

Community Power Committee

Meeting Minutes

September 26, 2023

Present: Janet Byron, Emily Wrubel, Richard Pelletier (chairperson)

Absent: Riché Colcombe, Augie Ros, Emily Manns (Standard Power representative)

In attendance: Dianne Rutherford, representing Laura Buono

Meeting called to order by Richard Pelletier at 2:06 PM.

Emily W. made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 9/15/23, Janet seconded, all approved.

Most of the meeting was spent discussing the Community Power survey pamphlet that will be given out to the town. Standard Power provided a sample survey with 10 questions. The committee reviewed each question and decided that the following questions will remain in the survey:

- Q1. Home or business in Hillsboro?
- Q2. Do you have solar panels?
- Q3. Who is your electricity supplier (including all the verbiage with the question)
- Q4. What benefits do you want Community Power to bring to the community? Only keep the first 3 choices, plus "Other".
- Q5. Do you want more renewable energy? (This will become the first question in the final pamphlet)
- Q8. Rent/Own home?

Emily W. brought up a good point that will require clarification from Standard Power. What happens when people move in and out of a residence? Are they automatically enrolled in Community Power? How do they even find out about it after the initial launch?

Dianne mentioned that, based on a past Community Power experience from another town, we should really promote the cost savings aspect of the Program and the fact that you can easily opt-out at any time.

Janet passed out an alternate pamphlet that contained more information about what Community Power is than the one originally provided by Standard Power. It was decided that the final pamphlet should contain the subset of questions listed above, plus the information provided in the alternate brochure, with the following modifications:

- Clarify that the Program will have multiple plan tiers for different percentages of renewable energy.
- Simplify the bullet about opting out with No Penalty
- Customers not on Eversource will still receive a letter telling them how they can opt-in if they want to.
- There will be two public hearings on 11/8 and 12/13 at 6:00PM before the Selectboard meeting. **Action:** Richard to clear this with the Selectboard.
- Several pieces of information that were taken from the Keene Community Power website will need to be vetted by Standard Power to be sure they will apply to Hillsborough as well.
 - Will Budget billing customers receive budget billing for the Delivery services portion of the bill ONLY?

- Is the opt-out postcard prepaid?
- Will net metering customers receive a separate letter?
- Will EAP customers still receive their discount?

Action: Janet to incorporate all suggested pamphlet changes for review at the next meeting. The pamphlet will be in electronic form so that Standard Power can cut and paste verbiage and pictures, if they so choose, in order to create the final brochure.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 3 @ 9:00AM.

Motion to adjourn at 3:05PM by Emily W., seconded by Janet, all approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Byron