



**COMMUNITY
POWER COALITION
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

MEMBER OPERATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE –MINUTES

Meeting Type:	Member Operations and Engagement Committee
Meeting Location:	Dover City Hall, Council Conference, 288 Central Ave., Dover, NH 03824
Meeting Date:	Tuesday, November 1, 2022
Meeting Time:	Noticed for 10:00 AM on CPCNH.org and at Rye Town Hall

Attendees:

- Committee Chair Lisa Sweet, Rye Director (Virtual)
- Howard Kalet, Rye Alternate
- Nat Balch, Durham Alternate
- Jo-Ellen Courtney, Enfield Alternate
- Craig Putnam, Hudson Director
- Jackie Wengenroth, Pembroke Alternate (virtual)

Absent:

- Paul Looney, Walpole Director
- Christopher Parker, Dover Director
- April Salas, Hanover Director
- Jamie Hess, New London Director

Guests:

- Henry Herndon, Consultant
- Dori Drachman, Peterborough Community Power Task Force
- Treasurer Kimberly Quirk, Enfield Director
- Andrea Hodson, Harrisville Director
- Board Chair Clifton Below, Lebanon Director

Minutes

1. Welcome & Housekeeping

Chair Sweet called meeting to order at 10:02am.

- 1.1. Rollcall, quorum confirmation (1/3 of 10), consensus on agenda
- 1.2. Approval of [2022-10-11 CPCNH Member Operations and Engagement Committee DRAFT Minutes draft](#) (Action by Unanimous Consent)

Without objection, Committee Chair Sweet declared minutes approve by unanimous consent including the minor edits noted by Committee members and the clarification that Wilmot and Canterbury were new members that had transmitted signed JPAs, while Sugar Hill had voted to join CPCNH and would be transmitting a signed JPA soon.



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The Committee discussed the question of whether Members could launch CPAs on a rolling basis after the Wave 1, and that May or June launches were likely possible. Launching in spring is the most advantageous time to launch to accrue financial reserves in anticipation/preparation of high-cost winter months. Launching in October could be more financially risky as customers would not be fully enrolled until November when prices typically rise, margins become tight, and cashflows could potentially be negative or low relative to strong positive cashflows in spring/summer.

2. Updates: [EAP Adoption and Approval process tracker](#); [JPA amendment](#)

2.1. EAC Registration & Data Requests Memo

All CPCNH Members are to use Template 4 to register their Electric Aggregation Committee with the state and Template 5 to re-request utility data now that rules are in place.

2.2. Update on Risk Management Committee + Ascend Progress & Timeline for Key Policies and Agreements (Cost Sharing Agreement + Energy Risk Management, Rates and Reserves Policy)

2.2.1. 11/15/22 RMC Forum for Potential Wave #1 Members


Key Policy and Agreements: Tentative Timeline

- Risk Management Committee Invites Wave 1 Member to Review Cost Sharing Agreement and Energy Risk Management, Rates and Reserves Policy: 11/15/22 5pm virtual, 11/29/22 5pm virtual
- For Consideration by CPCNH Board: 12/15/22
- For Consideration by CPCNH Member Governing Bodies: Earliest JANUARY

3. Introducing Clean Energy NH, Member Services Vendor

3.1. Welcome Gina Blus, Energy Circuit Rider Program Director

Gina Blus has lots of climate and energy experience, working for the utility in California as a community energy manager to support communities that wanted help on energy and climate planning and actions. Clean Energy NH has a North Country Circuit Rider. CENH has made an offer for a Monadnock Energy Circuit Rider. ECRs are grant funded, not 100% at CPCNH disposal, but will be available to towns as resources and will be supporting communities to join the Coalition and

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implement Community Power as well. Gina’s background is process improvement and process design and will apply those skills to the work with CPCNH. The aim is to accurately streamline and simplify to make it easier to enroll more communities faster and more efficiently. Gina aims to support the CPCNH Members and Directors that are first movers to further empower their peers coming along as fast followers.

- 3.2. Update on Contract Status (Target 11/17/22 Board Meeting Approval)
- 3.3. Pre-Contract Work Plan #1 (10/25/22 - 11/25/22) (**ATTACHMENT in email**)
 - 3.3.1. Public Engagement Planning Resources, Media Kit, Member Media Training; Logos & Websites; Messaging Document; etc.

Craig Putnam noted the diversity of member perspectives and receptivity to various messages.

Jo-Ellen Courtney noted that short messages for list-serves would be useful. Not necessarily provocative, but to ease the ability of Members and Committees raise awareness through various channels.

Nat Balch noted the challenges of messaging during the holidays. Craig Putnam noted the challenges of messaging during municipal budgeting season.

Howard Kalet noted the public awareness and sensitivity to high energy costs, which opens a door for a conversation and education about community power. Resources for talking about Community Power in conjunction with high energy costs would be useful.


Craig noted the letter from Eversource to the White House warning of winter energy security costs.

Committee Chair Sweet agreed that the importance of organizing Community Power messages in the **context of high energy costs** will be a valuable exercise and a valuable resource for Members.

Dori Drachman noted that many energy customers are currently looking and shopping for their own competitive supply contracts in the market, so they would be opt-in customers, not automatically enrolled. These individuals should be considered and targeted specifically.

Jo-Ellen noted that one approach could be to ensure people are aware of contract term lengths, exit provisions and potential exit fees so they can fully understand what they are signing up for, and their options for changing suppliers later or joining Community Power at some point.

Craig Putnam noted that Ascend will include in their models the customers that shop for electricity supply on their own and are thus non-participants in CPCNH opt-out default.

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Messaging for typical customers.

Messaging for low-income customers.

Howard Kalet noted that it is important to send communications to the **folks on competitive supply**, but resources may make it difficult to allocate resources towards this prior to launch. Additionally, net metering considerations and communications are critical. Creating a messaging document for **Net Metering customers** is also critically important.

Gina asked if we should signal to individuals considering competitive supply options that they should hold off and wait for Community Power. Or encourage a 1-year vs. a 2-year contract. Ensuring people are informed about no-cancellation-fee options is a good approach.

Nat Balch noted that a future meeting could consider... What would be the greater vision for a Community Power program, like Durham Community Power. What is the greater vision? And how to we develop templates for tools for residents, for instance, energy sources (gas vs/ renewables), home weatherization and energy efficiency. Should we be looking at trying to example the **vision and mission messages. Future benefits, local programs, energy efficiency, energy transformation, distributed energy, etc.** Availability of grants and funding, and federal programs.

Jo-Ellen noted her concern that there was not clarity on how new members get up to speed, and that should be addressed. Dori Drachman suggested a “buddy-system” where new member communities could be paired with a veteran member as a mentor and advisor, as one who has gone through much of the process.

The Committee inquired as to whether Calpine message targeting resources for different customer segments was available?

Howard Kalet moved Member Operations and Engagement Committee recommend the Board authorize Chair Below to negotiate and execute a second amendment to the Herndon Enterprises Consulting Agreement extending the contract through June of 2023 and to determine through that negotiation the required hours and cost. Director Craig Putnam seconded. Motion carried unanimously 5-0. Alternate Jackie Wengenroth had left the meeting.

4. Next MOEC Meeting: Tuesday December 6
5. Adjournment (**Action by Unanimous Consent**)

Adjourned at 11:37am