

TOWN OF SUNAPEE NH
FINAL ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

10-18-2022

Location – Town Hall Meeting Room

Attendance – Bette Nowack, Doug Hanson, Adam Dolce, and Joshua Singer of Clean Energy NH via Zoom

Meeting time – 5:07 pm to 7:06 pm

1. 5:07 pm meeting commenced.
2. Meeting minutes from August 24 meeting were reviewed, edited, and approved.
3. EC voted to request Clean Energy New Hampshire (CENH) membership (\$250 for annual membership) for Town. KC will make the request to Town Manager. CENH will keep us informed on grant and funding opportunities for energy projects.
4. The ConCom sent a section they wrote for the Master Plan (MP) entitled “Renewable Energy Resources”. They requested the EC review and comments. The EC discussed the section and had the following comments:
 - a. It is hard to review this section without the perspective of how it fits in the overall MP, therefore EC’s comments are general in nature.
 - b. We believe that a section on Renewable Energy Resources should be in the sections prepared by the EC.
 - c. We have an outline for the EC section (attached) that overlaps with many of ConCom’s topics. We need to clarify what falls under the ConCom’s purview vs. the EC’s purview, so we don’t duplicate topics.
 - d. The section on the Hydro Plant is out of date (date is from 2015 vs. most current annual data from 2021).
 - e. EC’s understanding of the purpose of the MP is to provide a type of roadmap for the Town to follow over the upcoming 10 or more years. A statements such as “The potential and risk to harness local renewable resource of energy must be kept in balance to safeguard a holistic resilience considering climate change, energy independence, and conservation.” provides no guidance.
 - f. How were the value judgements made such as “reasonable capacity”, “opportunity is more marginal”, “limited capacity”, “which limits somewhat”, “Sunapee may do well to further their use”?
 - g. We take issue with some of the statements in the first two pages.
 - i. If there is a potential for the aesthetic value of a rural landscape to be diminished, does that mean there should be no alternative energy? How does a statement like this provide guidance for Town Planning?
 - ii. “Clearing and developing land near the tops of hills for renewable energy would fragment the landscape and could cause significant erosion.” Does this only apply to renewable energy projects? What about engineering controls? Are other construction projects ok on hilltops? Why put this statement in a section regarding renewable energy?
 - h. We believe that we need to resolve questions regarding the overall structure of the energy related topics in the MP, and which specific topics the Energy Committee and the ConCom will be addressing in their sections.
 - i. BN will send EC’s email response to the ConCom’s request for us to review the section of the MP they prepared regarding natural resources.
5. A request for volunteers for the EC has been posted on the Town website.
6. Kearsarge Climate Action Committee (KCA) has offered to help the Sunapee EC. EC members need to give some thought as to how the KCA may be able to help us.
7. The EV charging station presentation by Josh Singer of CENH during the last meeting was discussed. Some types of EV charging stations are not as expensive as previously thought. Level 2 chargers can be installed for \$250 to \$750. These are the type of chargers that are typically installed in residences. They could be installed at Town facilities for “topping off” vehicle’s charge, but a full charge would take 7 or 8 hours.

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8. DH can't make next Wednesday's meeting. Meeting was tentatively rescheduled for Tuesday October 25.
9. Meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm.