



TOWN OF DURHAM
8 Newmarket Road
Durham, NH 03824-2898
603.868.8064
www.ci.durham.nh.us

NOTICE: ALTHOUGH MEMBERS OF THE DURHAM ENERGY COMMITTEE WILL BE MEETING IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THE COMMITTEE MEETINGS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO PARTICIPATE VIA ZOOM OR IN PERSON.

DURHAM ENERGY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, March 1, 2022
7:00 – 8:30 PM
— Minutes—

1. Call meeting to order
Present:
(In Person) Nat Balch, Steve Holmgren, Ti Crossman, Ellie Lonske, Suzy Loder, Jack Lannamann
Virtual: Todd Selig
Absent: Bianca Leonard, Jim Lawson
Chairing: Nat Balch
<Attendance was sufficient for a quorum, this is an official meeting. >
2. Minutes: Notes from the last discussion session on 2/1/22 were accepted.
3. Report on Progress since prior meeting
 - a. Durham Community Power Plan -- the working subgroup (Suzy Loder, Chris Skogland, Rob Sullivan, Cathy Fletcher, and Mandy Merrill) have made progress on several fronts.
 - Have prepared an online survey for residents to learn their preferences for Durham's Community Power offerings; the plan is to roll out the survey after more of the education events and public hearings have taken place.
 - A draft 2-page brochure with the major highlights of the Community Power concept has been prepared for use as needed in public education and handouts.
 - Our draft Electric Aggregation Plan was submitted to the CPCNH and was approved, completing the next step in the process for full participation.
 - A new page was added to our Energy Committee website titled Durham Community Power Program, and provides a base page upon which we can attach more materials for outreach, such as educational videos, links to documents, FAQs, and the survey.
 - The subgroup will also work at "pruning" the existing content on the website, much of which is several years old and out of date.
 - Next steps – look at material available for a public presentation, and venues where these presentations can take place (Town Hall, school auditoriums). Nat and Steve have this action item. The CPCNH process requires a minimum of 2 public hearings.
 - b. **EV Charging Stations-** Jack reported the highest power (1.76 MWh) use of the town charging stations in the last month, 102 sessions generating \$359 in gross revenue to the town. The average session length was about 2:50, but cars on average were parked there for 15 minutes after charging was complete, which may be an issue to be aware of going forward. 1252 kg of greenhouse gases were avoided through this service.
 - c. **UNH** – Steve Pesci special projects director, is heading a UNH group looking at getting EV charging on campus, and hoping to apply for some of the \$2.5 M federal infrastructure money

that NH has received. We will work together with UNH to try and influence the rules for these awards, probably happening next fall.

- d. **Town infrastructure planning** – Ti and Jack are looking at many information sources available, including modelling tools. One EV charging calculator tool that had some NH data grouped the Rochester, Durham, Dover areas together in the model. Their data showed 114,000 light duty vehicles in that market, and if we assume 10% EVs according to this model, that would require hundreds of public and workplace charging stations for adequate coverage. Discussion about how to get developers in town to at least bury conduit in all new parking areas to provide for future charging stations. NH has 2700 EVs or about 0.5% of registered cars – what are Durham's numbers? It would be helpful for use in models; Lorrie Pitt at Town Hall should have that info.
- e. **Clean Energy NH** – NH Saves program had been suspended by the PUC in November, has been restored and updated, that is good news.
- f. **CPC-NH Update-** (Nat) CPCNH has officially hired Henry Herndon for Operations and liaison to the member communities. Portsmouth has started the process to join CPCNH. Samuel Golding is an expert consultant they are also in negotiation with for a position. Working hard to carefully manage limited funding at this point but still making as much progress as possible.
- g. **Energy Committee** – Nat petitioned the Town Council for additional seats for the Energy Committee, and they granted the request for 2 more.

4. **Public awareness and community action** – Earth Day April 22 (Friday) – suggestions for activities

- a. Ellie – off-shore wind turbines, are we aware of all the possible impacts, including to migrating birds, and shipping impacts.
- b. Jack – Solar tour -- of PV, solar thermal, and geothermal installations around town; last done Nov 2018, had a bus for people to take around to sites; Revision gave an overview of the process, homeowners could chat 1-on-1 with attendees. Saturday would be a better day to host this, maybe the 23rd.
- c. Display in town – where could we locate a display that would have foot traffic and maybe adjacent parking? Suggestions included Pettee Brook lot, Town Hall lot, 66 Main Parking lot, Jackson Landing, Old town landing, Public Library, train station commuter lot, UNH lot A. How many sites are in walking distance of each other.
- d. EV car show – local EV owners and car dealers provide cars to view and test drive.
- e. Tour of Middle school energy features
- f. Do surveys for Community Power at table with QR code or paper
- g. How to expand beyond a single day – Jack – can we extend activities to a week or month? Ti - what message do we want to send, sacrifice and cut back, or work more efficiently and maintain standard of living? Have our calendar of week-long activities on display.
- h. What is UNH doing , and can we coordinate? – Nat to check with sustainability department, and Cathy Fletcher Sustainability Fellow.
- i. Can we combine several activities in one location – tours of PV and geothermal sites driven in EVs, EVs on display and test drives, and display table with info, all based in some parking lot?

5. Meet again in 2 weeks to flesh out ideas – interim meeting March 15 by Zoom.

6. Next full meeting date(s) April 5, 2022

7. Adjournment