Cornish Energy Committee
Meeting minutes 5 Oct, 2026
Cornish Town Offices

Present: CEC members: Richard Thompson, Susanne Haseman, Stuart Foote, Tony Newton (alternate), Kevin Noble (alternate); Doug Cogan (Clean Energy)
Via zoom: Mike Belanger (member), Joanna Sharf (Cornish)

-1-. Approval of minutes for 14 Sep, 2026 CEC mtg. Stuart moved, Richard seconded. Minutes approved.

-2-. Joanna - Residential Energy Credits for CCI bldg. Registration steps to get the RECs in place, CCI overloaded and not willing to take it on. Worth getting it all set for turn-over. Joanna & Tony working it, 4 documents to assemble. Joanna to try to get what is needed from the CCI folks, Tony not comfortable pushing harder himself.

-3-. Joanna - Energy Technology Innovation Partnership Project: Coastal, Remote, and Island Community Technical Assistance (ETIPP). Web page with details: https://www.nlr.gov/state-local-tribal/etipp-technical-assistance

Current cycle applications Nov 18, 2026. Provides technical assistance for towns to organize and set up plans for energy resilience.

Two grant option tracts this cycle:
- strategic energy planning, grant up to $20K, establish goals & plans for implementations 4 - 8 months.

- deep dive into energy resiliency at the town level, grant up to $50K, but already must have an established resiliency plan before award

Criteria - requires town support, from 2 sources, and letters of agreement from utility providers (so all three from Cornish).

Comments: Richard, so an annual program? Future awards? Likely.

Richard: just not feasible this year with an Nov app date. Let's all review the ETIPP and reconsider for future participation.

Sidebar later in mtg.--Kevin, regards ETIPP might be a "resiliency" topic for Cornish to study the impact of wider heat pump adoption on our power grid and supplies? Possibly.

-4-. Richard: Solar energy display at the Cornish Community Center/Library.

- CCI overloaded, does not want to take it on
- CEC members see benefits, willing to raise funds
- We'll wait until after turn-over
- its Enphase data reporting gateway
- appealing as it both gives graphics of Solar production, and visible status of the solar production and health
- CCI satisfied at this time with the monitoring that Chris Sparadeo already provides as installer / integrator.

Q - at transfer of Solar system title to town from CCI, will Enphase still honor the warranty after turnover?

A - unclear.

Action - ask Chris S. about:
(1) notification, monitoring
(2) how could transfer warranty be done?
(3) possible/appropriate to delay the registration(s) for:
  - panels
  - gateway
  - micro-inverters

-5-. Richard: matching funds for CCI's Solar installation funding. Jamie Hess, and one other doner, $10K and $5K respective.

CCI had put out call for donations via ConnectCornish

Total cost for the Solar was $137K

What CEC actions?
- advertise, to get the word out
- something for ConnectCornish from the CEC

Action: Richard to compose a "Booster" piece to supplement CCI's, after consultation with CCI.

-6-. Doug Cogan (Clean Energy NH):

(1). Report on the 2nd organizational mtg (via Zoom) of Upper Valley Sustainability HUB (U/V Hub) which intends to follow the successful model of Monadnock "HUB", which provides energy "Coaching" for home owners as well as grants for weatherization, renewable energy and even EVs.

Richard, Tony and Reinmar Seidler from Cornish had attended the zoom. (next zoom mtg 10/27/26 at noon).

Membership likely will parallel Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (UVLSRPC) which comprises 27 towns, including Cornish.

One mission of U/V HUB would be to provide education for residents vs. commercial business. With some practical technical assistance.

(2). There was no grant awarded by the New England Heat Pump Accelerator this cycle.

(3). Doug gave feedback on the email Richard had received from KT&T. They're legit, and apparently well known to Clean Energy NH, and doing energy audits for NH Saves. Richard will get Kevin the contact info for KT&T, and Kevin will get in touch and see what their energy audit process might offer for Cornish town properties.

-7-. Tony Newton – gave updates on HAREI status:

- Scott Barthold (Lyme) and Tony Newton (Cornish) were appointed to the HAREI Board.

- currently 2 HAREI projects underway locally
(1) Jordan D., Hanover--a ballasted ground mount system
(2) Scott B., doing change out of an inverter at a local Elementary school, quite old mixed 208/120 inverters. Panels are low capacity but with inverter changes system salvageable.

HAREI operates on an "owner assist model" not a commercial business. And "owners" are expected to undertake their own support “post installation”.

HAREI does some other things for their local area--food pantry, library, public works, etc.; some might be possible for a "chapter" here in the Upper Valley.

Discuss having a working chapter, Tony thinks it is time to take our chapter public and publicize. Advantages to members: 501(c)3 organizational liability protection [under RSA 508:17], good technical resources, support for Solar projects planning.

So what name would it use? "Chapter of HAREI"? Not clear what the HAREI leadership will agree to, some folks not too keen on a "chapter". But Chairman Chris Colbe and Vicechair Steve Ettleson both supportive.

And we've done a HAREI type project locally already at the Meriden Library.

-8- Tony gave update on the Meriden Library. Plainfield not really keeping up their end regarding *post install* upkeep. In fact, the combiner / gateway had a blown ckt. board. So no data logging for 3 months. Plainfield attempted to shift responsibility back on Tony as designer. Chris S. and Tony had identified the bad board, but since Plainfield is the registered owner it's up to them to obtain warranty replacement which has not yet been done.

Doug asked if Tony and Richard might be able to give a presentation on evolving HAREI chapter at the Local Energy Solutions (LES) Conf at Manchester, Nov 12th.
https://www.cleanenergynh.org/event-details/2026-local-energy-solutions-les-conference
There is fair amount of interest in what emerges here in the U/V. Tony and Richard said maybe, but they'd need to check with Chris and Steve.

Some discussion of the new Community Center estimated solar production vs. energy budget. Comment that the budget was done at 16hrs week, no kitchen, no air exchanger, no dehumidifier in basement.

Cautionary example from the Barrington Library, where they had 9500 sq ft and 74K of solar is averaging just 90% of consumption. While the CCI system with 43K of solar for 6300 sqft is undersized to begin with. Chris S. had made that observation.

Adjourn 8:35 PM

Next meeting: as scheduled, Mon, 2 Nov, 7:00pm--8:30pm