

Mason Energy Commission October 2, 2023

Present at the meeting: Kathy Chapman, Curt Spacht, Joe Harney, Garth Fletcher, Michele Siegmann, Richard Stockdale, Dave Morrison, Darrell Scott. Due to personal reasons, Curt, Kathy, Garth, and Michelle were present via Zoom.

Minutes from October approved with a correction. Michelle moved to approve, and Dave 2nd. All members said aye.

Farmer's Market report: Michele set up the table with our flyers, and Community Power Energy Aggregation information. Since the date of the Farmer's Market was changed to Sunday due to heavy rain on Saturday, we had low attendance at the market, compared to the usual. Still, Michelle came after church at 11 am, and the team of Michel(l)e's reached out to the vendors, and the attendees to offer our energy flyer, and to sign them up for information on Community Power. We determined that since Michele's painted rock (to hold down papers from the wind) was so popular that this would be a great project to do next summer to attract visitors to our table! Keep this in mind.

Energy Summit: Michelle Scott attended the 4 hour NH Energy Summit. This was presented as a picture of the state of NH energy present and future. The speakers were all from Energy Companies, like Eversource and Liberty, as well as the solar industry. Legislators with special support/interest spoke as well. Hydrogen generation was explored fairly intensely, with sources and examples of places which have initiated the use of hydrogen. Downside is it is usually produced using gas, as the alternative(making it from water) still needs cheaper ways to do this. But at least it is being seriously considered by the power companies, and education is taking place. Our Congressional Representatives all either spoke or sent a representative to read support for alternative energy sources as a leading priority. Maggie Hassen was there in person. Nothing dynamic from any of them, but awareness that people in their districts are concerned! See www.masonnhenergy.org for more information and some links.

See attached .pdf, with respect to energy storage, hydrogen at 3,000 psi stores roughly 3X per liter than Lithium, but at only 25-45% versus lithium's 85-95% efficiency. The current cost for Lithium ion storage ~\$300/kWh for home sized systems. Batteries last ~5,000 cycles. Assuming full charge/discharge you pass 5,000 kWh through the battery during its life. So cost of storage is \$300 / 5,000 = \$0.06 per kWh. This does not include any of the other system costs...

Energy Aggregation Committee: They did not have a quorum at their last meeting, so did not schedule any meetings for town yet. But have a warrant article developed, and are in contact with BOS for presentation.

Letter of Intent for Main Street grant: Dave and Kathy submitted this. it is simply an application to be considered for the grant.

MEC Education and Outreach: Michelle Scott has arranged for Wally Brown to buy 2 trees for the Town, with BOS approval. They will be planting one to replace the crash of a large maple near Mann House, and one to be planted near the Bode statue to provide shade on hot days. Also, on Oct 19, Michelle will teach a lesson in Ms. Alexis Caderet's 2nd grade class regarding the value of trees, especially as a carbon sink, and cooling shade. There is a "leaf craft" to go with this, and a very welcoming reception of the idea from Mason Elementary.

Richard Stockdale White Paper on Electric Vehicles and more! Richard shared this with MEC, and we were all impressed with its thoroughness. Plans are to present both a summary page, and the whole white paper to the BOS in October. Kathy will call to get us on the agenda.

Dave attended the Electric car/truck show in Keene, and collected information regarding trucks, charging info, and will share this with MEC at various meetings.

Reports on what other towns are doing: MEC members have picked towns to keep tabs on as far as energy activity whether or not they have a designated Energy Commission. Learning what goes on there involves paying attention to their websites, as well as call key persons to follow up on information that could be useful to us. Below is our list.

Temple -- Dave
Peterborough, Wilton, Wolfeboro -- Curt
Enfield, Atkinson -- Kathy
Concord, Bow, Brentwood -- Joe
New Boston -- Dick
Milford, Hillsborough -- Michele
Rindge, Portsmouth – Michelle

Meeting adjourned at 8:30. Motion made by Michele, and seconded by Dave. All were in favor of adjournment.