

HOPKINTON COMMUNITY POWER COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.

Members Present: Chair Mark Zankel, Steve Eckberg, Jack Ruderman, Sara Hoffman, Ken Traum, Lynn Durand.

Members Absent Sharon Nall

- I. CALL TO ORDER : call to order 6:00 PM by Mark
 - i. Lynn Durand volunteered to take the meeting minutes

II. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 26, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

Move to approve without changes by Ken Traum, second by Jack , ; approved unanimously

Mark notes that issues can be sent to Mark, not Ken, and that distributions to the committee must come from Neal Cass, rather than a committee member if the distribution is to more than two members.

III. BUSINESS ITEMS

- i. Energy Aggregation Plan Development
 - a. The proposed Energy Aggregation Plan that was distributed by email was addressed with various changes and alterations as discussed below.
 - b. The amended Energy Aggregation Plan that was approved by the committee will be distributed to the committee members.
 - c. Under the heading “implementation Process for Hopkinton Cummunity Power” fourth bullet point there is the addition of :“**at any time**” without penalty.
 - d. In the same section after the eight bullet, it was decided to remove: **other than such incidental expenses (e.g., the staff time, counsel review of agreements, and other expenses required to comply with the Community Power law before the program starts to generate revenue).**
 - e. Mark notes that the at the time of the Plan Development, we will not have committed to CPCNH but the document refers to the CPCNH policies in several places eg the reserve fund. Sara is concerned that we need to let the public know that these issues such as the reserve fund may not be applicable if we choose to go with Standard Power rather than CPCNH.
 - f. Mark will ask if the written plan needs to be amended if we choose Standard Power rather than CPCNH.
 - g. Stephen asked about the use of the conditional “would” rather than “will” in the document. At this point we will leave the wording “would.”
 - h. Under the heading: Hopkinton Community Power Goals, Objectives and Requirements it was decided to delete all 3 paragraphs since the town of Hopkinton does not currently have an energy policy
 - i. Under the heading Hopkinton’s Policy Goals it was decided to delete this section. Suggestion from Ken that we put off the discussion of town energy policy goals and

not address this in the Spring 2024 town meeting and that we address this later at the Energy Committee level, for 2025.

- j. Under the heading Hopkinton Community Power Objectives it was decided to delete the leading sentence: **To achieve our policy goals, Hopkinton Community Power will be guided by the following objectives:**
- k. Under bullet LOWER RATES: change “default rate” to “Energy supply rate” and remove the word residential
- l. Under bullet EXPANDED CHOICES: add word offer products of “varying **levels of**”
- m. Under bullet FISCAL STABILITY – we will keep even though we are not committed to CPCNH
- n. Under the bullet CONSUMER PROTECTION ; add residents “**and its businesses;**”
- o. Under the bullet FREEDOM TO CHOOSE: remove second sentence: **All customers will initially be included in Hopkinton Community Power but will have the ability to opt-out if desired.**
- p. Under the bullet PUBLIC ADVOCACY: . It was agreed to delete this paragraph.
- q. CLEANER LOCAL POWER: add the text from Regional Collaborations to the section of Cleaner, Local Power
- r. Bullet COMMUNITY RESILIENCE: Delete
- s. Bullet REGIONAL COLLABORATIONS: Delete
- t. Bullet MANAGE RISK AND LIABILITY – Delete
- u. Remove the rest of section after Manage Risk : **Through strategies and initiatives ... Through and including, including renewable generators and battery storage, that can provide power to the program’s customers cost effectively.**
- v. Under Customer Rates and Products add: Most utility rates are set for “ **6 month periods** “ from February 1 through July 31, and from August 1 through January 31.

- w. Under Renewable Portfolio Standard Requirements: Mark will ask CPCNH if there are reasons to ask for RPS using “class I’ resources ; why is this limited?

Mark will send out a revised version of this document based on the above revisions.

- ii. Community Outreach Updates
 - a. Presentation by Mark to Rotary this AM – agreed that it went well
 - b. Sara suggested we need to emphasize that Eversource/ Unitil do not get profit from the supply of energy so they are not negatively impacted by transfer of supply to another source
 - c. Will ask Sharon to work with Susan Covert to distribute information to town residents via her email blog.
 - d. We sill look into Lions Club for presentation

- iii. Public Hearing Prep
 - a. First date Dec 4 at Library. – we cannot stream from there- but we will look into whether we could stream from the Town Hall- Mark will check
 - b. Jan. 11- may find another location from which we can stream ; possibly town hall.
 - c. TO DO from Mark ; connect to CPCNH to ask a representative to join one of these meetings.

- iv. Hopkinton Power Logo Design – The image of the town logo that is hanging on the wall in the town hall is to be the basis of our logo.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT: none

V. OTHER- next meeting; Dec. 14 at 6:30 after energy committee meeting

VI. ADJOURNMENT : Moved by Lynn and seconded by Stephen at 7:35 PM to adjourn meeting; unanimously agreed.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Durand