

**Cape Light Compact JPE
Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 25, 2021**

Pursuant to Massachusetts Governor Charles D. Baker's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law on March 12, 2020, the Cape Light Compact JPE Board of Directors met on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 10 a.m. The meeting was held through a Zoom videoconference for members of the Board with audio call-in available for members of the public.

Participating Remotely Were:

1. David Anthony, Secretary/Executive Committee, Barnstable
2. Colin Odell, Executive Committee, Brewster
3. Timothy Carroll, Executive Committee, Chilmark
4. Richard Toole, Executive Committee, Oak Bluffs
5. Martin Culik, Chair/Executive Committee, Orleans
6. Richard Elkin, Executive Committee, Wellfleet
7. Joyce Flynn, Vice Chair/Executive Committee, Yarmouth

Absent Were:

1. Robert Schofield, Executive Committee, Bourne

Other Members:

1. Brad Crowell, Dennis
2. Leanne Drake, Sandwich
3. Nathaniel Mayo, Provincetown
4. Bob Higgins-Steele, Truro Alternate

Staff Participating Remotely:

Maggie Downey, Administrator

Melissa Allard, Senior Administrative Coordinator

Public Participants:

None.

Martin Culik called the meeting to order at 10:04 AM.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no members of the public present, and no public comments were submitted to the Board in writing under the public comment guidelines.

DISCUSSION ON THE PROPOSED ENERGIZE THE CAPE & VINEYARD EFFORT:

Maggie Downey reviewed the Solarize Cape & Vineyard Proposal – Impacts on Cape Light Compact PowerPoint.

Maggie Downey reviewed the polices and purposes sections of Article II of CLC's JPE Agreement that speak to this topic. The first is utilizing and encouraging renewable energy development to the extent practicable through contract provisions, demonstration projects and state mandated system benefit charges for renewable energy and second is advancing specific community goals that may be selected from time to time, such as placing utility wires underground. She stated that then there is also the broader statement which states the CLC shall accomplish the foregoing purposes through the following: operation of energy efficiency programs; developing or promoting the development of renewable energy resources and projects; procuring competitive electric supply for its customers; procuring RECs; participating in regulatory and legislative proceedings; and consumer advocacy. She stated that the driving language is in the opening sentence of Article II where it states, "without limitation". This provision gives the CLC broad authority to implement programs that address local, regional, and state goals.

Maggie Downey reviewed the CLC's role in previous energize efforts. To date, the CLC has been asked to participate in single, or multi, town energize program initiatives when asked by the town. The CLC participated at community meetings and planning committee meetings for the Outer Cape Energize Initiative.

Maggie Downey reviewed the Energize Cape and Vineyard program. It is modeled after the Outer Cape Energize program. The overall focus is on energy efficiency, installing solar, heat pumps, and electric vehicles. It will require Select Board and Council support via a resolution or MOU to promote as a town sponsored activity and will rely on volunteers in each town to promote the program at a grassroots level and encourage participation. She stated that the CLC would fulfill the role that was previously held by the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MA CEC). The CLC is being asked to provide funds for marketing and technical assistance in the amount of \$100,000 from the CLC's operating budget, staff to manage the program, and to promote energy efficiency programs.

Maggie Downey reviewed the request for funding and impact on the CLC Operating Budget. She stated that the unencumbered fund balance as of 12/31/20 is \$423,476.54. The 2021 Mil adder funds as of 4/30/21 is \$321,790.56. She also noted that the CLC expects to receive \$15,000 per month for a total of \$90,000 due to the delay of the Farmington solar project coming on-line. She then went on to explain what the in-kind budget impacts are expected to be in addition to the \$100,000 that is being requested. She stated that she and Austin Brandt estimated an 18-month time commitment for staffing impacts. They estimated that the Energize Cape & Vineyard efforts would be about 20% of the Power Supply Planner staff time which equates to approximately \$25,108 without benefits included. Richard Elkin asked what activities the CLC is envisioning. Maggie Downey stated that the Power Supply Planner would be the point person for the project and responsible for coordinating the efforts with the towns and vendors. She stated for the energy efficiency staff they would participate as part of the traditional education outreach program. She stated that for staff to attend approximately 100 meetings, 2 hours per meeting, over 18 months equates to approximately \$9,000.

Colin Odell asked if the CLC is envisioning any call center load or financial load as part of the program. Maggie Downey stated she did not include any call center costs as she cannot think of any at this time beside traditional energy efficiency calls coming in as our regular operations. As for the Comptroller time there would be some time for setting up the fund, but it is small amount of time.

Richard Elkin agrees that the CLC needs to know its costs and in order to do that he recommended that a memorandum of understating between the CLC and Energize group identifying roles and responsibilities needs to be prepared. That would allow the CLC to understand what it is funding and how much effort the Energize group is putting in. Maggie Downey stated that the conversation on who is doing what was tabled but will resume after the Board takes up this issue at their June meeting. She agreed that the CLC needs to clearly know the roles and responsibilities of all parties working on this effort.

Maggie Downey reviewed the projected solar PV outcome. The projected number of installations is 2,003 with an annual consumer savings of \$3,976,165. Colin Odell asked if that was over a one-year installation period. Martin Culik answered yes, it is over the first year of the program for 2022.

Martin Culik stated that first the CLC needs to determine whether this program fits under the CLC JPE's goals and purposes. David Anthony stated that he has some reservation about the CLC moving forward. He stated whether the CLC can or cannot begs the questions on whether the CLC should or should not. He stated that "without limitation" is strong language that does grant some great latitude. After rereading the May 12th presentation, he stated that he came away wanting this to be a CLC program and that it would have partners in driving customers to it and not so much that the CLC was supporting a program put together by others. He stated that therefore he is hung up on who is going to do what, but, if in fact this is going to be a CLC program that is going to be supported by community groups, he thinks it fits in with the CLC JPE Agreement language presented. Richard Elkin stated that he agrees that is why he believes it is very important to know what roles everyone has. Joyce Flynn stated that if it is a CLC program, we want to be very clear on who speaks for the CLC. Martin Culik asked if anyone disagrees that this program would not fit under the CLC JPE's goals. None of the Board Members disagreed.

Martin Culik moved on to the staffing. Richard Elkin shared the matrix he created showing the activities involved in an energize program based on what he knows from the Outer Cape Energize program. He stated that one aspect is getting people to install PV on their homes and businesses and battery storage is also part of that. He stated that it is an extension of what the CLC is already doing with HVAC. He stated that energy conservation and understanding the incentives available is a part of the CLC's expertise. He stated that then there is the question of who is providing overall direction, recruiting volunteers, arranging venues, and advertising. He believes that the big costs to the CLC will be evaluating potential contracts from bidders. He stated that now we must determine who's program it is. He believes it is a community program. Martin Culik stated Energize Cape and Vineyard is the sponsoring organization and that we have been asked to assist. He stated that the CLC assistance is primarily technical and the coordination effort. He is in favor of this being a community-based initiative that the CLC is assisting with. Maggie Downey stated speaking on behalf of the staff that this should be a CLC initiative with clear roles of responsibility for staff. She stated there are 21 towns and some of them are very well organized and could handle this on a community basis and then there are other that are going to need much more assistance. She stated that if it is left to communities then we will end up having many different ideas for the program and somebody must coordinate that and find a consensus if it is going to be a unified effort. Tim Carroll stated that he agrees with Maggie.

Martin Culik stated that the discussion has evolved from Energize taking the lead to partnership to the CLC taking the lead. David Anthony stated that by the CLC being in control of the program he is getting more comfortable with the program. He stated that when it comes to evaluating proposals and selecting vendors, he believes it will fall under the umbrella of MA General Law. He stated that the evaluation of proposals is very structured in the law and that the CLC has been doing a good job with that for over two decades and therefore that lends credibility to this being a CLC led program.

Martin Culik asked Barry Margolin if he was comfortable with where this discussion is going on the CLC being the lead. Barry Margolin stated he does not speak entirely for all of those who are going to be working on this. He stated that some of this is still being developed and that there is an executive committee meeting next week to talk about a fundraising plan to add additional resources to the program. He stated that he is also concerned about the coordination of volunteers. He is hoping that funds will be raised to hire a lead organizer for the volunteer effort. He stated in terms of whose program it is, it will be a CLC program, and a program claimed by the Cape Cod Climate Change Collaborative in terms of management. He stated in terms of management this is

going to need staff leadership and the CLC has that. The CLC will manage the marketing program not just because the majority of the money is coming from it, but because it needs to be centrally run so that it is run efficiently. He stated that obviously this is going to be worked out in a memorandum of understanding on who does what. He stated that he does not think it has to be either or, that it should be partnership. He stated that he is less worried about who gets to claim it. That the CLC's identity with it will be critical to the program's credibility.

Richard Elkin stated there is a policy question on whether it should have a single vendor (for solar, heat pumps and electric cars) for the entire Cape and Vineyard or multiple vendors. He noted that there needs to be a stakeholder discussion on this subject. Martin Culik stated that he is not sure he knows of any solar vendors that could do 2,000 installations in a year. Colin Odell stated that there would be a need for multiple vendors. Maggie Downey stated that when it comes to the heat pumps, in the next three-year plan there is going to be a statewide certified heat pump contractor list because it is more about installation than about the price. Colin Odell stated that it is not going to be a cut and dried RFP that anticipates all the potential pitfalls that might happen down the road.

Martin Culik stated that we have now ended up with a partnership, with the CLC being the lead role because of their staffing capabilities. Therefore, we need to develop an MOU that spells out the specific roles and responsibilities, including staff responsibilities. He asked for a sense of the Board if they were comfortable with that as the next step. Sense of the Board present was yes.

Maggie Downey asked is the MOU between the CLC and Climate Change Collaborative or each of the participating towns. Richard Elkin suggests an MOU between the CLC and Climate Change Collaborative organization. He does not think we can negotiate with 21 towns. Tim Carroll stated that he was thinking that the CLC would have an agreement with all the towns, but he does not expect to negotiate, rather it would be - this is what is happening and do they want to join. Martin Culik asked Barry Margolin is he was comfortable on where we are going. Barry Margolin answered yes. Martin Culik stated that he is going to lean on Barry Margolin to work with Maggie Downey to work on developing the MOU.

Joyce Flynn moved the executive committee to vote on supporting the partnership between the Comact and the entities on the other end to be defined and that we moved toward an MOU to spell out the details of that. Seconded by Tim Carroll.

David	Anthony	Barnstable	Yes
Colin	Odell	Brewster	Yes
Tim	Carroll	Chilmark	Yes
Richard	Toole	Oak Bluffs	Yes
Martin	Culik	Orleans	Yes
Richard	Elkin	Wellfleet	Yes
Joyce	Flynn	Yarmouth	Yes

Motion carried in the affirmative (7-0-0)

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn made at 11:25 AM moved by Tim Carroll, seconded by Richard Elkin.

David	Anthony	Barnstable	Yes
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Colin	Odell	Brewster	Yes
Tim	Carroll	Chilmark	Yes
Richard	Toole	Oak Bluffs	Yes
Martin	Culik	Orleans	Yes
Richard	Elkin	Wellfleet	Yes
Joyce	Flynn	Yarmouth	Yes

Motion carried in the affirmative (7-0-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Allard

LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS:

- Meeting Notice/Agenda
- Solarize Cape & Vineyard Proposal – Impacts on Cape Light Compact PowerPoint