

Community Power Committee

Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2023

Present: Janet Byron, Emily Wrubel, Richard Pelletier (chairperson), Riché Colcombe, Augie Ros, Emily Manns (Standard Power representative)

Absent: None

In attendance: Ann Ros

Meeting called to order by Richard Pelletier at 10:32 AM.

Augie made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 10/3/23, Emily W. seconded. All approved except Riché who came in late.

The bulk of the meeting was spent reviewing the Community Power survey pamphlet .pdf draft that was distributed by Standard Power.

The following edits were requested by the committee:

- Align survey circles with text.
- Change “If yes” to “If both,” in Q1.
- Make the cost savings footnote a smaller font.
- No space before the asterisk on “Anticipated cost savings”.
- Period at the end of the footnote.
- Period after 6:00PM.
- Period after Check all that Apply in Q3.
- Periods after full sentences in Q6.
- Periods after first two choices in Q2.
- Put red box around the second supply section in Eversource bill.
- Make sure leaf symbol not truncated.

Action: Standard Power to make requested survey changes and send to Janet for final approval.

Standard Power will print 100 copies of the survey at Premier Printing. If more are needed, they can print more.

Action: Riché to pick up printed surveys and leave at library for others to pick up.

Action: Emily M. to ask Standard Power to make a poster version of the survey.

Action: Emily W. to make a Facebook version/message that will be sent to the team for a consistent posting to all Hillsborough Facebook sites.

The material will be distributed at the following locations:

Paper surveys and poster:

Library: poster and survey (25) (Riché)

Town Hall: poster and survey (25) (Riché)

Shaw's: survey (10) (Riché)

Yanni's: survey (10) (Rich)

Emporium: survey (5) (Emily)

Monadnock Green: survey (5) (Emily)

Kat's Korner: survey (10) (Riché)
Diner: survey (10) (Riché)
Tooky's: poster (Riché)
Hillsboro House of Pizza: poster (Augie)
Post office: poster (Riché)
Butler Park: poster (Janet)
Main St. Bistro: poster (Riché)

Online postings:

Town website: survey (Janet)
Town Facebook: link to town website survey (Janet)
Private town Facebook sites: link to town website survey (Riché and Emily)
Re-post to all Facebook sites immediately prior to public hearings.
Hillsborough Hub: link to town website survey (Emily W. and Janet)

Riché is monitoring some community power sites in NH to glean lessons learned. One issue brought up is that the “slamming” NH RSA states that no one can change a person's utility choice without their explicit permission. But the Community Power RSA states that communities can have auto opt-in utility programs as long as there is voter approval.

Action: Everyone to review the Plan document for review at the next meeting.

Janet commented that a clause in the Plan states that regulatory changes (new tax/tariff) can cause our “fixed price” to change. Emily M. explained that the town bears the price risk of regulatory changes, but the supplier takes the risk for market changes (e.g. price hikes resulting from war/natural disasters, etc.). The committee needs to be clear about explaining that at town meeting and public hearings.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 24 from 10:00AM – 11:30AM.

Motion to adjourn at 11:59AM by Emily W., seconded by Riché, all approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Byron