

CORNISH ENERGY COMMITTEE MINUTES JUNE 13,2022, 7 pm
Town Office Conference Room, in-person & via Zoom.

ATTENDING: In person: Joanna Sharf, Nancy Wightman, Richard Thompson, Fred Weld, Everett Cass. Visitors: Daisy Yatsévitch and Dick Gendron. Via Zoom: Dan Poor, Bill Cable, Zack Hallock, and Tony Newton. Guest Speaker Henry Herndon (via Zoom) of the Community Power Coalition of NH. The entire Selectboard (John Hammond, Dylan Gallagher & Frank Parks) joined at 7:30.

APPROVAL OF MAY MINUTES: Nancy made a motion, Fred seconded, all approved.

COMMUNITY POWER AGGREGATION:

Joanna sent an invitation by email to the Select Board to join the meeting. She forwarded Henry's email and attachments (the Coalition's invitation to Cornish, Henry's slides, & the Joint Powers Agreement) to the Select Board and Committee members on June 13 before the meeting. Henry Herndon spoke for one hour about Community Power Aggregation (CPA), how it works, and the process for joining the Coalition. It was incorporated in the Fall of 2021.

How it works:

- 1) The Coalition is a public non-profit organization with paid staff, unpaid Board of Directors, and the ability to gradually accrue reserves for innovations and Town power projects. The Town can opt to generate its own power. The Coalition has Purchasing power with the ability to negotiate best electricity prices. It buys and builds electricity supply. It also can advocate for best policies.
- 2) The Utility controls wires and poles and delivers. It also bills.
- 3) Customer Choice. The customer may opt out or back in without penalty. No cost or risk. Lower rates. May choose a greener option at a higher rate. Net metering remains the same as usual on utility bill.

How to join -- the Roadmap:

1. Selectboard approves the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA).
2. Selectboard establishes a committee
3. Committee develops a plan
4. 2 public hearings to explain the plan to the Town
5. Town Meeting to adopt. Town can pull out or wait and opt in later.

AGENDA ITEMS TABLED DUE TO TIME: SOLARIZE UPDATE, Recycling Center SOLAR ARRAY UPDATE, WEATHERIZE CAMPAIGN, & BYLAWS.

HEAT PUMP FORUM: June 23, 6:30pm at the Plainfield Elementary School. Nancy will send notice to installers and Committee members will show up at 6 pm.

TRAINING FOR FIRE FIGHTERS: Joanna proposed offering training to firefighters on how to handle solar panels during a fire. Joanna located a veteran firefighter from Las Vegas Fire Dept., Captain Richard Birt, who provides training to fire departments about fires involving solar panels & batteries. Cornish Fire Chief Mike Boutilier said he would be very interested in such training. Everett will talk to the Plainfield Fire Dept. If we can get several towns interested, then Richard Birt can offer a free in-person training in one evening. He is sponsored by solar companies. Joanna motioned that the Committee try to organize this training, Everett seconded, all approved. Joanna, Everett and Mike will coordinate.

DR. YE TAO: Joanna emailed Committee members on June 12 and asked all to review the publicity materials for Dr. Tao's virtual talk on July 16. She provided a link to the Eventbrite registration page and attached a poster. She needs to send them to Dr. Tao for his approval asap, so needs the Committee to approve them by Wed.

OTHER: Richard asked about the EV Charger forum proposed for October. Joanna noted Jessica

Wilcox will be available Tues.-Thurs. during the weeks of October 16 and 23. Richard said he would be away the week of Oct. 16, so preferred the week of Oct. 23.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, July 11, 2022 at 7pm at the Cornish Town Offices, 2nd floor.

ADJOURNED: Joanna motioned, Richard seconded, all approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:30.

ADDENDUM:

Community Power:

Attached are Henry Herndon's slides, JPA and CPCNH invitation to Cornish.

Virtual Talk by Dr. Ye Tao:

Registration page to join talk: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/how-can-mirrors-help-to-cool-the-planet-a-virtual-talk-by-dr-ye-tao-registration-357902484967>

Poster is attached.