

## CORNISH ENERGY COMMITTEE MINUTES

MARCH 14, 2022, 7 PM

Town Office, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor meeting room, in-person & via Zoom.

ATTENDING: Joanna Sharf, Richard Thompson, Nancy Wightman, Everett Cass, Fred Weld, Bill Cable. Via Zoom: Dan Poor, Zack Hallock, Richard Gendron.

FEBRUARY 14, 2022 MINUTES: Richard made a motion to approve, Fred seconded, with a vote in the affirmative to approve the February 14, 2022 minutes.

HEAT PUMP EXPO: The Cornish & Plainfield Energy Committees would like to hold a Heat Pump Expo in May or June, to provide residents with in-depth information on this energy efficient method of heating & cooling. Nancy Wightman reported on her installer contacts.

GMES, Luc Choquette answered immediately and requested an evening, May or June.

**Mitsubishi, ARC Mechanical**, Matthew Tilas, current ASM in NH. Extremely interested; requested specific dates, May 29- June 4 and June 12-18.

**NMelectric**, Nate Moore. He's extremely busy and cannot commit.

**Mill Hollow Plumbing and Heating**. Nate Bergeron. Interested and will do whatever we decide.

**Catamount Solar**. Liz Smithies. "Primary business is solar, will ask the team". Did not get back to me.

**SamesunVT**. Marlene Allen, Chief Financial Officer of Same Sun, said they do not install heat pumps but know installation as part of their solar projects and can speak to cost, rebates, and energy consumption.

Simple Energy & Hinkley never responded.

Joanna moved that Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> at 3pm, and alternate date of June 4 would be best times for the expo if the Plainfield Energy Committee agrees. Fred seconded and all in favor.

Nancy will email info to Plainfield asking for their input and a quick response within the week so that Installers can be notified of date.

SOLARIZE-22 CAMPAIGN: 154 interested persons registered with several from out of the 4 town range.

Cornish, 47 registered, 15 site visits so far

Hartland, 33 registered with 11 site visits

Plainfield, 24 registered with 8 site visits

Windsor, 22 registered with 4 site visits

We will follow up and encourage others to call for free site visits.

RECYCLING CENTER SOLAR ARRAY: Everett talked to Nate Cass, abutter on the northern side of property. Richard Thompson walked the perimeter of the Recycling Center and said there was a SW orientation near the Stern property. He guessed the roof on the post & beam Recycling Center buildings

had about 2000 sq.ft. of space for solar. He and Joanna will introduce the idea of a large solar array at the Recycling Center to the Select Board on Monday, March 21 at 6:30pm.

**POWERX ENERGY MONITORING DEVICE:** Bill Cable stated he is still in contact with this company but the Ukraine war has slowed its progress, as a lot of its programmers are Ukrainian.

**\$1,000 DONATION:** The check from Laird Klingler has been deposited in a Town Account. A total of \$289.35 was used for publicity - \$151.40 for postage for a mass mailing and \$137.95 for photocopies. Joanna sent a thank you card to Laird.

It was recommended by Heidi Jaarsma, Town Treasurer, that for future expenditures, we try to get vendors to send the invoice directly to the Town. Richard Thompson, Treasurer, will talk to Heidi Jaarsma about procedure for recording committee expenditures, and other committee accounting duties.

**COMMUNITY POWER AGGREGATION:** Plainfield passed the article for the town to join the Community Power Coalition of NH. It passed with a vote of 85 to 16. The Coalition is a nonprofit with the buying power of many towns behind it, to better control electricity costs and promote renewable energy. The first step in joining is for the Select Board to sign the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA). Brief discussion on the benefits of Cornish joining this coalition. Joanna moved that Richard and Joanna will discuss the process of signing the JPA with Select Board on March 21. Nancy seconded. Joanna, Richard, Nancy in favor. Fred abstained and Everett opposed. Motion passed.

**BYLAWS:** Nancy started the conversation and asked: why, when the Cornish Energy Committee has no authority, it must adopt the more restrictive and legal bylaws of the Conservation and Planning Board committees which do have authority and therefore need a more comprehensive document. She sent to all a NH State Government Energy Committee bylaws doc of two pages. Others discussed the importance of having clear and detailed rules for the Committee to function smoothly.

Joanna handed out a suggested revision for Article 1, Sec. 3 which was not discussed.

Article II, Sec. 1, “unspecified number of alternate members.” The idea of having 3 alternates was discussed as a better alternative. But this would need to be cleared with the Select Board who appointed 2 alternates.

Art. II, Sec. 4, committee wondered what “alternative circumstances etc” meant.

Art. II Sec 7. Delete RSA 36-A since it applies to Conservation Commission only.

Everett sent out a revised Planning Board Bylaws page on members’ voting rights. He also was concerned with Article VII about Conflict of Interest and Ethics. Joanna will bring a copy of the NH State regulations on public meetings to our next meeting to help clarify some of these issues.

Art. VI, Sec 1. Treasurer’s duties. Richard will talk to Heidi.

Everett made a motion, and Joanna seconded, for Dan to rewrite the draft based on the Committee’s comments, including making the bylaws more concise. The motion passed unanimously.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Nancy asked if we were doing anything for Earth Day and suggested we try to come up with some ideas to commemorate this environmentally important day.

Bill Cable reported that Steve Ladd has submitted a grant application to the Tasker Fund to cover the cost of the E-Bike event in August.

NEXT MEETING: April, 11, 7pm

ADJOURNED: Joanna made a motion, Richard seconded to adjourn at 8:46. All in favor.  
Respectfully submitted, Nancy Wightman, secretary.