

1 **DRAFT MINUTES of CCPC**

2 2025-08-13

3 7 pm, Meeting House

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5 **Meeting called to order 7:10**

6 Present: Edgar Rivera, Beth McGuinn, Fred Portnoy, Tim Meeh, Beth Blair (*BOS rep and acting as*  
7 *secretary*)

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9 **Review and approve minutes of meetings June 11, 2025 and July 9, 2025**

10 Tim Meeh abstained from both votes as he did not attend either meeting //

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  - MINUTES 2025-06-11: No changes. All approved.
  - MINUTES 2025-07-09: One edit to lines 85-86 to fill in the program name as follows: “Beth McGuinn has been sitting in on CPCNH meeting of their “Program and Project Committee..” All approve.

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17 **REPORTS FROM CPCNH Reps**

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19 **Report from Edgar Rivera**

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21 Edgar has been trying to reach Andrew Hatch to get an orientation to CPCNH and had not been  
22 able to connect with him. Finally reached him by Email. Andrew Hatch on vacation until until  
23 August 18 and Edgar will connect with him then.

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25 A topic that Edgar will be discussing with Andrew Hatch is an update on state/amount of Adder  
26 Funds earmarked for the capital reserve fund (created in March/April of 2025 after a vote at Town  
27 Meeting). Andrew Hatch and Edgar will work on what needs to be done to get the money  
28 transferred to the Town account. At last count the fund was about \$5,200, but some monies might  
29 have to be withheld if people didn't pay their bills.

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31 Edgar expressed interest in also having a conversation with Andrew Hatch about the rates for  
32 CPCNH to buy power going up, and the possibility that it would help the viability of the program to  
33 keep our adder funds in the CPCNH account for now? The group believes this is not possible as it  
34 was voted at Town Meeting to specifically create a Cap. Reserve account to accept these funds.

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36 Note: Demand of elec. Increasing and they expect an 11% increase in New England over next 3  
37 years. Prices will go up. Discussion about cost of electricity and charges and how can CPCNH  
38 survive if their rates are higher than the utilities? Edgar will bring this up when he talks with Andrew  
39 Hatch. Opinion of our group seems to be most people will stay with Community Power than go  
40 through the trouble of switching. TBD!

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43 **Report from Beth McGuinn**

44 Beth McG attended a CPCNH focus group that is part of a Research program founded by the  
45 National Science Foundation in collaboration with Unutil. The research focuses on time of use and  
46 demand response. Some of the discussion concerned the prospect of smart refrigerators and

thermostats that could respond to time of day and demand. They want to see when usage is happening.

This is one of the projects of the CPCNH Programs and Projects committee.

The project hopes to gather info from Unitil customers to see if they want to participate in further research. Beth McG and 5 others participated in the focus group she attended. Most of the other people in the focus group were average Concord homeowners, no solar, standard air conditioning and electric use.

NOTE: Beth McG brought up the concern about Unitil solar customers not being able to participate in Community Power at this time because of prior net-metering deals with Unitil. She also suggested that the research might explore how solar users could charge batteries, and in the time of peak demand sell this stored power back to the utilities.

Beth McG has been called back to participate in a further study where an electrician will come to her home and install load sensors on each circuit to measure usage. Unitil is looking for a wide range of people for the study. Beth McG will send info to Beth Blair who would also like to participate. Also, they will install sensors on air conditioners and mini splits to sense usage and air quality. (Note: the group was curious why air quality was included in the data Unitil was collecting.)

Participants would get to keep sensors after the test and continue to read them. Beth McG has all the info from CPCNH which includes link to the equipment they would use. Question: When would this testing happen? Not sure.

Beth McG will forward the info to Beth Blair and to Town Admi, Ken Folsom to see if the Town would want to participate. Fred and Tim seem to think we would get a lot of good information about energy usage at the Municipal Complex. Fred thinks this is better than an energy audit...would check all circuits and give us lots of info about the municipal complex use.

Beth McG and Beth Blair feel that this information, together with any information we might garner from a free energy evaluation offered by John Nordberg (World Energy Services, Worcester, MA) would give a good current picture of energy usage in the Town's largest building complex. NOTE: Jeff Beltramo of the Energy Committee will be contacting John Norberg to find out what his energy evaluation would include.

Depending on the timing, we could offer this information to Canterbury Unitil customers to see if anyone else would want to participate.

#### **Message in Town Email of July 23, 2025**

A message from CCPC concerning the new Community Power Rates Starting Aug. 1 was distributed on the Town Email list. Beth McG heard from 2 people

- First question from a solar user who not eligible for CCPC. Beth McG brought up this to Andrew Hatch. CPCNH does not auto-enroll net metering customers, tho there is

93 opportunity to participate for certain solar customers who were customers prior to 2017.

94 Beth McG will forward me his response so I can insert his explanation here.

- 95 • Second question was about how CPCNH can justify different costs for the different utilities
- 96 in Town. Beth McG brought up this to Andrew Hatch. CPCNH does not auto-enroll net
- 97 metering customers.

#### 99 **Further Messaging from the Committee to the town.**

- 100 • Beth Blair will condense the info in town Email of July 23 so we can include it in town Email
- 101 more consistently. Community Newsletter deadline coming up, and the information will be
- 102 included there as well.
- 103 • Discussion around the CCPC budget. Beth Blair will find out what the budget amount is.
- 104 • Tim will go through what is written on the CCPC page on the Town website and see what is
- 105 still relevant. Will send it around to us all and we will discuss at next meeting.
- 106 • Beth McG will work out how new residents interact with CCPC (i.e. If a new resident sets up
- 107 a Unitil or Eversource account, are they automatically enrolled in Community Power, or is
- 108 there a lag time before Community Power enrolls them? Do they start off paying the utility
- 109 rates and then have to opt-in to Community Power?) The plan is to eventually have this
- 110 information on the Town website on the “How Do I....?” page, and the CCPC page.

#### 112 **How to increase CCPC Membership**

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114 At the moment, we are going to concentrate on an invitation in the Community Newsletter for the  
115 public to attend our monthly meetings, plus more frequent, short reminders in the town Email  
116 about rates, and residents’ choices about what they pay.

- 118 • Beth Blair to contact Lenore Howe to see if she would like to rejoin the committee.
- 119 • Members encouraged to invite interested friends, neighbors to attend a meeting to see
- 120 what we do and if they might be interested in joining.

#### 122 **Future projects of CCPC**

123 At the moment the Committee will focus on interacting with CPCNH (Beth McG and Edgar to  
124 attend meeting, seminars, etc.) and making sure information about any programs of interest/use  
125 to the residents or municipality is adequately shared or directed to the proper department.

#### 127 **Cell service coverage/usage in Canterbury**

128 At this time, this is not a project that the CCPC has the ability to take on.

- 129 • Beth Blair will follow up on the North Hampton connection forwarded from Ken Folsom
- 130 (David Maxson from Isotope) and see what services Isotope offered to that town. Was it
- 131 more than just permitting for cell towers, or did they offer a wider range of possibilities for
- 132 dealing with poor cell coverage?
- 133 • Fred Portnoy willing to assist in this project but is not interested in leading a separate ad
- 134 hoc committee to deal with this topic.

#### 136 **Any other business.**

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138 Beth McG:

- Informs us of the Local Energy Solutions conference Thurs., Sept. 25. 9-4pm. Look on NH Clean Energy NH website. The Canterbury Energy Committee is a member of Clean Energy NH, so they have 2 tickets. Schedule of workshops not available yet so we are not sure if any topics would be of interest to CCPC. Beth McG seems to think that there will be some Community Power topics, but we don't know yet.
- A new model solar zoning ordinance has been released from SolSmart and Clean energy. She will work with Josh Gordon of the Planning Board to present to the Town at a future date.

### **Next meeting**

Next meeting is postponed to Wed., Sept 17 (3<sup>rd</sup> Wed. of the month) due to conflicting events at our regularly scheduled meeting date of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday (Solar Petting Zoo and Farmers Market).

### **Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm**

### **TO DO LIST:**

#### **ALL:**

- Read draft minutes of 2025-08-13 and comment to Beth Blair before next meeting.
- Encourage friends and neighbors to attend one of our monthly meetings in hope that they will join the committee.

#### **Edgar Rivera:**

- Touch base with Andrew Hatch after Aug. 18 to get his orientation, and to discuss the how-to's of getting our "adder" funds deposited to the Town's cap reserve fund created for them.
- Keep committee informed if there are any topics at upcoming Local Energy Solutions conference that might interest CCPC.

#### **Beth McGuinn:**

- Forward info to Beth Blair and Ken Folsom re: Unitil usage study.
- Forward Email to Beth Blair from Andrew Hatch re: his explanation about possible opportunities for solar users to be included in Community Power.
- Craft an explanation of how new residents to Canterbury get enrolled in Community Power.
- Keep committee informed if there are any topics at upcoming Local Energy Solutions conference that might interest CCPC.
- Confer with Josh Gordon of the Planning Board on SolSmart's model solar ordinance.

#### **Tim Meeh:**

- Edit the description of CCPC's mission and projects found on the Town website to more accurately reflect what the committee is doing NOW.

#### **Fred Portnoy:**

- *Fred, I don't think you were singled out for a particular task, other than to continue to ask good questions, lend your expertise to the discussions, and be willing to help with the cell phone usage/coverage issue! Let me know if I missed something...B.*

Beth Blair:

- Condense info from town Email of July 23 to include in upcoming Community newsletter and to repeat in town Email.
- Find out what the budget is for CCPC.
- Contact Lenore Howe to see if she is interested in re-joining CCPC.
- Follow up on North Hampton connection with David Maxson from Isotope. Talk further with Ken Folsom and possibly Fred Portnoy to see how this info might be useful for improving cell coverage in Canterbury. *(This is actually not a CCPC project, but it did come up in discussion.)*