

Approved Renewable Energy/Community Power Committees Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 28, 2022 4:30PM

Location: Remote

1. Meeting called to order at 4:32pm by Kim Rawson
2. Take attendance
 - a. Welcome new member from the WVRA, Tom Prendergast
 - b. Members present: Alan Berko, Kelly Cannon, Linda Coleman, Mark DeCoteau, Irit Levy, Tom Prendergast, Terry Roper
 - c. Others Present: Emily Manns (Standard Power), Bob Hayden (Standard Power),
3. Approve last meeting's minutes 6.23.2022 Irit motions to approve 6.23.2022 meeting minutes. Tom Seconds. Motion carries by unanimous voice vote.
4. Privilege of the Floor
 - a. Bob and Mark affirm the Renewable Energy Committee Members are the Community Power Committee also as per SelectBoard.
 - b. Kim: The consumer advocate, Don Kreis is having conversations around the equity of the rate increases approved by the PUC.
5. Community Power Committee Work
 - a. Wind power potential WMNF
 - i. Bob: Mark and Bob have had a precursor talk. There is surprising interest with state and national officials in renewable energy on federal land. Bob is looking for a test project on Town land. The newly approved bill for renewable energy is offering more money available perhaps for things like this. Bob would like permission to locate sites that belong to the community and to look at where transmission lines run. This would be to produce one big power of scale to produce perhaps 20% of power. Test blades 8-" long with actual 30' long. A test site is where there is wind in a place that would allow us to collect data.
 - ii. Terry: In Portland there's a turbine that takes care of a restaurant. It's tall but narrow. Are there new developments in technology that look more like a tree? Bob: There are. Some look like a tube or an arch with blades inside the arch which are less obvious. A test has to be done on Standard Power. If the Federal government does take an interest in space and money, there could be 390 billion for renewable energy.
 - iii. Irit: As a test turbine can it be cylindrical or can it be a fan?
 - iv. Bob: Traditional is 10-15% of the cost
 - v. Bob: WV does not have the land for solar.
 - b. PUC hearing update
 - i. Bob: At the PUC meeting yesterday, the 3 commissioners, led by Carleton Simpson, voted unanimously on all changes. They accepted what everybody wanted. The utility delivers power and their ability to deliver all these other things may be difficult. The bill will be on the docket soon, its with JLCAR now to be sure it's worded consistent with state law and pass the bill to law. There is a possibility that a joint committee of utilities could intervene with things they think they cannot do or provide solutions. They most likely will provide a timeline to get things done. JLCAR = they review language as proposed and turn it into legible law in the vernacular and diction of NH state law. They accept commentary along

the way. Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules

- ii. The law changed from opt in to opt out. There weren't enough rules to make it work. Eversource made a kill bill hb315 because they didn't like it. Led by Mike Vose, the kill bill turned into a viable bill to enable Renewable energy. Because of the split of the PUC and DOE, it's taken a long time to do the rule making that went along with the bill which was signed by the governor August 2021.

c. July 4th Wrap Up

- i. Alan Berko had a banner made. Tabling went well. Kelly and Kim walked in the parade. Irit & Alan & Kim worked the tables. 10-15 took pictures of the qr code. Awareness is starting. Overall it was well received.

d. Promo material review

- i. Emails with information and Community Power website address were sent to all who signed up using the survey and tabling.

e. Community Outreach Plan

- i. Mark: Labor Day weekend will be the end of summer fireworks display for tabling. Put on next months agenda.

f. Power Plan Development

- i. Emily: The language development for the Community Power plan will be guided by Emily. The timeline for a typical warrant article and vote is 2 month - 6 months. Materials, communications and web page should be used to communicate with the committee. The plan starts with goals, town responsibilities, utility specific information, and formal language on how standard power would go forward, approve in committee, public hearing and input, review and incorporate, approve.
- ii. Emily is away the week of the 22nd.

6. Recycling Update _ Irit

- a. Mark: The transfer station is going to be undergoing changes. The Town is working on a plan in the next 30-90 days. The current arrangement with 24/7 access will be changing.
- b. Irit: Continue to find places to recycle.
- c. Alan: The Town of Plymouth has been contacted to expand their recycling to include WV residents. Mark: They are only allowed by their permit to accept recycling from Plymouth residents only.

7. Master Plan Update

- a. Mark: The Draft of the Master Plan was reviewed. There were no changes to the REC language. They are continuing to refine the Master Plan. There will be a public hearing on it.

8. EV Charging Infrastructure - Linda

- a. About 20 associations and lodges have expressed interest in ev charging.
- b. An RFP was sent out July 15 to 12 EV providers with a due date of August 12. Linda will make calls on August 1 to facilitate.

9. NHEC/ LED Bulb Incentive- Linda

- a. NHEC is working on pricing options for LEd bulbs for residents.
- b. Alan suggests ensuring bulbs are dimmable and have a range of Kelvins.

10. Solid Waste Update - Mark

- a. Mark: The Solid Waste project is not at the point to talk about Energy efficiency.
- b. The goal is a 6-8 month temporary Wind Tower. Communications will be very important with townsfolk. Specifically that it is NOT a permanent structure, but to get data to

compare actual wind information with the wind maps which are approximations. It will be useful to provide energy data. The test tower will probably be located up by the treatment lagoons.

- c. A focused full sheet will be in the next water/sewer bill on the transfer station changes.
- d. Irit: Suggests signage at test tower
- e. For Sept 1 agenda Wig Wag article on temporary wind turbine- Alan

11. Wigwag - Irit

- a. Irit: Green Corner is monthly
- b. Kim suggests a qr code to land at a recycling information page.

12. Adjournment at 5:37pm

13. Next meeting Thursday Sept 1, 2022 @ 4:30pm