

MINUTES Town of Exeter Energy Committee

Wednesday June 14th , 2023 at 3:30 pm. Wheelwright Room

Amy Farnham, Olivia Shore, Neila O'Brien, Renay Allen, Cliff Sinnott, Lew Hitzrot, Robin Tyner, Julie Gilman

Staff: Kristen Murphy, Dave Sharples, Doug Eastman. Members of the public: Ryan Jean (SAC)

3:30 Call to order

ONGOING BUSINESS:

Minutes approval - Motion by Amy, 2nd by Robin to approve May Minutes. Motion passes.

Education & Efficiency Projects:

Guest Speaker – Audrey Cline, Durham Code Officer: 20 minutes via Zoom, Audrey told us of the history and practical applications of Durham's building code. For 8 years now, Durham has had an ordinance that ties its approved energy and building codes to the most recent adopted by the State. Ours is one (3-yr) cycle behind. She will send us a copy of an Energy Checklist. After she signed off, a 15-minute discussion was had on first thoughts/options/ how to proceed. All will now research, and then it will be on agenda for July meeting.

Exeter Community Power Committee: Lew and Cliff shared projections from CPCNH's first quarter report that estimated that, during the first three months of operation, Exeter's community power program will save Exeter customers \$956k while contributing \$ 1.3 million to a reserve fund. These estimates are probably about 10% too high as they are based on projected enrollment figures that are higher than current actual enrollment figures.

Landfill Solar Array: Dave Sharples reports that the solid waste permit needs to be submitted by Revision. He needs a permit in hand before he can take next steps and have equipment ordered that has a 12-18 month lead time. He is trying very hard to keep the timing of this project on track for construction in 2024.

EHS Student Liaison: Olivia reports they had a trails clean-up day on June 3 (National Trails Day) at Exeter High School. Six people helped, some with chainsaws. Both the front and back trails at EHS are now open and clear.

Block Grant Application: Kristen reports that she and Renay submitted a "concept paper" for a Justice 40/ Efficiency grant from SCEP, of the DOE. The idea is matching grant monies to the NHSaves Button Up program for Exeter's 5 mobile home parks. Also on this team were Ben Stephenson of Unitil, Dana Nute of Resilient Buildings, and Jeannie Oliver of ROC-NH/ NH Community Loan Fund. Special thanks to Carol Shutte of Hampton Falls Energy cmte who advised on the writing.

Other Business:

- Julie has been appointed to the CPCNH Regulatory and Legislative Affairs cmte
- Robin is scheduled to speak on Dr. Paul Frederick's environmental panel
- Kristen's SeaGrant project at River Run HOC is helping to stabilize the riverbank
- Olivia and Neila will take the summer off, and come back when school starts again
- Stephanie Marshall of the ECPAC has agreed to be the new member on the energy committee

Motion by Lew, 2nd by Julie to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 4:35pm.

Next meeting July 12th , Wheelwright Room)

(2023 dates: no mtg in Aug, --, 9/13, 10/11, 11/8, 12/13)

Action Items:

- All – research energy codes and options. Be prepared to present/discuss at July meeting
- Cliff & Lew – update Select Board on June 26 on Community Power
- Renay & Kristen – wait for "encouraging" word on SCEP grant from Dept of Energy