in all promotional materials	Business Spotlight in app & social channels
Platinum	\$1,000	x	x	x	X
Gold	\$500	x	x	x	
Silver	\$250	x	x		
Bronze	\$100	x			

100% of the sponsorship money will be used to support this pilot in the Upper Valley. It will pay for items like: awareness and promotion of the initiative, customization of the mobile app for specific Upper Valley towns and initiatives, project management of the program, technical support, and assessing/rating the 'green' score of the participating businesses.

For more information about the SNAPP initiative, a demo of the app, and a sign-up form, please visit the web page [here](#). Or, feel free to contact **Dean Berg at dean.berg@pathtoagreenhome.com**.

**Meeting Minutes, April 06, 2021 on ZOOM, 7:00 - 8:30 PM**

**Attendees:** Bill Cable, Dick Gendron, Evan Oxenham, Lee Oxenham, Joanna Sharf, Nancy Wightman, Ron Eberhardt, Steve Ladd, Shideko Terai, Zack Hallock.

**Minutes of 03-02-2021** – Approved

**Next Educational Presentations:**

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

**Proposed**

Next articles:

Battery – report from recycle batteries from Union of Concerned Scientists

Green energy

StonyField

Rebates Reprise

**Community Power (Aggregation)**

**Earth Day Community Power Presentation:**



8. Targeting select board members and other town leaders. Scheduled for Earth Day, April 22 at 7 PM. Invitations have been sent out to Steve Halloran and Cornish boards and the event advertised on Connect Cornish, e-mail list, Nextdoor. **Evan** will put it in the VNews Calendar.
9. Progress of slide presentation and Zack will be the live presenter. Program will be recorded. Evan requested that **Zack** send the slide deck to all of us and Zack welcomes comments. 20 min. for slides and then the remainder for Q&A with raise hand feature. **Evan** will run the hosting.

### **HB315.**

Committee Report: Good news! Ought to Pass with Amendment #2021-0748h (passed by vote 18-0) – amendment drafted by Clif Below (mostly). Will be voted on by full house the end of this week. Next on to the Senate. Hopefully, PUC will continue along with the rule making.

### **Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH)**

1. Meeting on March 18
2. Asking towns to sign up. Interesting how many towns already are interested. The communities represented at the meeting jointly use about 1.6 million megawatt hours per year, spend about \$113 million on their energy supply and are from all regions of New Hampshire. CPCNH estimates that at launch the number of their rate payers will be similar to Liberty.
3. Presentation from meeting attached. There's a link to the recording.
4. CPCNH is encouraging communities to join CPCNH
5. Harrisville has completed their Community Power Electric Aggregation Plan – goes to Town Meeting for approval in May. Check the website. Nancy said it is excellent.
6. Cornish & Plainfield needs to get their aggregation plan together so it will be ready for next year's town meeting. This would look similar to what Harrisville has done.
7. Towns can join CPCNH at any time they want. Can join without actually being committed to it without a plan being adopted. The selectboard agrees to join the coalition. Joint powers agreement (JPA) is the legal commitment. Evan will send out the "idiots guide." A lawyer will need to take a look at the agreement.

### **Energy Survey of Town Residents, Businesses**

Plainfield survey in Google Forms has been advertised to all Plainfield Residents. As of April 3, there were 38 responses, one from a renter. It's getting there. We can keep on pushing the survey. Maybe a paper survey at the town meeting? Put them on the seats. Station someone to collect surveys as townspeople exit. Continue to collect surveys in a drop box at town office. **Steve** will talk to Steve Halloran about this.

### **E-Bike Program**

Repeat from last year under the Burlington Local Motion. Since it is a grant through VT will have to contribute \$200 as seed money, \$100 for each town. The program will start around Sep 1 for 3 weeks. Funding – Plainfield can contribute \$100. And others in Cornish are willing to contribute Cornish's fee. So be ready with money in July. Coordinate E-Bike lending program with Energy Expo.

### **Energy Expo**

Plan for fall – Saturday September 11 – rain date the following Saturday. **Steve** will check ASAP with Plainfield Elementary School if 9/11 will work for them. At Plainfield Elementary School - gymnasium What? Solar & Weatherize, heat pumps, electric tools, E-Bikes, EVs on display, and presentations. **Bill** will check with E-Bike businesses. Liberty for batteries and other companies - **Joanna**. Ask NHSaves to make a presentation - **Joanna**... Gordon Tuttle for NHSaves and EverSource - **Joanna**. \*Let other

energy committees know about our Energy Expo ASAP and ask for them to sponsor the program - **Evan**. **Bill** will mention at E-Bike committee meeting tomorrow. Nancy mentioned that we need to keep a list of all the energy committees so all of us can access them readily. It was suggested that Vital Communities is the best resource for this list of ECs. **Evan** will contact Solaflect and about Sonnen batteries and has already contacted Revision Energy and Norwich Technologies for solar installations. (Heat pumps: Nate Bergeron is from Plainfield. Nate Moore is from Springfield). There's a guy from Plymouth State who might do a presentation on heat pumps - **Joanna**.

### **New NH Department of Energy Proposed in State Budget Legislation**

PUC, site evaluation committee, ocean & wind energy committee etc. Pull the administrative functions from the PUC and have them as independent entities and moved into this new NH Department of Energy. Several divisions. Intention is to make it a more focused department. Concern is the link to the federal level DOE under Republican influence and state influence of our Republican Governor. SEC has no budget. No input from STE committee. NHDOE is being presented as part of the state budget. All being done behind closed doors. Nothing positive on the energy front. Ongoing proceedings to make this more transparent. Keep your ears open.

<https://nhfpi.org/resource/the-governors-budget-proposal-for-state-fiscal-years-2022-and-2023/>

**Other Business:** Solid state batteries would be a great step forward for battery technology.

### **Next Meetings**

Next Cornish Energy committee meeting – Monday April 12 at 7:00 pm

Next Plainfield Energy committee meeting – Monday April 19 at 7:00 pm

**Next CEC-PEC Joint Meeting – Tuesday May 4 at 7:00 pm**

**Adjourned at 8:15 PM**

### **Meeting Minutes, May 04, 2021 on ZOOM, 7:00 - 8:30 PM**

**Attendees:** Bill Cable, Dan Poor, Evan Oxenham, Joanna Sharf, Nancy Wightman, Ron Eberhardt, Shideko Terai, Zack Hallock.

**Minutes of 04-06-2021** – Amended minutes approved. Shideko will make the suggested changes and send them out.

### **Next Educational Presentations:**

**Did you know. . . ? Series for ConnectCornish.**

**Proposed Next articles:** several in the works but not mentioned-

New suggestions discussed: **Evan** - Types of battery storage: Lithium ion, zinc oxide, etc. and

Community power: Evan will write an update on this to keep it in the public spotlight

### **COMMUNITY POWER (AGGREGATION)**

#### **Earth Day Community Power Presentation:**

Feedback: Excellent job! Good attendance. Each energy committee may want to check in with their Selectboard to see if they have any questions about Community Power. The link was sent to them. The YouTube link was sent to Plainfield Selectboard. Joanna will send the Cornish Selectboard the link, also. It will be published on ConnectCornish as well. Joanna?

**HB315** Update: Full House passed the bill with amendment. It was passed by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. Next: On to the Senate for a vote.

**SB91** has related issues to allow CPCNH to buy power directly from a community array. Basically in favor. Looking optimistic. Sununu supported in the past.

**Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH):** “Roadmap to Community Power Webinar” Part 1 was today at noon. Explained how towns can join CPCNH. Most of the PEC\_CEC members attended. Evan will send out the link to the recording. He suggests that everyone should listen to this particular webinar. It was mentioned by Zack that this webinar series continues on 5/13 at 5:30 PM. 5/25 at 5:30 PM and 6/10 at 5:30 PM. [www.CPCNH.org](http://www.CPCNH.org) We should look at website to see template Energy Aggregation Plan, EAP. Take a look at Harrisville.

**ACTION:** It was agreed that both our towns will work on this EAP together. Evan will organize this effort.

Joanna will wait for a few months to approach the Cornish Selectboard as we iron out JPA (joint power agreement). The JPA t needs to be reviewed and approved by each town selectboard. Ultimately it gets reviewed by PUC. Can certainly work on the EAP now in order to get help from CPCNH.

**Installing Commercial Solar in NH:** Joanna gave an update on how difficult it is to install commercial solar in NH. Doug Miller’s land for example. A guy who is a solar installer in Lempster is experiencing the same problem as Barrington power. David Russell of Barrington Power explained the predicament he faced in Cornish. Also had this happen with wind turbines in Lempster. Had not assessed solar power at all until Avitar. Terry Donoghue reiterated how difficult it is for solar installers, ex. Plainfield School. Cornish Energy Committee wants to pass a warrant article for a flat tax rate for solar installations that is low. Maybe someone would research Avitar and discuss over email what is learned about them. Shideko?

### **Energy Survey of Town Residents, Businesses**

Plainfield survey in Google Forms has been advertised to all Plainfield Residents. As of today, there were 50 responses, a participation rate that has not changed in the last two weeks. Low response.

Plainfield will distribute a flyer at Town Meeting to try to stimulate participation and **Evan** will send out reminders on ConnectCornish and Nextdoor.

**E-Bike Program** update: **Bill** - We paid the \$200 fee. Got some pledges to cover this.

### **Energy Expo**

- Date: Saturday September 11 – rain date the following Saturday.
- Location: is still in question. Having it at Plainfield Elementary School may present some problems by virtue of pandemic. Evan will contact them. Cornish Town Hall? Plainfield Town Hall are other possibilities.
- Program possibilities: Vendors for Solar & Weatherize, heat pumps, electric tools, E-Bikes, EVs on display, and presentations.
- Status of presenters: still exploring. **Joanna** will contact Gordon Tuttle for NHSaves and EverSource about a possible presentation and a booth. Joanna will contact Andy Duncan from Lakes Region Community College to present Button Up. **Evan** will contact Solaflect (Bill Bender) and Sonnen about display table with literature on batteries. Revision has plenty of programs. Batteries and heat pumps. **Bill** wants a speaker on electric cars, electric vehicles. He will look into NH EV group NHEC.com *Drive Electric*.

- Status of vendors: **Bill**- checked with Claremont Cycle Depot. They are interested in having a table about E-bikes. COVER is interested in having a table on weatherization and info on their organization; but needs more details about the Energy Expo. So once the plans unfold, he will get back to COVER. **Joanna**- has offered to contact Liberty to see if they want to have a table on batteries. She will also check with the other utilities. She will also contact Dana Fischer, area manager for Mitsubishi about table on heat pumps.
- Status of outreach and sponsors: **Evan**- Let other energy committees know about our Energy Expo and the date ASAP and ask for them to sponsor this with basic idea to get the word out. There's a guy who might do a presentation on weatherization/Button-Up that Steve Ladd suggested to

### **Next Meetings**

Next Cornish Energy committee meeting – Monday May 10 at 7:00 pm

Next Plainfield Energy committee meeting – Monday May 17 at 7:00 pm

**Next CEC-PEC Joint Meeting – Tuesday June 1 at 7:00 pm**

**Adjourned at 8:12 PM**

### **ENERGY COMMITTEE Joint Meeting, July 6, 2021 at 7pm via Zoom**

**ATTENDEES:** Evan Oxenham, Joanna Sharf, Bill Cable, Dan Poor, Nick Cohen, Nancy Wightman

**MINUTES** of June 1 approved.

### **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**

\* Did You Know? Series: Evan will submit a battery article and Nancy will send in the Empire State Building retrofit..

\*Community Power Aggregation, CPA: Hanover Manager Julia Griffin hosted a zoom meeting about Community Power in preparation of the Hanover Town Meeting vote to join the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire, CPCNH. This recorded meeting will be sent to Connectcornish as a DYK?

**PLAINFIELD ENERGY SURVEY:** At the Plainfield Town Meeting Evan collected a few more surveys which brings the total to 89 or 8.3% of 1076 residents. Go to the Plainfield website to see the breakdown.

**ENERGY EXPO:** Saturday, September 11, 11 am to 3 pm in Plainfield Elem Gym

\*THIS WILL ALL BE DECIDED BY **JULY 17** OR IT WILL BE POSTPONED TO SPRING.

\***EVAN:** Confirm whether or not we can use the school gym, music room, outside parking lot and table usage. Contact ReVision and Bill Bender of Solaflect about attending. **Joanna** will send Evan Bender's contact info.

\***BILL:** confirm attendance of the Claremont Cycle Depot (E-Bikes), Cover Home Repair and Sarah Brock of Vital Communities.

\***JOANNA:** Contact NHSaves, Mitsubishi rep, Mascoma Bank about low-cost loans, Julia Griffin (CPA) and Rivian Truck.

\*Publicity: Joanna and Evan will send Nancy their contacts for publicity and **Nancy** will group all for a more efficient way to send out announcements.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** In person meetings in the future but for now our meetings will be on Zoom.

**NEXT MEETING:** August 3 at 7pm on Zoom.

### **ENERGY COMMITTEE Joint Meeting, August 10, 2021 at 7pm via Zoom**

**ATTENDEES:** Evan Oxenham, Joanna Sharf, Bill Cable, Dan Poor, Nick Cohen, Nancy Wightman  
**MINUTES** of July 6 approved.

### **EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS:**

- a) **DYK?** Submissions. Evan shared a solar aviation article.
- b) **CCPAC.** Plainfield has started the process to sign the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA). Public Hearing August 18, 7pm via zoom on Plainfield website.

### **ENERGY EXPO: Present Schedule**

Music Room: Solaflect presentation	11:30 am
Ted Styles, Weatherization	12 noon
Henry Herndon, CPA	1pm
Mascoma Bank	1:30
Ted Styles, Weatherization	2:00
Classroom # ? Sarah Brock, Vital Communities	12 noon
Simple Energy, Heat Pumps	12:30
Catamount, Solar, Home Battery	1:30
NHSaves	2:00
Gym: Tables for informational leaflets	
Bill and Karl DIY EV Bike Workshop at 4 people to direct and answer questions.	12 noon
Outside: EV Bike loan	10 am – 3pm
Shideko, Ron, Dan Jen, Bill	
EV Ford Mustang Mock E, Leaf, Tesla	
Evan & Nick	

This schedule will be sent to presenters for their OK. JOANNA

### **PUBLICITY:**

After schedule OK'd by venders, JOANNA will send schedule to environmental groups, and NANCY send to Energy Committees including Enfield. Information sheets with schedule to hand out

**SIGNAGE:** Bill has several large 24 x 30" boards to place signs on. Sign-in sheet, Parking sign, Vendors, Name tags.

**NEXT MEETING:** August 24, 7pm, via Zoom

## **ENERGY COMMITTEE MINUTES, AUGUST 24, 2021 on ZOOM, 7:00**

**ATTENDEES:** Evan Oxenham, Ron Eberhardt, Dan Poor, Bill Cable, Joanna Sharf, , Nancy Wightman, Steve Ladd, Bill Cable, Nick Cohen

**MINUTES of AUGUST 10 Meeting** – Approved with correction.

**COMMUNITY POWER:** Plainfield Selectboard voted to join the CPCNH

**E-BIKES:** (Upper Valley E-Bike Lending Library Program) A program by Local Motion of Burlington, Vital Communities and local energy committees. The four bikes will be delivered August 29. The van driver will contact Bill Cable about time of arrival. Jen Lenz will house them. Bill will deliver to anyone who can't be present. Bill and Dan Poor will communicate about wavers. The Town Hall on the Fairgrounds in Cornish will hold the Lending Program event **September 4<sup>th</sup>** 10 to 4pm. Those helping will be there from 9 am to 5 pm. Bill will bring the bikes. They will need to be charged and wiped down in between rides. Vital Communities and the VT DOT are sponsoring a subsidy program of 25 to 100% of cost.

## **ENERGY EXPO 2021! Sept. 11, 11 to 3, Plainfield School**

\* Evan will confirm, once more, our need for gym, two classrooms and table and Covid requirements at Plainfield School We will have on hand masks and sanitizer, canned drinks, cooler, tub of ice. Steve will ask if McNamara Maple Creamees can be included.

\* **Publicity:** Valley News Calendar, Plainfacts, connectcornish, Next Door and local stores, etc have posters up. A small add in Thursday's VN.

### \* **Joanna's list of vendors:**

1. Hanover Adventure Tours - 8 E-bikes to try out
2. Lebanon Ford - Ford Mustang Mach-E on display
3. Ted Stiles, Yankee Thermal Imaging - Button-up Talks
4. Sarah Brock, Vital Communities
5. Henry Herndon, CPCNH - Community Power
6. Mascoma Bank - low interest energy loans
7. Catamount Solar
8. Solaflect Energy - solar trackers
9. Phil Lamoreaux, NHEC - NHSaves energy efficiency incentives
10. Karl Kemnitzer & Bill Cable - Assembly of mountain e-bike
11. Simple Energy - Heat pumps
12. E-bike loan program - take an e-bike for a 1 hr. ride

\* **Signage:** Bill has large signs for Entrance to school, Parking, and one with Schedule of presentations. He also has a small canopy in case of rain.

\* **entrance** will be at gym

**NEXT MEETING:** Sept. 7, 7pm zoom.

## **ENERGY COMMITTEES, September 7, 2021 on ZOOM, 7:00**

**ATTENDEES:** Evan Oxenham, Dan Poor, Bill Cable, Joanna Sharf, Nancy Wightman, Zach Halloch, Jen Lenz, Nick Cohen

**MINUTES of AUGUST 24 Meeting** – Approved.

E-BIKES: AUGUST 29 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 18. The four electric bikes have been loaned out for most of this time period. The Demo on Sept. 4 had 12 people come by and try out a bike.

ENERGY EXPO 2021! September 11, 11 to 3pm.

**-Table use at the Plainfield School** still needs confirmation. **Evan**

**- Advertising;** on VN Calendar and on-line, Transaction ad for Thursday \$84, cc, next door, web pages,.

**- Bike Demo:**To loan out from 10 to 4 pm. **Bill.**

**- Signage:** Signs by Rt. 120, entrance, parking, Expo info, presentations and BR info - **Bill.** Sign-up sheets at entrance and name tags for committee members - **Shideko.** 75 printed hand-outs of schedules after corrections are made to Sarah Brock's title and the inclusion of Catamount Solar and copies of Jessica Wilcox EV information - **Evan.** We all wear RF 100 T-Shirts if we have them.

**-confirmations:** All will be present.

**-set-up: Nick, Evan and Bill** will focus on E-Bikes, EVs and Mach Trucks. Dr. Ballantyne will join with his Truck 11 to 3. The rest of us will man the sign-up table and monitor the workshop rooms, keeping chairs 6 ft. apart, etc.

**-Extra Computers – Evan.** Extension cords and power strips – **Bill.**

**- COVID Protocols:** Masks and sanitizer available at sign-up table. **Nancy**

**- Food & Drink: No Mac's Creamies.** Soda in a cooler, **Evan**

**- Arrival Time: Evan** will open at 9am. Bikes are set up at 10, Expo opens at 11.

**NEXT MEETING:** October 5, 7pm, via Zoom.

## **MEETING MINUTES, OCTOBER 5, 2021, 7-8:15PM, Meeting Via Zoom**

**Present:** Evan Oxenham, Steve Ladd, Bill Cable, Joanna Sharf, Nancy Wightman, Nick Cohen

1. **Minutes:** September 7 minutes approved.

### **2. E-Bike Debrief:**

20 people and possibly more borrowed e-bikes. A total of approximately 500 miles were pedaled on those bikes. There were minor problems with some of the bikes. Bill reported the issues so maintenance will be conducted. Multi-day reservations were almost all used up. The demo days even got some unscheduled drop-ins (encouraged by Bill's signs). There were not many riders at the Expo because Hanover Adventure tours covered a lot of the interest. Only 3 or 4 people stayed for the whole workshop on building a mountain e-bike. Bill said he and others learn more about e-bikes all the time.

### **3. Energy Expo:**

Rob Adams of Solaflect and all the other vendors were very happy with the turnout and the event. Only Mascoma Bank was disappointed that no one attended their workshop, but they were happy that they got a lot of interest at their table in the Gym. Approximately 120 people signed in, and there were more people who didn't sign in. About half of the attendees were from more distant towns. Green Energy Times was a good help in spreading the word. In general we had strong publicity in listservs, Valley News, Connect Cornish, etc. Button Up workshops were full, and Ted Stiles would have kept going beyond the end of the day if he had been allowed. Thank you emails were sent to all the vendors. Several attendees wished there was an Expo every year. Maybe we could do it every other year and let other towns take the lead on alternate years.

#### **4. Community Power:**

Was incorporated on Friday Oct. 3, 2021 at an in-person meeting in Concord. Evan Oxenham is appointed Secretary of the Coalition.

"The 13 city and town members of the Coalition represent more than 210,000 residents, or ~15% of the population of New Hampshire with a potential default service load larger than Liberty Utilities' default service, approximately equivalent in size to both Unitil and the New Hampshire Electric Coop, and all of which are smaller than Eversource (New Hampshire's largest investor-owned distribution utility)." CPCNH press release.

The Administrative Rules have not been finalized by the PUC. Cliff Below will work with the PUC to get that done.

New Dept. of Energy has thrown the PUC into disarray. They are not addressing their dockets in a timely manner.

#### **5. Future Planning:**

Continue Did You Know articles.

Do at least 2 in-person educational forums (following masking and distancing guidelines).

Bill suggested a forum on new affordable batteries: he has acquired (16) batteries totalling 15 kwh of power for \$2,000. That competes well with the Tesla Powerwall.

Joanna mentioned that Richard Frick knows about a 2-way EV charger that allows one to use an EV to power a home in the case of grid outages. Joanna will ask Richard to do a DYK on that subject.

It was suggested that we do another Solarize campaign, or at least have a forum on the Solar Basics (Solar 101).

It was also suggested that we have a Heat Pump Expo to which we invite all the heat pump vendors: Mitsubishi, Daikon, Haier, Fujitsu, etc.

**6. Next Meeting:** Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2021 at 7pm via Zoom.

**MEETING MINUTES, November 2, 2021, 7-7:45 PM, Meeting Via Zoom**



**Present:** Evan Oxenham, Joanna Sharf, Ron Eberhardt, Dan Poor, Lee Oxenham, Nancy Wightman,

1. The minutes of the October 7 meeting were approved unanimously.
2. **CPCNH Update:** Evan Oxenham representing Plainfield, reported that there are many meetings focused on the business plan. The coalition ideally needs 10 towns that are CPCNH members with approved Energy Aggregation Plans in order to launch and generate the revenue needed to meet planned CPCNH expenses. If fewer member towns have approved Energy Aggregation Plans, they will probably need to defer signing up for CPCNH energy supply until 2023. This may require CPCNH to reduce the planned staff hiring. CPCNH will be using a managed energy portfolio approach, employing staff to monitor energy prices and buy energy using both long term and short-term contracts to manage the energy cost so that CPCNH can provide power at a lower cost than the utility default service rate. In addition to possible lower prices, the coalition gives a town more flexibility to purchase or produce green power.
3. **Did You Know?** Four were entered for October: 2 on Hanover's 100% renewables for Town buildings, the Woodstock Arena Net Zero and Put Gas on Standby. Too many DYK from other committees in town. Dan will coordinate with Sustainable Tea & Talk and the Conservation Commission. We will produce one per month at a specified time that does not compete with the submissions from Sustainable Tea & Talk and the Conservation Commission
4. **Future Planning:** Two in-person events for 2022.
  - Heat Pump Expo. Plan for late June at the Plainfield School. Joanna will contact contractors. We will include air to water heat pumps. Date to be decided by contractors.
  - EV Charger. One night event in October.
5. **Next Meeting:** January 2 at 7:00 pm. Fewer joint meetings were proposed. We will decide in January whether to meet every 2 months or as needed.