

Minutes Exeter Community Power Aggregation Committee (ECPAC) meeting

August 23, 2021, 6:00 PM Exeter Public Library

Committee Members: Nick Devonshire, Lew Hitzrot, Cliff Sinnott

Guest: Henry Herndon, Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH)

- Henry Herndon discussed the current draft of the CPCNH business plan and responded to questions from committee members. He addressed concerns expressed about proposed salaries for CPCNH executives. Nick agreed that the salary structure was in line with industry norms. Cliff wondered how CPCNH, a start-up, could bootstrap itself into existence before receiving income from energy sales. Henry explained that vendors and employees working “at risk” was a customary practice for start-ups in the energy supply world. In addition, with 11 communities involved and a significant energy load, CPCNH should prove an attractive investment opportunity.

As regards the revised JPA (Joint Power Agreement), Henry recommended that we send it to Russ Dean to let him determine whether to sign it himself or whether it needed to be approved by the Select Board.

Henry recommended that we not send the draft of the CPCNH business plan to the town at this time

Henry did suggest that we contact April Salas regarding data collection from Unitil. Lew will do so.

- The Committee quickly reviewed three draft documents – a press release, a letter to the editor and a community survey. Lew will make the changes suggested but these documents will not go public until mid-Oct. at the earliest so we can review them again then.
- Cliff handed out an initial draft of the first three sections of an Exeter Energy Aggregation Plan. We did not have a chance to look it over thoroughly **and should do so before our next meeting**. Cliff did indicate that we should look carefully at the statement he wrote on page 4 of the document: Exeter **Community Power: Purposes, Goals and Objectives**. Lew will provide that statement to the Exeter Energy Committee for their consideration.

We also discussed the timeline proposed in Cliff’s document and agreed that November was the appropriate time for public information meetings

- We discussed how best to reach out to the community with information about community power. We agreed that we should plan a scripted Q and A forum including Cliff and Nick and possibly Henry and Julia Griffen, recorded by Exeter TV and then broadcast through ETV and YouTube followed directly by a call-in allowing residents to ask questions of the 4 participants. This to be done in late Oct. / early November. Lew will contact Bob Golwacky.

- Nick has agreed to be the ECPAC representative to the CPCNH governing body. Thank you, Nick!  
We also need to choose an alternate. A question arose as to whether that person must be an Exeter resident and/or a member of our committee. Answer: Exeter resident, yes; committee member. no.
- **Next meeting, Monday, Sept. 13, 6:00 pm, Exeter Public Library**