

CORNISH & PLAINFIELD ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING
November 14, 2022, 7 pm to 8:30 pm
Cornish Town Offices

PRESENT: In person: Joanna Sharf, Richard Thompson, Nancy Wightman, Fred Weld, Everett Cass, Nick Cohen (late). Via Zoom: Evan Oxenham, Bill Cable, Dan Poor, Steve Ladd, Dick Gendron, Zack Hallock, Rick and Rae Mellon, Jon Glass, Andrew Johnson, Tony Newton.

APPROVAL OF OCT. 4 MINUTES: All approved.

EV CHARGER FORUM DEBRIEF: Well presented, NHEC participant Sandburg thought it was a good presentation. Good audience. In future, keep such events to 1.5 hrs. Joanna has put the recording on Youtube, Evan will send out link to all those who registered. Dan is in the process of putting it on the Cornishnh.net website.

WEATHERIZE 2023: Steve will send contractors' email addresses and rules for participating to Nancy. Nancy will contact the following participants with possible dates, format, deadlines/incentives, earliest dates to take advantage of NHSaves.

Button-Up, Sarah Brock, 15 minute presentation.

NHSaves, Gorden Tuttle

Contractors - 5 minutes each. Earthshare Construction, ABC (Bob Eldredge), Yankee Thermal Imaging (Ted Stiles), Build Basic Green, A+ Energy Services, Quality Insulation of Meredith.

We would like to complete audits by March 15, or whatever is earliest to take advantage of NHSaves incentives.

Raffle discussed and will be determined at December's meeting.

Community Power Aggregation: Joanna met with the Selectboard a couple weeks ago and asked them about signing the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA). Selectboard needs time to discuss.

POWERX: Installed at Dan's house but conflicts with his current system and doesn't know how to handle solar generation. It is now installed in Joanna's house and needs to go through a 30 day period during which it will identify sources of energy usage. The company is working on a fix for handling solar generation, so things are on hold for a while.

FIREFIGHTER TRAINING: Well attended and a lively, interesting and very helpful presentation. Extremely positive feedback from firefighters. Discussion included how to handle solar panels and batteries during fires. The trainer, Richard Birt, recommends that micro-inverters are the safest devices for solar installations on roofs of houses. Joanna will reach out to Windsor, Plainfield and Cornish Fire Departments about another workshop on how to build mini solar & battery kits. Would require a \$15,000 grant to cover materials and instructors. Possible timing would be spring or summer next year. Richard suggested, Joanna seconded and all were in favor.

IRA - Inflation Reduction Act: Discussion on States needing to apply for incentives; concern that NH may not apply on time for all available incentives, or may not be eligible because our climate goals are not strong enough. Joanna will send us all the link for rebates and incentives for appliances and for weatherize projects. Zack suggested that the most relevant section of the IRA is #179D. EV incentives are limited to ones made in the USA. Used EV's may not have to be made in USA.

RECYCLING CENTER SOLAR: Richard Thompson confirmed that we would not need 3-phase power for a compactor. Therefore, we can progress with Liberty's estimate of \$30,000 to bring 1-phase power to the end of the driveway. Two people in town, one in Liberty's area and one in NHEC are

willing to explore an array on their properties. First step would be to contact their utility. Nancy will send an article to Joanna that gives an example of a community solar/farm.

SCHOOL EV CHARGER, WINDOW DRESSERS, AND BY-LAWS TABLED until next month.

BUDGET NEEDS: Joanna asked the Committee for help in identifying operating expenses. These could include: \$150 for E-bike annual event, \$240 for POWERX (\$20/month - although we probably won't need that for 2023); photocopying and USPS direct mailings to publicize important events, fees for speakers, instructors, workshop materials, Zoom subscription. Joanna considered requesting a budget of at least \$1,000 from the town. To be discussed further.

NEXT MEETING: Joint Plainfield & Cornish meeting - Monday, December 12 at Cornish Town Office; in person and via zoom.