



December 2018 Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, December 18, 2018
Time: 6:00pm – 7:30pm
Location: Russell Library, Middletown

Present: Sheri Dieso Vice President
Sara Holmes Secretary
Cat Young CTPH member

Call-in: Alicia Dolce Board member
Katie Zoppo CTPH member

Distribution: All present, post on website

"We," "our," "us," and "CTPH" refers to the Connecticut Passive House group.

Issues discussed:

EVENT COMMITTEE

HOLIDAY PARTY

1. Sheri gave a summary of the party – it was a nice space, but there difficulties with the caterer.
2. About 55 people attended and \$1,000 was donated to Hartford Habitat for Humanity towards the sates first Net Zero Energy Habitat home.

FEBRUARY AIACT SEMINAR

3. Thursday February 28
4. AIACT will take care of food, sign ups, registrations, reporting CEUs
5. Sara will touch base with Kristen at AIACT to complete program summary info.

EDUCATION

6. It was agreed education should be a focus for CTPH. For now, Sheri will head the effort until a standalone Education Committee forms in the future.
7. We want to provide training for designers, consultants, tradespersons, builders.
8. We will try to set up training in CT for both PHI and PHIUS certifications in 2019.
9. Sara will send Sheri contact information for Sharon at NAPHN (PHI-affiliated), so she can pursue PHI-training.
10. Katie will ask a certified PHIUS trainer what options might be available to us.

OUTREACH & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

CHFA PUBLIC COMMENT



11. Alicia will try to get some feedback about what type and quantity of responses CHFA received.
12. She guesses there were at least 12 letters sent from CTPH members.
13. Cat reported that about 30% of recipients opened the last “Action Alert” eblast, and about 5% clicked a link.

NEPH EVENT

14. Alicia is in talks with Naomi at passivhausMAINE (phME) to help organize another regional event.
15. 2018’s was a Multi-Family conference held in April at Alnoba Retreat Center in New Hampshire.
16. Alicia will clarify if CTPH is expected to share any costs and what profits we’d share.
17. The theme is TBD. Multi-Family Deep Energy Retrofits was suggested, but there’s fear that might be too specific.
18. May or June to avoid other conferences – Better Buildings By Design (Vermont) in February, NESSBE (New Haven) and NESEA (Boston) in March, NAPHN (NYC) at the end of June.
19. Location may be Maine. We are concerned that’s too far for us in CT.
20. Alicia will pursue this and give an update at the next meeting.

THE GOVERNOR’S COUNCIL ON CLIMATE CHANGE (GC3)

21. On December 13, there was a public meeting to hear a presentation on the Council’s report and recommendations for CT’s approach to take action on climate issues. After the presentation was a public comment period.
22. Leonard and Sara attended and spoke in favor of Passive House standards.
23. Leonard also commented that it would be helpful for real estate listings to include energy scores to help buyers understand what they’re buying. After the event, the Director of the Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP)’s Office of Energy Demand shared:
 - a. Passive House is incorporated into a “residential new construction program that is part of the Conservation and Load Management Plan (C&LM Plan) implementation. The C&LM Plan is Connecticut’s energy efficiency investment and demand management plan, administered by the utility companies with oversight from the Energy Efficiency Board and DEEP.” Contact Sara if you’re interested in seeing the summary.
 - b. Connecticut is already on it’s way to including energy scores on real estate listings via Multiple Listing Services (MLS). Her office is working to connect the “... US DOE Home Energy Score that is provided to residents participating in the C&LM Plan residential home energy assessment programs” electronically to the MLS. Contact Sara if you want updates.



- c. Sara will share links and details to attendees of this Monthly Meeting.

SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE

24. Sara reported 6 event sponsors for the February AIACT seminar: Alpen windows, Klearwall windows, SRGI Inc/Fujitsu, Huber, Spray Tech Insulation, 475 High Performance Building Supply.
25. We have not received responses to our Call for Annual Sponsors. Sara will call around after the beginning of the year.

MARKETING & PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

26. Cat reported our newsletters have an opening rate of about 40%. She will do some research to see how that compares to other organizations. Sheri will share data from her church emails.
27. We are on Instagram as “ctpassivehouse”
28. If people wish to be featured on our Instagram, they can email pictures and descriptions to media@ctpassivehouse.org
29. We will only feature Passive House or Passive House-inspired projects. Cat will decide which qualify.

GROWTH COMMITTEE

30. We look forward to setting a time to hear from Ken Levensen about how they began NYPH and what they've learned.
31. We do not have to reinvent the wheel. We will call on nearby groups for advice – Naomi at [passivhausMAINE](#) has been helpful, [PASSIVEhouse Massachusetts](#) (Alicia has a contact), New York Passive House.
32. There is interest in having an intern and/or a paid position. This will be part of our growth plan. We agreed to wait to assess our financial standing before pursuing this further. We will pick this up again at the January meeting.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

33. We have one volunteer applicant so far – Nick Jones.
34. We sent out emails to two possible candidates – John Rountree and Dylan Martello. John declined and Dylan is undecided.
35. Katie was asked if she'd consider applying.
36. *For reference, details from the 11/26 Board meeting:*
 - a. *We agreed to aim to expand the Board to 9 members if enough qualified candidates apply. If not, we will aim to expand to 7.*
 - b. *Voting will take place 1/2/19 – 1/11/19 by CTPH members.*
 - c. *New Board members will be announced at the 1/15/19 monthly meeting.*



TREASURER

37. In George's absence, Cat gave a balance report summary. This included the holiday party expense, but not deposits from water bottles or membership dues.
38. Starting in January, George will begin emailing monthly financial summaries to the Board.

WEBSITE

39. Sara explained the current organization of the projects on the CTPH website:
 - a. Members can post their projects to the "Projects" page.
 - b. Only Passive House or Passive House-inspired projects are featured on the front page on a rotating basis.
40. Jon will reorganize the Projects page with PH and PH-inspired projects at the top under a "Passive House and Passive-House Inspired" heading. Other projects will be grouped under a separate heading, such as "Sustainable," below.

COMMITTEES

41. We need committee members. People are not volunteering; we need to recruit.
42. Cat suggested asking her sister-in-law to step in for help with newsletters while Cat is busy with another volunteer commitment through May. Sara is still available to continue working on newsletters

MEETINGS

43. We need ways to get people to come to meetings.
44. George suggested cycling through three locations around CT to help with regularity and getting to many members.
45. The monthly meetings for 2019 are:
 - *January 15*
 - *February 19*
 - *March 19*
 - *April 16*
 - *May 21*
 - *June 18*
 - *July 16*
 - *August 20*
 - *September 17*
 - *October 15*
 - *November 19*
 - *December 17*

Meeting concluded at 7:30pm.

Submitted by: Sara Holmes, Secretary