

Attending: Garth Fletcher and Curt Spacht (on zoom for personal reasons), Joe Harney, Dave Morrison, Michele Siegmann, Darrell Scott, Dick Stockdale, Kathy Chapman, Michelle Scott.

**Minutes from October.** These were approved and voted on, with one correction.

**Monadnock Clean Energy Roundtable** - November 15, Dublin The Hub and partner Clean Energy New Hampshire are planning a lively evening where town officials, committee members and others active in municipal clean energy projects will come together to report on their projects, share information and inspire new collaborations. Food will be provided! Kathy offered tickets which are free, and meeting is 11/15/23 at 5:30 in Dublin. All MEC members are invited, and Kathy has 2 tickets and plans to go.

**BOS meeting Community Power presentation** by Michele and Curt. John Suiter resigned from EAC. This happened before the last meeting, but he was still in when BOS met. They are supportive, and will have to review the plan and warrant article. These 2 documents are needed before Dec. The EAC voted/and approved, and sent to BOS.

Community Power Plan: needs to be reviewed at next EAC meeting. They will not make any major changes since this plan template has already been approved by PUC.

Informational Meetings: one in Jan on zoom and in person, and a follow up meeting just on zoom.

All the MEC members will read, and ask questions about the plan that might come up during the informational meeting. The purpose is just to be ready for any questions that come up. Opt in, opt out is the big confusion and debate that we have seen during other town discussions. Michele explained the choices people need to make depending on their power source, and Michele will ask Ms O'leary of Mason who works as town clerk in MA to speak at the meeting as she has a clear understanding from working with community power in MA.

**Education Component of MEC** Mason School Ms. Cadaret, second grade agreed to have Michelle come in to "teach the trees" and how they help reduce our energy costs. We talked about how they keep us cool, reduce CO2 for the planet, and make homes for animals and people! Students were wonderful, teacher was very cooperative, and helpful. Plans are to go back in the Spring with another lesson on sustainable energy sources, and planting the 2 trees which Wally Brown could not get this fall. Future steps, get Ms. Cardaret to help us get into other classrooms, and find out how to get free materials like the VT packets we had before Covid.

**Electric school bus:** Does Mason lease? What impact can MEC have on getting at least a few busses in the system. We will continue to ask questions. Dave will check with the bus company, and keep us updated with other nearby districts acquiring electric police cars and electric school buses for their districts.

**Dick and the BOS report.** EV for Mason, and charging station white paper. He's not sure what they did with it. Dick advises that we update the white paper each year, and bring it a BOS meeting. He feels that as electric car sales increase, the demand for charging stations will also increase. At this time he only knows of 4 electric cars in Mason. An example of progress: The cost of the batteries is 80% less, with the prediction they will become even cheaper. Of note: It only took about 10-13 years to transition from horses to cars in our historical past.

**Documentaries of Energy Use:** Dick says to look up Tony Seba, channel on Utube. Check it out.

Dick says sales are increasing, batteries are cheaper, and new sales are going to be strictly EV by 2030 or 2035. The energy website [www.masonenergynh.com](http://www.masonenergynh.com) can keep you up-to-date with the latest news on EVs and so much more. Thank you Curt Spacht for maintaining it.

**MEC Next Steps:** Kathy asks what action is MEC going to take?

- Solar panels may be something we can pursue as grants. Kathy will continue to look for grants, especially those which don't require matching funds to get solar panels for the Town.
- Monitor electricity use, and continue to show ways to decrease Town use.
- Continue to promote Community Power and be supportive to EAC

**Town Reports:** Portsmouth is up and running and now has a clear, descriptive website <https://www.communitypowernh.gov/portsmouth>

Rindge report: Hamilton also said he has seen examples of communities that adopted community power where it did not live up to promises of significant savings. He cited Marlborough Community Power, which has a basic rate of 11.1 cents per kilowatt hour, compared to the Eversource rate of almost 12.6 cents per kilowatt hour. While still a savings, Hamilton said it fell short of promises of savings he'd heard touted by community power advocates. Also in this article were discussions of opt out, vs opt in. No committee has been formed, but BOS approved the formation.

Michelle moved to adjourn, and Michele seconded , all agreed at 8:35pm

Temple -- Dave

Peterborough, Wilton, Wolfeboro -- Curt

Enfield, Atkinson -- Kathy

Concord, Bow, Brentwood -- Joe

New Boston -- Dick

Milford, Hillsborough -- Michele

Rindge, Portsmouth -- Michelle