



TOWN OF HUDSON

Sustainability Committee Minutes



Debra Putnam, Chairman Sustainability & Bob Guessferd, Selectmen Liaison

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November 20, 2023 – 7PM
Community Development (Buxton) Meeting Room

1. **Call to Order: 7:02pm**
2. **Attendance:** Kate Messner, Chris Thatcher, Debra Putnam, Ed Thompson, Alternates – Craig Putnam and Karl Huber. Bob Guessferd as Selectmen Liaison. The Chair recognized and Welcomed Karl Huber as a new Alternate on the Sustainability Committee as he continues to be very active on the Hudson Electric Aggregation Committee.
3. **Public Input: Kristen Sullivan** of 15 Lorraine St., Hudson, NH as a representative of Troop 20. Kristen spoke to the strong interest Troop 20 has in partnering with the Sustainability Committee on the Holiday Lights Collection. (see below)
4. **HEAC Report:** Craig Putnam and Kate Messner updated members on all matters connected with the Hudson Electric Aggregation Committee. The HEAC made a presentation to the BOS and subsequently the BOS voted on October 24 to accept the recommendation to partner with Community Power Coalition of NH. The required Public Information Session is already scheduled for January 31, 2024. Ads in the Hudson Times, and other forms of communication such as AFrame signs posted at the exits of each polling place on Jan. 23. In addition, placing AFrame signs around town and at the Deliberative Sessions. Hudson specific handouts will be at the Senior Center, Town Hall and Rodgers Library. CPCNH will be supplying various materials to “get the word out” at no cost to the Town.
Kate Messner explained about the benefits to attending the Local Energy Solutions Conference. In particular Kate noted that “it is an exciting time” as the dynamics of “distributed energy resources” – move to more renewables – is slowly coming in to reality. Kate and Craig noted that as more energy resources come on line the Electrical Grid in New England will become more stable and able to react more efficiently to demands.
5. **Approval of Minutes:** October 23, 2023, Minutes – Debra Putnam– (included in the Packet) Motion to approve made by Craig, seconded by Chris, no discussion, unanimously approved.
6. **Reports:**
 - **Trash-Recycling Tonnage Report:** 23.77% October
 - **Expenditure Report:** No expenditures in September

- 7. Hudson Transfer Station: It is open two Saturdays each month with the next two Saturdays being: Saturday November 25 and December 30 - 8:00am-12:00noon – 2023 passes will be needed. The Transfer Station is open for yard waste, metal & cardboard drop-offs 8am-12noon on Saturdays – No Pass required! DPW offices are still on the summer hours schedule: 6am-4pm Monday-Thursday until the first weekend in December. 2 Constitution Drive, Hudson.**
- 8. Hazardous Waste Collections:** The last Hazardous Waste Collection for this calendar year was on November 4th. Collection days will resume in the spring.
For more information please visit:
www.nashuarpc.org/energy_environment/household_hazardous_waste_collections/index.php
- 9. Holiday Lights Collection:** Chris explained the Holiday Lights Collection/Recycling program with the dates: November 22 to January 7. A sample box was present at the meeting. The flyer/sign was finalized with input received during the meeting and logos gathered shortly thereafter. The final version of the flyer was released, attached to each collection box and posted on multiple pages on Facebook.
A box each will be deployed indoors at the Town Hall and the Rodgers Memorial Library. The president of the Hudson/Litchfield Rotary club will also have a box out to accept strings of lights. Karl Huber explained what he will be facilitating at Shepards Hill.... enabling all of the 200 plus residences to easily participate in the Holiday Lights Collection.
Kristen explained the number of scouts involved across a wide age range and both boys and girls. Discussions took place to enable finalizing an alliance with Troop 20 on this particular project. They will be adding the Holiday Lights Collection as an option when running their Christmas Tree pick up campaign that raises funds for the Troop's activities.
Kristen noted that Troop 20 (meeting point is Nottingham West) in particular is interested in all opportunities to be involved in projects hosted by the Sustainability Committee into the future.
- 10. Roadside Cleanups:** During winter meetings will make plans for running a Cleanup near Earth Day – 2024 followed possibly by an Earth Day Party.
- 11. Management of the Sustainability Committee Facebook page:** Chris Thatcher was able to be added as an Administrator. Chris proposed updating the format of the committee's presence on Facebook to allow for posting of notices and communications with residents....so perhaps two formats that are linked – Page vs. Group.
- 12. The next meeting –** Craig made a motion to skip the December meeting. The next meeting would be January 22nd. Ed seconded the motion. No discussion. Unanimous vote to not meet in December.
- 13. Committee Member & Selectman Liaison Comments:** Karl expressed concern about Hudson's Master Plan. He noted that due to his experiences being on Committees in the town he formerly lived in that the Sustainability Committee should be invited to be intrinsically involved in the revision of Hudson's Master Plan. Bob Guessferd, Selectmen Liaison, explained the status of the revision process, in particular his involvement as a Liaison to both the Sustainability Committee and the Planning Board. The Planning Board is the board/committee that is in charge of the review and revisions. Karl expressed a sincere interest in being involved in the evolution of the Master Plan with Bob Guessferd expressing his appreciation of Karl's interest in involvement.

Bob Guessferd then explained the BOS' decision to vote in favor of a Solar Array installation on the West Road Landfill. He noted that there are issues involved to be considered. There will be a Warrant Article on the March Ballot for voters to consider whether to support or not. Deliberative Sessions to be held – Town and School on the first two weekends in February. Karl noted that the proposal of the Solar Array on the Town Landfill is completely separate from anything to do with Hudson Community Power. Ed noted the fact that Cheshire County joined CPCNH enabling the towns and cities within that County to more easily become members of CPCNH and eventually choose CPCNH as their community power aggregator.

- 14. Adjournment:** Motion made by Craig and seconded by Kate. All members voted unanimously at 7:58pm.

Debra Putnam

Hudson Sustainability Committee, Chair January 19, 2024