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# Committee for Energy Efficiency and Sustainability (CEES)

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## Committee Special Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, July 8, 2020

7:00pm to 9:00pm

GoToMeeting Video Stream

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### Purpose

The July 8, 2020 CEES meeting will begin by welcoming Anna Siegel to present her work as a climate activist and Portland High School student. The group will then continue their discussion on a community-wide solar farm concept and explore other project ideas.

### Agenda

Item	Agenda	Start Time
1	<b>Call to Order/Greetings:</b> Approval of June 10, 2020 Minutes	<b>7:00 pm</b>
2	<b>Welcome Anna Siegel:</b> Guest Speaker and Climate Activist	<b>7:05 pm</b>
3	<b>Yarmouth Community Solar Farm:</b> Next Steps	<b>7:35 pm</b>
4	<b>New Business</b>	<b>8:30 pm</b>
5	<b>Adjourn</b>	<b>9:00 pm</b>

### Materials

6.10.20 Meeting Minutes

### Board Members

Heather Abbott, Chair  
Toby Ahrens  
David Ertz  
Kurt Adams  
David Craig  
Mike Sears  
Chuck Parker  
Scott Sherriff  
Peter Fromuth  
Margaret Downing

### Staff

Scott LaFlamme,  
*Economic Development Director*  
  
Nat Tupper,  
*Town Manager*

### Strategic Priorities & Outcomes / Next Steps (Previously Identified)

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# Committee for Energy Efficiency and Sustainability (CEES)

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## Committee Special Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 10, 2020

7:00pm to 9:00pm

GoToMeeting Video Stream

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### Purpose

The June 10, 2020 CEES meeting will begin by closing out the Solar PPA project and conclude by brainstorming future projects/initiatives.

### Agenda

#### 1. Call to Order

Heather Abbott brought the meeting to order at 7:05pm. Toby Ahrens made a motion to accept the May 6, 2020 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by David Ertz and passed without comment.

#### 2. Solar PPA Follow-Up

David Ertz began by providing a preliminary review of the draft Power Purchase Agreement submitted to the Town by ReVision. Overall, the agreement was straight forward, but there were two adjustments to their original proposal. First, since submitting the proposal, ReVision learned of an additional transmission study for their Sidney facility. The transmission study was prompted by several projects being planned in the same transmission territory. However, even with a potentially delayed timeline, ReVision's proposal was still the most aggressive. ReVision also mentioned that the performance guarantee that was included in their proposal may be adjusted based on their partner investor. Performance guarantees are not allowed if the investor is utilizing USDA Rural Development funds. The Committee agreed that it was in ReVision's best interest to have a productive system and felt comfortable moving forward.

Scott LaFlamme reported that ongoing discussions with ReVision have been positive, and the Town's attorney is negotiating final details with ReVision's representation. S. LaFlamme expects the agreement to be completed soon.

#### 3. Brainstorming: Next Steps

Prior to the discussion, S. LaFlamme asked Councilor Humphrey to clarify the Town Council's intent of the Committee. Specifically, was the Committee meant to focus on energy-related policy or a broader sustainability focus?

### Materials

May 6, 2020 Meeting Minutes

### Members Present

Heather Abbott, Chair

Toby Ahrens

David Ertz

Kurt Adams

David Craig

Mike Sears

Chuck Parker

Scott Sherriff

Margaret Downing

### Staff

Scott LaFlamme,

*Economic Development Director*

Nat Tupper,

*Town Manager*



David Craig and A. Humphrey gave historic context of the committee and general guidelines for future projects. Both felt that as the group has matured, new projects should be pursued with Town Council being informed.

H. Abbott opened the discussion for brainstorming ideas. D. Craig began by introducing the idea of **rehabilitating the Royal River and its fish habitat**. S. LaFlamme provided some context regarding work being completed by the Army Corps of Engineers. D. Craig suggested that the committee would be the best suited group to review the Army Corp report and provide stakeholder outreach. T. Ahrens recommended that since this topic will certainly become controversial, should CEES take on the review it should be done transparently as possible. The group generally agreed with helping develop the technical reporting was worth exploring, should the Town Council decide to assign it to the committee.

Prior to the meeting, Kurt Adams suggested looking at how the Town could mitigate and harness excess **methane at the Wastewater Treatment Plant**. Unfortunately, K. Adams was not present, but there was a brief conversation among the committee. The group felt that further exploration is needed. S. LaFlamme was tasked with working with Steve Johnson, Town Engineer, on their outstanding questions.

**Community Solar:** Group generally agreed that this could be reconsidered. With the economics seen through the PPA, the committee agreed that it makes sense to investigate. The committee suggested looking at the Sligo Road property again, in hopes of partnering with a for-profit entity who might be willing to take on CMP's liability. There was a sense of urgency from the group to move forward on additional solar projects so that residents could take advantage of the 26% (22% in 2021) federal tax incentive.

#### 4. Adjourn

The June 10, 2020 CEES meeting adjourned at 8:30pm upon mutual consent.

### Strategic Priorities & Outcomes / Next Steps (Previously Identified)

- D. Ertz to talk with ReVision
- Mike – Fish Passage
- April – Solarize
- Scott – Wastewater Treatment Plant: Does the plant have digestors?
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