



ENERGY & CLIMATE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, February 5, 2020, 8:00 AM

2nd Floor Committee Room, City Hall

Members:

Dr. Ann Shedd, Chair
Peter Hansel, Vice Chair
Terry Clark, Councilor
Jake Pipp
Ken Dooley

Cary Gaunt
Anna Schierioth
Rod Bouchard
Andrew Dey
Zach Luse

Staff:

Rhett Lamb, ACM/Community Development Director
Mari Brunner, Planner

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Approval of January 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes
3. Energy Plan
 - a. Timeline and Work Plan - through June 2020
 - b. UNH Sustainability Fellow Program
 - c. Draft goals, objectives, and evaluation criteria for strategy selection
 - d. Draft performance metrics
 - e. Focus group update
 - f. Planning for community forum #2
 - g. Consultant status and progress
4. Community Choice Aggregation
5. Correspondence
 - a. Christa Daniels regarding “Game of Floods”
 - b. Eric Swope regarding NH Drinking Water Festival
 - c. Clean Energy Team – Request for ECC sponsorship of a NHSaves “Button Up” Workshop
6. New Business
7. Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 4, 2020
8. Adjourn

City of Keene
New Hampshire

Energy and Climate Committee
MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 8, 2020

8:00 AM

Second Floor Committee
Room

Members Present:

Dr. Ann Shedd, Chair
Peter Hansel, Vice Chair
Jake Pipp
Ken Dooley
Terry Clark
Zack Luse
Cary Gaunt
Anna Scherioth
Andrew Dey
Rod Bouchard

Members not present:

Chris Brehme

Staff Present:

Mari Brunner, Planner

Guests present:

Mayor George Hansel
Carolyn Jones
Nancy Gillard
Charles Daloz
Dee Robbins
Yves Gakunde
Corinne Marcou
Chuck Weed
Pat Martin
Thomas Carter, Freedom Energy Logistics
Fromuth Fromuth, Freedom Energy Logistics

Dr. Shedd called the meeting to order at 8:03 AM and roll call was conducted.

1. **Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

Dr. Shedd asked committee members for their nominations for Chair. She said she and Vice Chair Hansel are happy to continue serving as Chair and Vice Chair or turn over their positions if that is the committee's will. She stated that she and Vice Chair Hansel had also spoken about rotating their positions as they each have served in their current capacities for a number of years.

Vice Chair Hansel moved that Dr. Shedd remain in her position as Chair for the year 2020, Mr. Bouchard seconded and all members agreed unanimously.

Mr. Bouchard moved to nominate Vice Chair Hansel again as Vice Chair, Mr. Pipp seconded and all members agreed unanimously.

2. **Approval of December 4, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Vice Chair Hansel moved to accept the December 4, 2019 meeting minutes, Mr. Bouchard seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

3. **Welcome and Introduction from Mayor Hansel**

Mayor Hansel introduced himself to the committee and stated that one of his responsibilities as the new Mayor of Keene is to appoint members to Boards and Commissions. He stated he will be reappointing Mr. Terry Clark to ECC. He stated that he is open to any recommendations from committee members and is here to make sure the committee is working well. Mayor Hansel said that he supports ECC's work as it serves as an ideal model for other committees in the amount of engagement and work that has been invested. He said he has not yet read the Energy proposal but he is in support of the objectives.

Dr. Shedd stated that Mayor Hansel has been a champion of weatherization initiatives in the City and the committee is looking forward to hearing more about his aspirations. Mayor Hansel replied that a team is putting together a "broad strokes" plan for a program to provide weatherization and renovation of about 20-30 homes per year in Keene. The aim is to implement the mechanisms to make the plan happen and ensure that funding and rebates, as well as technical expertise are readily accessible to homeowners interested in the program. He said the plan is in its early stages, however, he would appreciate input from ECC. Dr. Shedd asked Mayor Hansel if the program will be public or private and Mayor Hansel replied it will be a mix of both. He said the program would not be housed in the City of Keene, however, the City will serve as a supportive partner.

Ms. Gaunt stated informed Mayor Hansel that students in Keene State College's Architecture program used to engage community members and perhaps they can involve the students in that program. Mayor Hansel replied that KSC students have been discussed, however, there are many groups that have done different things and they are looking to develop a simplified version. He said they aim to connect neighbors to other community members that are in need by spring 2020.

4. **ECC Membership**

Dr. Shedd stated that Mr. Brehme has submitted his resignation and will be stepping down from the committee. This leaves one regular seat and a few alternate seats open. Mayor Hansel replied that his process involves either an in-person meeting or phone call before he will nominate a member. He suggested that Ms. Brunner provide a contact list for him to review potential members.

Ms. Gaunt added that she received a letter from the City stating that her term was over at the end of August. Ms. Brunner replied that as long as she still wants to serve on the committee, she still has six more years of term service. Ms. Brunner added that she met a woman named Ms. Meaghan Rafferty who is interested in joining the committee. She said Mr. Howard Jones of Smiths Medical and Mr. Paul Roth of the Cheshire Medical Center have also been put forward as potential members, and Mr. Roth has expressed interest. Mayor Hansel informed Dr. Shedd that he will require a resume and some more information about potential members; however, if Ms. Brunner provides a list of names and contact information he can call individuals and gauge their interest.

5. **2020 Meeting Schedule**

Dr. Shedd said that the remainder of the year the committee will remain on their regular meeting schedule. They will meet in the Second Floor **Committee** room instead of the Second Floor Conference room.

Mr. Clark asked if they will be doing their quarterly meetings as well and Dr. Shedd replied they have not done so in the past quarter or two, but they could consider going back to that arrangement in 2020. She said Ms. Brunner can coordinate how they will schedule the extra meetings. Ms. Brunner said last year they did three two-hour meetings outside of the normal meeting schedule but they were scheduled a month in advance. Dr. Shedd said the later time slots could be more agreeable to members. Ms. Brunner stated that she can send out a Doodle Poll to schedule a meeting for February or March. Vice Chair Hansel asked if the timing is appropriate for when they will receive information back from the consultants. Ms. Brunner said they will at least have a baseline by then and the consultants' next step is to provide a longer list of strategies to narrow down based on a prioritization exercise. Vice Chair Hansel replied that would be a good topic for a workshop and Dr. Shedd agreed.

Dr. Shedd said there is a memo from Cadmus for the State and City regulatory context as it relates to electricity, and she found some items that could be expanded upon. For example, the City regulatory context did not include the renewable energy property tax exemption, the SEED zoning district or the Downtown zoning district. She said there are items that can be fleshed out in what Cadmus has presented so far. Dr. Shedd asked Ms. Brunner where Cadmus is in receiving data from Eversource. Ms. Brunner replied they have received a few iterations of data from Eversource and there was a bit of back and forth, but she expects it will be completed by next month.

6. **Presentation & Discussion on Community Choice Aggregation, Freedom Energy Logistics**

Mr. Thomas Carter and Mr. Fromuth Fromuth were present to discuss the Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) initiative (enabled by SB 286) that passed into law in 2019. They gave a brief introduction to their firm, Freedom Energy Logistics based in Auburn, NH (near Manchester). Mr. Fromuth said that he worked with people from the City of Lebanon to get Community Choice Aggregation passed. He stated that SB 286 was needed because the residential rate class has largely been left behind with energy deregulation. Deregulation has been available for large and smaller businesses (90% are with a third party supplier); however, the residential rate class is on the order of 20%. He said one of the reasons behind this gap is predatory business practices which solicit homeowners to move to third party suppliers. He said many of these third party suppliers do not have access to strong contract language and terminologies that are beneficial to consumers.

Mr. Carter stated that homeowners typically do not have the same access to a team or broker that a business would have to help them understand the benefits and pitfalls and how to best shape their individual needs. Mr. Fromuth stated that buying in bulk is a huge benefit; however, as a homeowner there is a lack of access to information about actual rates available from large manufacturers. He said up until this point opt-in aggregation was the only option available and Freedom Energy Logistics managed the largest opt-in program in NH which reached to a scale of 14,000, however, even at that scale you are not getting the full buying power that you can with opt-out aggregation which just passed into law. He said there is a lot of potential ahead and now that they have addressed some of these concerns they are ready to implement the plan. He said that he and Mr. Carter are here to share information about how to get an opt-out program started.

Mr. Carter stated that there was a big fight with HB 365 and raising the limits on net metering which came up short by 4 or 5 votes; however, the thought process was that there would be some way to enable CCA programs to link up with locally-owned, renewable generators because they do not have the ability right now to buy from them directly. He said that after the failure of HB 365, community choice aggregation became option B in terms of that mechanism. Mr. Fromuth stated that many communities are looking at using their CCA group purchase to involve local

renewable hydro and solar generators into the overall fuel mix for what would supply their communities. For example, Nashua has a 4.5 megawatt hydro dam that is native to Nashua, and they are doing a CCA bid to eventually acquire a third-party supplier that would be inclusive of that 4.5 megawatts of hydropower into their overall fixed rate offering to the community. The town of Derry has 1.5 megawatts of solar that they cannot do anything with because of the 1 megawatt cap so they are looking into including that into their CCA plan.

Mr. Carter stated that Lebanon is taking the lead on some of the more complex arrangements with CCA and want to become their own Lebanon power group and serve their residents as the City of Lebanon. He said part of the reason is because they are looking to bring things like real time power options to the residential rate base, which would allow residents to track their usage and shift usage into off peak times where prices are about 50% lower than on peak. He said that is not possible right now without the proper metering. Mr. Fromuth says he calls it an “alternative default supply” and allows the City to set up a separate CCA fund that gets put into developing smart meters. Mr. Carter said that CCA does not replace the utility itself, it just refers to the supplier.

Mr. Fromuth stated that it takes collaboration with a third party supplier so part of their goal is to get high-level suppliers interested in serving CCA communities in NH. He added that NH does not have a program called purchase-of- receivables which other states like OH, NY and MA have which would require the utility to guarantee the payment for every customer so there is a bit of a credit risk in NH because the supplier would have to take that on themselves. There are some regulations coming up that would help address that, for example, right now the utility gets paid 100%, so they advise patience on the CCA option as they still need the right partners to service customers. For example, 26 communities came together for a CCA bid in MA and the vendor that they selected did not have the strongest language but had the best pricing and mid-way through the contract they increased the charge on all rate payers within the CCA program by 0.5 a penny per kilowatt hour. He said the option is often treacherous and that is why many communities choose not to go with a third party supplier.

Mr. Fromuth stated that the City of Keene is in a fantastic position because they have an active energy committee and these are often the individuals who will eventually form the CCA committee team, along with the Mayor and City staff. Mr. Carter said there are templates available that their company would help the City of Keene customize for their specific goals. He said the plan will also be online as they host websites for all of their CCA members with 24-hour customer service with the plan and different program options. He said there will be additional plans, for example, a 100% Green offering and that is the locally-resourced green energy. Mr. Fromuth stated that many communities in NH can only authorize a CCA on a town meeting day but the governing body of Keene already has the power to do authorize a program at any time. It goes to City Council and once it is approved, they are then able to go out and bid for suppliers, and once a supplier is selected they can move into the next phase of rolling out the plan to the community which would entail public education, forums and meetings.

Mr. Fromuth said there will be different programs for residential customers than there would be for commercial and industrial sectors and that is because most of that sector are already on a third party supplier contract of some type, for example, a market- based or pass through arrangement. He said residential accounts will be on a fully fixed price opportunity. Mr. Fromuth said it could take a time frame of about 90 days from when a supplier is selected to when the CCA plan is ready to be rolled out to the community. He said MA went from no communities on the CCA plan five years ago to about 150 communities signed on currently. Rhode Island will be setting up soon and CT has a bill in the legislature to sign and there are lots of success stories from NY, OH

and California as well. Mr. Carter said that there are many opportunities; however, simplicity is important to begin with and more aggressive goals can be added in later. He said their job is to work with the City and their team on evaluating their various options. Mr. Fromuth stated that the development of the Energy Plan is a great time to start working these goals into their plan.

Dr. Shedd stated that a few ECC members have attended presentations on community power by Clean Energy NH and admitted it is a complicated realm. She asked if members had questions for the presenters. Vice Chair Hansel asked the presenters how they fit into the marketing scheme with their competitors in NH. Mr. Fromuth replied that there are only a couple of consultants of their size in NH, Free Energy Logistics and Usource Energy, that have the capability and manpower to achieve this as it requires a high degree of customer service and community education. He said the reason they would want to hire them is to ensure they are not fielding customer service calls at City Hall and to avoid having to acquire new resources or funding. Vice Chair Hansel asked how they themselves acquire the funding to be paid. Mr. Fromuth replied that their funding comes as part of the overall CCA rate that gets put into place. He said they do a lot of forefront work, for example, they help write the aggregation plan, send opt-out cards out and provide customer service. He said there are a number of brokers in the state of NH, however, they are the only ones with opt-in aggregation experience, and they have worked with many communities and counties in NH.

Vice Chair Hansel asked if there are any examples of counties organizing CCA plans in NH. Mr. Fromuth replied that they are talking to other counties as well and the State has authorized counties to do aggregation of all communities within the County, however, the problem is not from the legislative or authorization phase but on the supplier end. He said they gave individual communities priority over the counties as that will work better for smaller counties, or alternatively, if County members can reach an agreement to respect the County aggregation. Mr. Carter stated that he envisions the smaller counties taking advantage of the opportunity and not the larger ones, as it does not make sense on the supply side to take that risk.

Mr. Clark asked how the customer billing and supplier payment works. Mr. Fromuth replied that the basic model would involve Eversource continuing to charge customers for transmission and distribution charges, however, under the energy supply the invoice will say, for example, "Constellation New Energy" and provide the CCA rate so there will be no need for a change in the behavior of the consumer. However, if the City decides to go the route that Lebanon took and do their own community power group, they will need a dual billing mechanism as the utility is not set up to do a changing monthly rate. In that case, the consumer would get one bill from the utility for transmission and distribution, and a second bill that has the monthly electricity rate. Mr. Carter said there is a waterfall of payments that goes on in the background that the consumer does not see and that is why there are complexities they are working on with the suppliers to make sure they want to come on board.

A member asked if that means they are running a full back office, and the presenters agreed. Mr. Fromuth stated they provide a hosted website for every community. They help communities work through the logistics of the process and provide a 24-hour call center and chat line, as well as progress bars once the community moves forward to track progress. He noted that once the notification is released of their selected vendor, they will also provide comparisons with Eversource and any certificates of green power recs. All communications will be housed in a central hub or location online. A member asked if they can offer smart metering and Mr. Fromuth replied that they do not offer smart metering but they can help communities who want to do this, for example, if smart meters or EV chargers are goals for the City they can include those features in their plan. Mr. Carter stated that is why they help identify community goals and then they can

share goals and achievements from other communities like Lebanon. A member asked if they can share models from other communities. Mr. Fromuth replied that each community has different structures. For example, in California CCA programs are housed with joint agencies and run by full-time staff. He said MA is ahead of NH in the number of communities involved, however, the way NH is attempting to structure their plans would allow for the inclusion of local hydro and solar. He stated that California is much more advanced in terms of how their market is structured and they have set the tone in terms of what is possible.

Ms. Gaunt asked how the program works for residents or businesses that have already established net metering agreements with Eversource for a portion of their power. Mr. Fromuth replied that there is still some confusion under net metering and they would probably be treated as a third party supplier, however, he will need to clarify this. He said if they are on assistance programs with Eversource, he would recommend they stay with Eversource as the third party supplier will not offer the same rates. Ms. Gaunt asked how these cases could play into the City of Keene's 100% renewable plan. Mr. Fromuth replied that he would need to get back to her with a solid answer for that question.

Dr. Shedd asked the presenters if communities from other counties, like Peterborough, could be included in a County scale opportunity. Mr. Bouchard noted that he is attempting to study what this plan would look like with Clean Energy NH and he asked if the presenters would be able to assist in acquiring organizational models that would help with the study of best practices. He said they are looking into an inter-County aggregation so they can extend the number of people served across County lines. Mr. Fromuth replied that the County system works well for smaller towns because it avoids the need for everything to be done on Town Meeting day, which can limit the timeline for CCA programs. Mr. Bouchard asked if a community outside of a County join in and Mr. Fromuth replied they could, but they would have to go through their local town authorization and line up with Cheshire in a joint-bid. He said communities that want to pool assets should make sure they are working together.

Mr. Bouchard said the County needs to understand the operational model better for how that would take place as the large towns can then decide to do the plan on their own. A member asked whether California is vertically integrated or did they deregulate their power. Mr. Fromuth replied that California is a regulated state so the CCA option is the exception to that model. The member asked Mr. Fromuth if the legislation related to upcoming regulation is a good or bad thing. Mr. Fromuth replied that they wrote some legislation that suppliers had asked them to put forth in regards to the waterfall payment structure and every senator has signed up as a co-sponsor so they feel good about getting that through the Senate.

Mr. Bouchard stated that there will be a webinar coming out this Friday that will address sorting through the options so they can focus on what the real value is for a CCA plan.

Dr. Shedd stated that Clean Energy NH has expressed interest in playing a role with the back office support and Mr. Bouchard replied that Freedom Energy Logistics is aiming to provide logistical support. Ms. Brunner stated that the City of Keene is excited about this option for the community and the City Manager had asked if Freedom Energy Logistics could be put on the agenda to provide the Committee, which has been discussing this topics for several months now, with an opportunity to learn more about CCAs and ask questions of Mr. Carter and Mr. Fromuth. She asked if the ECC would like to make a recommendation to City Council to show support for a CCA program. She asked if ECC members think that the CCA concept is something that should be brought to the attention of City Council.

Vice Chair Hansel replied that they might require more study before presenting the concept to City Council. Councilor Clark added that any recommendation for City Council should be in the Energy Plan, so rolling out bits of information to City Council may not be the best strategy as there are other options to consider, for example, microgrids and actually becoming the energy supplier, which in that case the CCA model would not work. Dr. Shedd said that if the City of Keene jumps in alone on a CCA opportunity, where does that leave the rest of the County? She added that although ECC's function is to advise the City, Keene is not an island and that enabling change on a broader scale is important as well. Dr. Shedd asked for clarification about low-income people receiving energy assistance. Members replied that those individuals are getting such a reduced cost per kilowatt that the third party rates would not even come close. Ms. Pat Martin, guest, stated that the regulations have changed and people who do opt for a competitive supplier can still get on board with an electric assistance program. It used to not be that way and it was problematic but it has been changed. Another member proposed that the CCA can also create a similar program. Ms. Martin replied that the assistance is not on the power side but on the distribution side and Eversource is still providing the assistance.

Ms. Brunner clarified that the City Manager is interested in starting the RFP process to select a vendor like Freedom Energy Logistics who would help the City work through these ideas. She encouraged members to keep in mind the time it takes to move through regulatory processes and it would not lock them into the CCA program and instead would help to get the process started. Vice Chair Hansel agreed that there is no danger in relation to their overall Energy plan. Mr. Pipp added that Southwest Community Services provides electrical assistance to low income households and that is federally funded. Dr. Shedd asked if there is urgency in making a recommendation because of the RFP budget and Ms. Brunner responded that it is more an issue of keeping the momentum going and taking advantage of an opportunity that could help move the needle on the City's goals.

Dr. Shedd asked Councilor Clark if City Council would need more context about the recommendation and require some basic education before asking them to approve an RFP as CCA is a complicated framework. Mr. Clark replied that his only concern is that once it is set into motion it becomes a default policy and then might become difficult in the future Energy plan if they in fact go with a different concept. He suggested that acquiring more information is a good idea but framing it to Council is important as the concept is subject to change. Mr. Luse suggested they might leave the concept broad so that it does not close any future doors. Ms. Brunner agreed that it could be any form of recommendation. Mr. Dooley added that there is no reason why they should not introduce the concept to Council as it can help them determine whether or not it is a good option for the Energy Plan as information can be added as it develops. He noted that the City is almost half of the County's population. Another member said Keene represents a third of the County's population and that is why he is concerned that their decision-making will disproportionately impact other counties.

Ms. Gaunt stated that she is in favor of the CCA approach; however, they might inform Cadmus that they are interested in this concept and ask them to advise on it. She added that companies like Cadmus and Freedom Energy Logistics will provide a lot of information about their services themselves and she questions the ethics of undergoing an RFP process solely to solicit information as it gives the appearance that they will hire a particular vendor. She stated that it may not be fair to use as RFP as a fishing expedition but it is fair to solicit information from the vendors themselves. Ms. Brunner added that they have already discussed with Cadmus about the CCA approach but they have not received any specific feedback yet. She added that the City would first hire a third party company to act as a "back office" and that company would work with the City to develop a plan and help the City go out to bid and select another vendor who will

supply the energy. She stated that the first step is picking the back office company that would work on the details and the key point is that the third party company like Freedom Energy Logistics would help develop the plan and help the City go out to bid; if the City does not like the bids they get back they do not owe the third party any money. She said it is a very low risk option that would allow the City to start digging into details. Ms. Bruner stated that they have some samples from third party companies that will allow the City to see what program would look like--which would be the next step. Ms. Gaunt asked if the third party company would be paid for their assistance and Ms. Brunner replied they would only be paid if a vendor is selected to supply energy. The City could go out to bid and decide not to accept any bids and stay with Eversource as the default energy supplier.

Dr. Shedd asked if there is a potential for the RFP to encompass broader than the City of Keene's input, for instance, County input as they are both researching these opportunities. Ms. Brunner said if the County adopts a program and the City wants to join that program they can; however, there are risks associated with joining a County program and the presenters touched on that a bit. There is the risk of suppliers not being as willing to bid and there is also a risk for an overly complex structure, so that is a decision that would have to be made during the decision-making process as to whether or not the City wants a program that is tailored specifically to the City's goals, or to join a County-level program that may or may not work with the City's specific needs. Councilor Clark said the gist of the Energy plan is the entire community not just the City, so departing from that is not ECC's work as they are not here to discuss the way the City should do work but instead how the entire Keene community with all relevant stakeholders on board. He said he assumed it would be a County-wide initiative anyway, or at least inclusive of some of the other towns. He expressed concern about the City making decisions before involving the entire community that would be involved. Ms. Brunner said the CCA is one of the approaches they have discussed because the City is able more flexible in getting a program started as they do not have the town meeting structure, and they could provide an option that other communities could join. She emphasized that there are other options out there and she does not think that the City taking action first would preclude any of those plans or rule out any other options that might be available.

Vice Chair Hansel stated that they recommend that the City Council begin discussions with a third party vendor, keeping in mind that it would have to fit into the alternate Energy plan and possibly incorporate discussion surrounding community involvement. He stated that he does not see any danger in consulting a vendor. Dr. Shedd asked if that addresses members concerns about the RFP process. Ms. Gaunt agreed that it partially does; however, she proposed that maybe the City call surrounding towns about their interest in involvement. Ms. Brunner replied that the City is already in discussions with other towns about CCA programs and whether there is a possibility to do it together; however, it is too late for other towns to join this year because other towns are tied to the Town Meeting schedule. Ms. Gaunt asked if it is possible for other towns to be involved in the process and Ms. Brunner replied that she believes they would have needed an authorization from their legislative body before joining into a plan.

Ms. Martin stated that she is from Rindge and the first step is for the town to get permission from the Board of Selectmen to begin investigating which would include an RFP process, she said once there is a specific plan then it goes to the legislative body for a vote and that could take a year or so. She said this law just went into effect October 1st 2019 and she is concerned about jumping into an arrangement with one of the competitors now as things are still very new. She expressed concern about the RFP being premature at this stage as she does not want the City to be locked into an agreement. Ms. Brunner replied that they can easily shift their third party company from year to year. Ms. Martin added that she is concerned that they move too fast before their Energy

plan is developed as they could have part of the money going to more robust energy efficiency and other components and she worries about having a company slap down a formulaic approach before they have a robust discussion and the Energy plan developed.

Ms. Brunner thanked Ms. Martin for the information she shared and added that the City had a similar concern and what she has gathered from three separate companies is that if they launch a program they can change it accordingly year to year and build different components in slowly over time. She said on the state-level they are hoping to find some early successes to show the value of the legislation so that is not wakened or changed, so there may be a benefit to do an early program to demonstrate success and the City is mindful of that element of the process. Mr. Pipp added that if they do an RFP he would like to see a City and County-level approach as he wants to avoid excluding the remainder of the population that is not Keene-based. Dr. Shedd stated that for them to pursue CCA, one of the early steps is to have a CCA committee; she said Energy committees have been identified as likely to function in that role. She asked if members of ECC are comfortable as a whole or subset taking on that role. Ms. Brunner added that the Mayor would appoint the members of a CCA committee and he would consider eligible committee members.

Dr. Shedd stated that one of the early steps is to establish some goals of the program and early on in the Energy plan process ECC had discussed their shared values and goals, however, they never finalized that process. She asked how the Energy plan goals shape the goals of the CCA plan which presumably would be an action of the Energy plan, but at some point they might need to step back and look at the big picture of their goals and how they relate to the CCA model. Vice Chair Hansel stated that the Energy plan and CCA plan should be high-level and delving into how to structure a CCA may be too complex for them, however, in their Energy Plan they might specify that a CCA is the direction they want to take but to keep in mind that they may not be the ones to develop the details as they are very complex.

Dr. Shedd emphasized that she does want CCA approaches to be considered strongly; however, she does not want other aspects of the climate adaptation plan to be lost either. She asked if the committee is ready to vote on this and members said they are not. Dr. Shedd stated that next month their goal was to use meeting time for the Institutional focus group but they may need to carve out some more time to continue with this discussion. Ms. Brunner added that a minimum amount of time for meeting on the focus group would be an hour and a half, so maybe they can reschedule the focus group for another time that same week in the morning. She said there are a number of people that would be in the focus group including Mr. Dooley and Ms. Gaunt and she is happy to schedule it at a different time than the regularly scheduled meeting so they can continue talking about the RFP process in next month's regular agenda. Members agreed.

Dr. Shedd stated that they will continue the discussion on ECC's potential recommendation regarding an RFP process on their February 5, 2020 agenda and work towards setting up a separate focus group session. Mr. Luse asked if there is any way to keep the CCA discussion progressing and Dr. Shedd replied that specific questions can be directed to Ms. Brunner, however, they cannot have a discussion as a group via email but can address questions to Ms. Brunner for the next meeting.

Ms. Gaunt stated that many of the questions and concerns that have been raised in today's meeting could be addressed in the wording of the RFP as the request can be crafted specifically and suggested a draft RFP be developed for members to review. Ms. Brunner replied that she would have to check if City staff will have time to do draft an RFP request given that they do not have direction from City Council. Mr. Dooley added that the RFP could just state that they are looking for a vendor that is qualified to do this work.

7. **Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 5, 2020**

Dr. Shedd adjourned the meeting at 9:35 AM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Ayshah Kassamali-Fox, Minute Taker

Reviewed and edited by Mari Brunner, Planner



Community Development Department

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 30, 2020

TO: Energy and Climate Committee

FROM: Mari Brunner, Planner

SUBJECT: Sustainable Energy Plan: Status Update & Draft Work Plan

Recommendation

To support the proposed Sustainable Energy Plan work plan schedule for the February-June 2020 ECC meetings.

Background

In December 2019, staff submitted a proposal to the University of New Hampshire Sustainability Institute [Sustainability Fellow program](#). This program matches high-performing graduate students from across the U.S. with host partners in New England to work on site-specific sustainability projects over the course of four months (400 hours) in the summer. The City submitted a proposal for a fellow to help lead the City's outreach and education efforts in order to support the development of the Sustainable Energy Plan. In early January 2020, staff were notified that the City's proposal had been selected. The position description for the Sustainability Fellow is attached to this memo, and is also posted online at www.sustainableunh.unh.edu/sustainability-fellows. Applications are currently being accepted for this position. Once filled, the Fellow will start with the City in early June and continue through mid-August.

In preparation for a Fellow coming on board with the City, staff have developed a work plan in order to have a draft plan ready by the June ECC meeting. In order to meet this timeline, staff propose to use the February, March, April, May, and June ECC meetings as outlined in the attached "Keene Sustainable Energy Plan – Draft Work Plan, January-June 2020" document. Also attached is a draft list of proposed goals & strategies, draft performance metrics, and a first draft of proposed evaluation criteria developed by the energy plan consultant for the Electricity Sector.

Attachments:

1. UNH Sustainability Fellow Position Description for the City of Keene
2. Sustainable Energy Plan – Proposed Work Plan through June 2020
3. Draft Energy Plan Goals and Strategies
4. Draft Energy Plan Performance Metrics
5. Cadmus - "Keene, NH 100% Renewable Energy Planning Evaluation Criteria" draft

Copy:

1. Rhett Lamb, Assistant City Manager/Community Development Director



UNH Sustainability Institute

Sustainability Fellowship **Keene Sustainable Energy Plan: Outreach and Education** City of Keene, NH

About the Sustainability Fellows Program:

UNH Sustainability Fellowships pair exceptional students from across the U.S. with municipal, educational, corporate, and non-profit partners in New England to work on transformative sustainability initiatives each summer. Sustainability Fellows undertake challenging projects that are designed to create an immediate impact, offer a quality learning experience, and foster meaningful collaboration. Fellows work on-site with their mentors at partner organizations during the summer, supported by a network of Fellows, partners, alumni, and the UNH Team. Graduate students, exceptional undergraduate students, and recent graduates from any accredited college or university are eligible to apply.

A detailed description of one Fellowship follows. To learn more about the other Fellowships offered this year, and for application instructions, see:

www.sustainableunh.unh.edu/sustainability-fellows.

About the Host Organization:

The City of Keene (pop. 22,949) has been working over the past two decades to address climate change through a variety of measures to lower greenhouse gas emissions and increase resiliency to the expected impacts of a changing climate. The City joined ICLEI's Cities for Climate Protection campaign in 2000, adopted a Climate Action Plan in 2004, and was one of the first communities in the nation to develop a Climate Adaptation Plan in 2007. In addition, the City incorporated its climate goals into the 2010 Comprehensive Master Plan and conducted greenhouse gas inventories for 1995, 2006-2008, and 2015. For more information about past sustainability initiatives, please see the City's Sustainability webpage: <https://ci.keene.nh.us/sustainability>.

In January 2019, the Keene City Council adopted Resolution R-2018-36 ([Sustainable Energy Resolution](#)) setting the following goals:

1. That 100% of electricity consumed in the City will come from renewable energy sources by the year 2030, and
2. That 100% of thermal energy and energy used for transportation will come from renewable energy sources by the year 2050.

These goals apply to the entire community, not just municipal operations. Furthermore, the City Council made a commitment to develop a plan to achieve these goals by December of 2020.

About the Fellowship:

Currently, City staff are working with the City's Energy and Climate Committee and other community partners, including a local citizens' group (Clean Energy Team), to conduct outreach and engagement as part of the process of developing an energy plan to reach the City's renewable energy goals. This feedback will be used to inform the vision, goals, and strategies for the plan. In addition, the City has hired a consulting firm to prepare an electricity baseline and assist the City with developing strategies to meet the 2030 electricity goal. The City expects to have a rough draft of the plan ready by late spring or early summer of 2020.

The Fellowship will focus on education and outreach, including assistance with organizing various outreach events throughout the summer (community workshop, focus groups, neighborhood meetings, etc.) to gather feedback on proposed strategies as well as development of outreach and education materials for use both during and after plan development.

Outcomes:

Intended outcomes of the Fellowship include the following:

- Increase and enhance understanding within the larger community around the different strategies the City could pursue to reach its energy goals;
- Build support among various community sectors / stakeholder groups (businesses, institutions, neighborhood groups, etc.) for the energy goals; and
- Improve the overall effectiveness of the planning process and the plan itself by obtaining buy-in from a broad array of community stakeholders.

Desired deliverables include a visual implementation roadmap to accompany the energy plan, presentation slides & other supporting materials for outreach events, an enhanced project webpage (resources, FAQ page, success stories, videos, etc.), and other outreach and education materials that could be used both during and after the fellowship.

Impact:

This project is critical to the success of the City's energy plan project. The sustainability fellow would provide significant and immediate value to the City by helping to build support for the energy goals, improving the strategies within the plan by incorporating feedback from the community, increasing public trust in the planning process, and helping to foster partnerships with key stakeholders who can help with implementation of the plan's strategies. Ultimately, this outreach work supports progress toward the goals outlined by the Energy Resolution, and will contribute to significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions by the Keene community.

As a result of this project, the fellow will gain a better understanding of local government, the planning process, and public engagement strategies. In addition, the fellow can expect to gain or improve the following skills: meeting facilitation, public speaking, graphic design, writing, and website development. The Fellow will also create a variety of outreach materials to add to their portfolio.

Desired Qualifications:

- High level of comfort with public speaking and interacting with members of the public who come from a variety of different backgrounds
- Experience with meeting facilitation and public presentations
- Ability to create graphics and outreach materials to communicate technical information to a public audience
- Strong writing, communication, graphics, design, and project management skills
- Knowledge / understanding of energy efficiency and renewable energy as it relates to the residential and commercial sectors
- Bachelor's degree and experience working in a related field (e.g. local government, sustainability, renewable energy or energy efficiency, marketing & communications, etc.)

Work Location: City of Keene Community Development Department, 4th Floor City Hall, 3 Washington Street, Keene, NH 03431

Mentors: Mari Brunner, Planner and Rhett Lamb, Assistant City Manager and Community Development Director.

Compensation: \$6500

(taxable and distributed on a two-week payroll cycle over the course of the fellowship)

Expectations:

Fellows are expected to be primarily dedicated to their assigned projects throughout the summer, and also participate in a variety of networking activities, professional development opportunities, and presentations coordinated by UNHSI. Specifically, Fellows are expected to:

- Attend a mandatory orientation at UNH prior to the start of the fellowship term, **May 26-28, 2020**. (Travel scholarships may be available for students traveling from outside New England.)
- Work full-time on-site at the partner organization, **June 1 - August 14, 2020**
- Complete 400 hours of work, including work at host site as well as UNHSI activities, between May 26 – August 14, 2020.
- Complete a fellowship project according to the work plan (with adjustments as necessary).
- Participate in weekly webinars or advisory group meetings.
- Present work at mid-term and final poster sessions at UNH on **July 10** and **August 7**. (Travel support available.)
- Engage in additional professional development, networking, and advisory activities as offered.
- Provide and receive feedback at the end of the fellowship.

Apply by **February 10** at www.sustainableunh.unh.edu/sustainability-fellows.

Questions may be addressed to megan.carney@unh.edu.

KEENE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY PLAN – DRAFT WORK PLAN

January – June 2020

	January	February	March	April	May	June
1. Create Baseline	1.1 - Cadmus (Electricity)		1.2 & 1.3 - Staff (Thermal / Transportation)			
2. Establish Goals & Objectives		ECC / Staff (using input from public)				
3. Identify Key Metrics		ECC / Staff (using input from public)				
4. Conduct Focus Groups (Institutional & Commercial)		Staff (ECC invited)				
5. Prioritize Strategies			Cadmus / ECC / Staff			
6. Conduct Community Survey			Staff / ECC - start	Staff / ECC – End (Earth Day Table?)		
7. Community Forum #2**			ECC / Partners (form work group)			
8. Develop Draft Implementation Matrix				Cadmus / Staff (using input from public / ECC)		
9. Present Rough Draft of Plan to Steering Committee					Staff (ECC provides feedback)	
10. Present Revised Draft of Plan to Steering Committee						Staff

**Contingent upon availability of volunteers to help organize

Keene Energy Plan: Draft Goals / Strategies

A **goal** is a broad intended outcome. A **strategy** is the approach you take to achieve a goal. An **objective** is a measurable step you take to achieve a strategy.

- **Goals** are qualitative statements of what the plan or initiative intends to accomplish over a period of years. They give further definition to the plan's vision.
- **Strategies** describe a major approach or method for attaining goals. Strategies begin to answer the question, "How will we go about accomplishing our goals?" Strategies describe a general approach or method; they do not describe specific activities or projects.
- **Objectives** (sometimes referred to as "strategic objectives") are specific activities that contribute to achieving a goal. They are quantitative in nature and should answer the questions, "How much? By when?"

ELECTRICITY

GOAL: That 100% of all electricity consumed in the City will come from renewable energy sources by 2030.

Strategy 1. Reduce electricity demand/use for buildings in all sectors.

- Example objectives: Retrofit existing building's thermal envelopes, LED lighting, intelligent controls to automate & optimize HVAC and lighting systems, plug load management, etc.

Strategy 2. Increase local, distributed renewable energy generation.

- Example objectives: Solarize campaign for homeowners, solar system tax incentive for homeowners and businesses, reduce regulatory barriers to renewable energy system deployment, advocate for state and federal incentives, explore other local incentives.

Strategy 3. Procure renewable energy to meet remaining electricity demand.

- Example objectives: Implement a Community Choice Aggregation program (aka "Community Power") to act as the default electricity provider for Keene residents and businesses, partner with other large institutions on joint power purchase agreements.

THERMAL (HEATING AND COOLING)

GOAL: That 100% of all energy for heating and cooling consumed in the City will come from renewable energy sources by 2030.

Strategy 1: Reduce thermal energy use for buildings in all sectors.

- Example objectives: Implement a "Home Energy Labeling" program for residences, adopt a benchmarking policy for commercial properties, partner with NH Saves to increase effectiveness of weatherization program, Continue to encourage more efficient residential woodstoves through the woodstove change-out program; Seek grants / funding for other weatherization and energy optimization programs.

Strategy 2: Increase local renewable energy generation.

- Example objectives: Encourage/promote/incentivize renewable thermal technologies, such as solar thermal & geothermal.

Strategy 3: Encourage fuel switching to renewable fuel sources.

- Example objectives: Replace furnace and boiler heating systems with ducted heat pumps and ductless mini-split heat pumps, respectively; Encourage fuel switching to biomass or biogas, etc.

TRANSPORTATION

GOAL: Achieve 100% renewable energy in the ground transportation sector (vehicles registered in Keene) by 2050.

Strategy 1: Reduce vehicle miles traveled (i.e. how much people drive).

- Example objectives: Invest in sidewalks, crosswalks, multi-use trails, & bicycle parking; Provide car-sharing parking spots & incentivize developers to include car-sharing; Continue to support City Express & Friendly Bus program; Partner with schools on Safe Routes to School programs; Continue Complete Streets policy.

Strategy 2: Accelerate the shift to electric vehicles.

- Example objectives: Install EV charging stations, incentivize EVs through parking policies/other methods, promote EVs through education and marketing campaigns.

Strategy 3: Promote efficient growth patterns / coordinate transportation & land use planning.

- Example objectives: Encourage location and concentration of land uses and urban design (i.e. follow “smart growth” principles); Participate in regional transportation and land use planning efforts; continue to consider access and safety for all modes of transportation in the review of development and redevelopment proposals.

DRAFT - Performance Measures / Metrics

Performance metrics help to monitor/track progress on goals and desired outcomes and provide measurable evidence of the consequences of a decision or action. An effective metric should be aligned with a specific goal or outcome, be relatively easy to understand, rely on trustworthy data (i.e. be accurate), and be timely (i.e. can be updated frequently enough to be useful).

When choosing a metric, it is important to consider how reliable the data source is and how easy or difficult it is to obtain the necessary data. In addition, it is important to identify who is responsible / accountable for reporting on the metric, how decision-makers will use the information, and how frequently the data should be updated.

Included below is a draft list of potential performance measures for the Keene Sustainable Energy Plan, organized by sector (electricity, thermal, transportation).

ELECTRICITY

1. Annual electricity consumption by sector (residential, commercial, industrial, municipal)
2. Electricity supply mix (renewable v. non-renewable) by sector
3. Proportion of renewable energy supply generated locally / regionally
4. Percent households on competitive energy supply (or participating in CCA program)
5. Number of solar installations by sector (residential, commercial, etc.)
6. Installed solar capacity by sector (residential, commercial, etc.)
7. Number/percent of eligible homeowners and businesses that take advantage of the renewable energy property tax exemption.

THERMAL (HEATING AND COOLING)

1. Number of households and businesses that participate in weatherization programs per year (e.g. NHSaves, local weatherization campaign)
2. Number of high performance buildings in Keene (e.g. NE-CHPS, LEED, etc.)
3. Number / percent of buildings using renewable thermal (e.g. biomass, solar thermal, geothermal, etc.) for space and hot water heating, by sector
4. Proportion of buildings using fossil fuel for space and hot water heating that install electric space heating each year
5. Proportion of buildings that replace fossil fuel heating systems with renewable heating systems each year
6. Number of air-source and ground-source heat pumps installed in residential and commercial buildings
7. Number of buildings / proportion of commercial space on a renewable district heat system

Potential future performance metrics for the Thermal Sector: The metrics listed below are not currently feasible using available data sources and methodologies; however, they could be feasible in the future if data sources become available or the metrics align with specific strategies in the energy plan.

8. Number of building owners that benchmark their energy use and report data to City (using EPA Portfolio Manager or other benchmarking software)

Would require some sort of program/ordinance (voluntary or mandatory) that would put a system in place for benchmarking and reporting data to the City.

9. Number of households that participate in a “Home Energy Labeling” program

Would require development and implementation of a “Home Energy Labeling” program (voluntary or mandatory).

10. Total energy consumption for space heating & cooling (per household / per square foot commercial floor space, normalized for weather conditions)

Data source? Requires a high level of effort / time. Could approximate using data from the Assessing Dept. and by making assumptions about average energy usage by building type (residential/commercial/industrial) and energy source (propane/natural gas, biomass, etc.)

TRANSPORTATION*

**Note: Staff propose defining the “Transportation Sector” as ground transportation only, restricted to vehicles registered in Keene.*

1. Total number of vehicles registered in Keene / # vehicles per household
2. Fraction of new light-duty vehicle registrations and total light-duty vehicle registrations that are electric vehicles or hybrid vehicles
3. Transportation Mode Share (Percent who drive, walk, bike, take transit) for work / school
4. Transit ridership
5. Number of bus stops / Miles of bus routes
6. Miles of bike/pedestrian pathways and sidewalks maintained year-round
7. Number/distribution of EV charging stations by type (level 2/level 3)
8. Proportion of residents living in locations with mixed land uses (ratio of jobs to housing)
9. Number of roundabouts compared to signalized intersections

Potential future performance metrics for the Transportation Sector: The metrics listed below are not currently feasible using available data sources and methodologies; however, they could be feasible in the future if data sources become available or the metrics align with specific strategies in the energy plan.

10. Vehicle miles traveled (VMT) per capita

Would require a very high level of effort and time, and would be costly. Would need to hire consultant to develop a transportation demand model for Keene using data obtained from direct observation).

11. Bicycle/pedestrian level of service for specific streets/corridors

Very high level of effort & time to collect necessary data inputs – would only be feasible for specific, high-priority streets.

12. Amount of land consumed by new transportation infrastructure and/or new development served by new transportation infrastructure

12.1. Amount of new housing and jobs in greenfields.

12.2. Acres of land consumed per residential unit.

Not a lot of “greenfield” development occurring in Keene or new transportation infrastructure.

13. Transit accessibility (The ability of people to access destinations using transit – reflects the relative convenience of public transportation as a mode choice. Measured in terms of distance to transit stops or travel time on transit, as well as the location of jobs and housing relative to transit services, e.g. households within ½ mile of a bus stop or percent of employment centers within ½ mile of bus stop).

Keene, NH 100% Renewable Energy Planning Evaluation Criteria

Overview

Cities may choose from dozens of strategies to achieve 100% renewable electricity supply. The renewable electricity strategies available to a city depend on state policy, local utility context, and local priorities and factors, such as a city’s broader goals, existing renewable energy efforts, and available sources of capital.

This document **aims to articulate a set criteria relevant to renewable electricity planning that reflect local priorities**. With feedback from the City of Keene, the criteria laid out in this framework will be used to evaluate potential renewable energy strategies. One of the goals of the evaluation process will be to highlight tradeoffs between emphasizing certain priorities and associated criteria over others. For example, prioritizing local generation may conflict with prioritizing cost reductions. The evaluation process will be devised to reflect feedback from the City.

The priorities and criteria listed in this document are included because they were:

- Identified in consultation with City Staff;
- Expressed by other stakeholder through community meetings and dialogues; and
- Useful to other local governments in similar project work conducted by Cadmus.

Priority Area and Criteria Summary Table

Table 1 below provides an overview of the initial list of city priorities, the associated criteria that will be used to further define the priorities and contributing factors for each criterion. This framework is preliminary and will be refined through discussions with the City as well as through the research process.

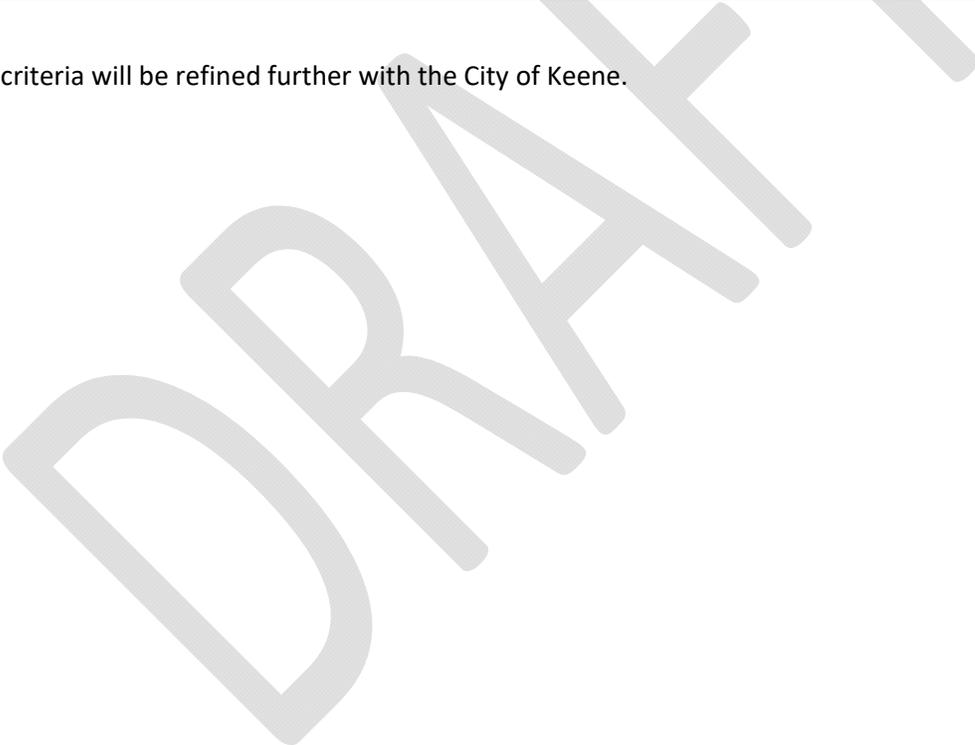
Table 1. Draft Priority Criteria and Contributing Factors

Priority	Criteria	Description	Levels
Local Impacts	Scale	Extent to which the action has the potential to increase the level of renewable energy in the community electricity mix	Low – Action is expected to have minimal or no impact on the level of RE mix in Keene
			Moderate – Action is expected to have a moderate impact on the level of RE mix in Keene
			High – Action is expected to have a major impact on the level of RE in Keene’s energy mix
	Local/Regional Impact	Extent to which a strategy will increase renewable energy generation within City limits, or the ability of an action to improve the City’s position as a leader for renewable energy in NH	Low – Action is expected to have minimal or no impact on local renewable generation or City’s position as a leader in NH
Moderate – Action is expected to have a moderate increase in local generation and City’s position as a leader in NH			
High – Action is expected to result in a major increase in local generation and City’s position as a leader in NH			

Priority	Criteria	Description	Levels
	Resilience and reliability	Extent to which strategy increases resiliency to shocks to the energy system	<p>Low – Action is expected to have minimal resiliency benefits</p> <p>Moderate – Action is expected to have some resiliency benefits</p> <p>High – Action is expected to have major resiliency benefits</p>
Local Environmental and Social Goals	Economic Impact	Extent to which a strategy is expected to contribute to local job growth	Low – Action is expected to contribute minimally to local job growth
			Moderate – Action is expected to have moderate impact on local job growth
			High – Action is expected to have major impact on local job growth
	Emissions Impact	Extent to which a strategy is expected to have impacts on greenhouse gas emissions	<p>Low – Action is expected to have minimal impact on local GHG emissions</p> <p>Moderate – Action is expected to have moderate impacts on local GHG emissions</p> <p>High – Action is expected to have major impacts on local GHG emissions</p>
Inclusion and Social Equity	Affordability	Extent to which a strategy is expected to be affordable and cost-effective for residents and businesses of all income levels within Keene	Low – Action is expected to be affordable or cost-effective for high-income earners
			Moderate – Action is expected to be affordable or cost-effective for high and middle-income residents and businesses
			High – Action is expected to be affordable or cost-effective for residents and businesses of all or almost all income levels within Keene
	Alignment with Community Priorities	Extent to which strategy aligns with City initiatives, goals, and priorities	Low – Action is not expected to make progress or complement any City goals or initiatives
			Moderate – Action is expected to complement some City goals or initiatives
			High – Action is expected to make progress towards other City goals and initiatives
Distributional Equity	Extent to which the benefits associated with the strategy are expected to be distributed equitably. Benefits include access to RE, associated cost savings, local public health improvements, workforce opportunities	Low – Action is expected to have relatively inequitable distribution of benefits	
		Moderate – Action is expected to have some equitable distribution of benefits	
		High – Action is expected to have a highly equitable distribution of benefits	

Priority	Criteria	Description	Levels
Feasibility	Potential Financial Impact to City	Extent to which the City will incur costs to implement the strategy. This rating includes the availability of existing funding sources and incentives	Low – Action is expected to require a heavy budget commitment from the City
			Moderate – Action is expected to require a moderate budgetary commitment from the City
			High – Action is expected to require a low budgetary commitment from the City
	Technical Feasibility	Extent to which the action is achievable considering burden on municipal staff, policy barriers, political and technical barriers.	Low – Action faces major barriers that jeopardize the action’s ultimate implementation
Moderate – Action faces moderate barriers, though these barriers are not considered fatal			
High – Action faces few barriers to implementation			

These criteria will be refined further with the City of Keene.



From: [Christa Daniels](#)
To: [Mari Brunner](#)
Subject: Game of Floods
Date: Wednesday, January 15, 2020 1:39:02 PM

Mari,

I have a few students in my course this spring that I need an applied project for.

What are your thoughts on us hosting a few Game of Floods engagement events for Keene residents? In partnership with the city and the climate committee?

We could work with the climate committee to help pull this off. I know you were interested in doing this past fall and not sure if you any progress.

It would have to run between (with implementation and hosting the games) February 1 and April. Maybe even doing a round of the games on Earth Day?

CD

Christa Daniels, Ph.D., AICP

Affiliate Faculty

Antioch University New England

Check it out: Graduate certificate for [Climate Resilience Professionals](#)

work: 603-283-2324

cell: 603-313-5182

Pronouns: she, her, hers

To schedule a calendar meeting: <https://cdaniels1.youcanbook.me/>

2020 LOCAL SOLUTIONS: Climate Preparedness Conference

Portland ME, May 12 & 13, 2020

[to better prepare communities for a changing climate](#)

To find out more go to: [Center for Climate Preparedness and Community Resilience](#)

From: Eric Swope

Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2019 1:22 PM

To: 'cgaunt@keene.edu' <cgaunt@keene.edu>; Rhett Lamb <rlamb@ci.keene.nh.us>

Subject: NH Drinking Water Festival

Hello Rhett and Cary

I am part of group that organizes the NH State Drinking Water Festival. I know it's a bit early, but we're already beginning to line up activities for the May 2020 NH Drinking Water Festival. The event will be coming back to Keene this year and will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at Keene State College. This is a new venue for us and one that we think will work very well.

I would very much like to have at least one activity that is focused on Climate Change (coming at it, of course, with a water theme). Would the Keene Energy and Climate Committee be interested in participating? Note that I've also reached out to Katie Carbonara of Keene and the NH Youth Movement.

We're looking for people to present 20 minute activities to groups of 10-15 fourth graders at a time. Alternatively, you could set up an exhibit that students would stop by for less defined period of time.

I've attached an info flyer and presenter sign-up sheet. Please let me know if you are interested or would like to discuss this further.

Cheers,
Eric

Eric Swope
Industrial Pretreatment Coordinator

Save
the Date!

NH Fourth Grade State Water Science Fair & Drinking Water Festival

WHEN: May 6, 2020, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

WHERE: Keene, NH

WHY: To celebrate clean water!

EVENTS INCLUDE:

- ◆ Science Fair
- ◆ Festival
- ◆ Water poetry competition
- ◆ Hands on water activities
- ◆ Educational displays & exhibits
- ◆ Presentations from water professionals
- ◆ Live educational music & storytelling



Our goals:

- Heighten awareness of water resources
- Help students recognize water's relationship to other resources
- Promote environmental awareness
- Foster the belief that individual actions can make a difference in protecting these resources.



This event celebrates National Drinking Water Week and is held in a different New Hampshire community each year.

The teacher registration form is available at

<https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/wet/documents/teacher-application-form.pdf>.

For more information please contact: Lara Hooper, NHDES Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau at (603) 271-4071 or lara.hooper@des.nh.gov.

over

FREE

New Hampshire 4th Grade Water Science Fair, Drinking Water Festival & Water Poetry Contest

Participate in one or all three!

At the **Drinking Water Festival**, students learn about water quality, conservation, erosion, the effects of pollution, wildlife and many other water-related topics. Activities are hands-on and students interact with professionals in fields of science, technology, engineering and math. These lessons are packed with opportunities to explore Next Generation Science Standards concepts!

The NH state-level **Water Science Fair** students conduct research, create an exhibit, write a report and present their findings to a panel of judges. There are a variety of ways the school-level fair can be configured in preparation for the state-level fair. We have a guide booklet to make this process easy and are happy to discuss with you ways your schools can participate.

Students who participate in the festival may also take part in a **Water Poetry Contest!**

All events are free to registered schools and will take place May 6, 2020 in Keene, NH. Space is limited.

Application deadline is January 15, 2020. Not open to the general public.

To apply or for more information, including copies of the water science fair guide booklet and water poetry guidelines, please contact Lara Hooper at lara.hooper@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-4071.

Where will the festival and fair be in...

- 2020 – Keene
- 2021 – Plymouth
- 2022 – Manchester
- 2023 – TBD seacoast area
- 2024 and beyond – Repeat cycle



From: Dan and Nancy
To: [Mari Brunner](#)
Cc: [Ann Shedd](#)
Subject: Re: Button-Up Workshop
Date: Thursday, January 30, 2020 12:37:33 PM

Hello Mari,

The Clean Energy Team is planning to offer a NH Saves- Button Up workshop in March or April. This free event will be open to residents and landlords throughout our community. The NHSaves Button Up workshop is a 1.5 hour presentation about how to improve the energy efficiency of your home. It is sponsored by NH Saves and coordinated by the Plymouth Area Renewable Energy Initiative (PAREI).

When we offered this event last year, there were over 50 people in attendance. Last year ECC agreed to support this event with the Clean Energy Team. We are once again asking for ECC support for this year's Button Up event. This support does not require any financial contribution.

Thank you,

Nancy Gillard
Clean Energy Team