

**Energy Committee  
2017**

*Mission Statement: The Town of Cornish takes local steps to save energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. (2007)*

The Cornish Energy Committee met with the Planning Board to submit energy-related questions to the Town Master Plan survey. These questions were adopted for the survey.

Over the past year, the Cornish Energy Committee has focused on promoting a long-term plan for the Town to adopt 100% renewable energy sources by 2050 (Ready for 100% Action). The reason behind this goal is the lack of leadership from our state and federal governments, and the urgency of taking some action to mitigate the effects of climate change. The CEC is submitting the Ready for 100% Action initiative as an article in the 2018 Town Warrant.

With the renewable energy initiative in mind, the CEC and Plainfield Energy Committee collaborated on a year-long educational series to explore and inform ourselves about all aspects of a renewable energy plan. The educational series consisted of the following presentations:

- ✓ March: **What's the Big Deal About Carbon?** An introduction to the science behind the effects of CO2 on our atmosphere and how it causes climate change.
- ✓ May: **Exploring Climate Futures with the Global Calculator.** A terrific online tool that helps strategize ways to reduce carbon emissions.
- ✓ June: **The Messenger: Imagine the World Without Birdsong.** Film about the decline of bird population mostly due to climate change and light pollution.
- ✓ September: **Heating Without Oil** – How to Heat Your Home with Renewable Energy.
- ✓ October: **Battery Power!** – The importance of batteries in any plan to use renewable energy sources.
- ✓ November: **Ready for 100 Launch Event: Why Our Towns Should Adopt 100% Renewable Energy.** A presentation and film.

In December, Bill Cable installed a solar flagpole light at the Town Offices at the request of the Selectboard to evaluate how it will work to illuminate the U.S. flag at night. Cornish garnered support via petition to request Governor Sununu to join other states in adopting Paris Climate Agreement.

The Energy Committee is also participating in Vital Communities' **Weatherize Upper Valley** program in collaboration with Plainfield Energy Committee, which will take place in 2018. The program offers \$100 energy audits, experienced licensed contractors, cost-effective sealing and insulating of homes, and a team of volunteers from Cornish & Plainfield to support homeowners throughout the weatherizing process.

Consider joining the Cornish Energy Committee. We are looking forward to meeting you!

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Boyle (Chair), William Cable, Joanna Sharf, and Nancy Wightman.