

## **2021-09-16 NAACP-BCB Environmental & Climate Justice committee**

Update on the Put Peakers in the Past campaign to transition the 3 dirty, fossil-fueled electric generating plants that only run during peak demand to clean alternatives like solar plus storage. Our Peaking Power Coalition has had very productive talks with the owner/operator of the two very old (50+ and 60+ year old) power plants. They are doing a study to see what obstacles may be in their way as they transition their facilities. They actually own a third facility in West Springfield that will also be transitioned.

Our BIG NEWS is - after months of writing to the owners of Pittsfield Generating, the big, 3-stack facility on Merrill Road, and holding weekly protests about this facility, and getting our legislators and local Boards of Health to write to the facility - they have finally asked us for a meeting. The first meeting will be very small - just Rosemary Wessel and Jane Winn meeting with Matt Willis and Todd Wynn from Hull Street Energy. We are concerned that they implied that they were already talking with the City of Pittsfield and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection - but still just wanted to meet quietly with the two of us when we suggested meeting with a larger group. But we are encouraged that they want to meet and will let this committee know what happens.

Announcement: **FALL WALKS SCHEDULE Sunday, October 3 and Saturday, October 9**

Date: **Sunday, October 3 @ 11AM**

Location: **The Boulders** (at the intersection of RT 8/9 Dalton Avenue & Hubbard Avenue)

Walk Leaders: **Mary Miss and Charles Canham**

**Mary Miss** – Founder and Artistic Director of CALL/City as Living Laboratory. Since the early 1970s, Mary Miss has redefined how art is integrated into the public realm. Her place-based work crosses boundaries between landscape architecture, architecture, urban design, and graphic communication. She has transformed people’s experience of New York City, from redefining NYC’s waterfront through *South Cove* (1984-1987) to revealing the history of the Union Square Subway Station (1992-2000), and developing a framework for artists’ projects as the NYC Dept. of Design and Construction’s first Artist in Residence (2017).

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary\\_Miss](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary_Miss)

**Charles Canham** studies the dynamics of forest ecosystems and how they respond to a wide range of human impacts. Using field research, novel statistical methods, and computer models, Canham predicts forest response to factors including climate change, introduced pests and pathogens, logging regimes, and air pollution. He received a PhD in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from Cornell University in 1984 and then joined Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies.

<https://www.caryinstitute.org/science/our-scientists/dr-charles-d-canham>

Date: **Saturday, October 9 @ 11AM & 2PM**

Location: **The Old Mill Trail** (Route 8 & Old Dalton Road)

11AM Walk Leaders: **Alexis Callender** and **Britt Crow-Miller** (see below for 2PM Walk Leaders)

**Alexis Callender** was born in New York City, completed her MFA from Massachusetts College of Art and Design, and is an assistant Professor of art at Smith College. Her work draws largely from archival sources, and incorporates painting, drawing, and installation to recontextualize history and explore the interrelations of race, gender, and capitalism. She has been exhibited in galleries across the nation and internationally in France and Trinidad. <https://alexcallender.com>

**Britt Crow-Miller** is a Senior Lecturer in the Departments of Environmental Conservation and Geosciences at UMass Amherst. Her academic research is focused on environmental politics, sustainability, global development, and water resource management in China and cities of the Western U.S. In 2018, Britt founded CityWild, a nonprofit organization with the mission of inspiring curiosity about nature through fun, exploration, and hands-on learning for kids and families, including those in underserved communities. The foundation of CityWild was laid in Portland, Oregon, and the organization relocated with Britt to New England in 2020. Primary Interests- sustainability, environmental politics, hydropolitics, global development, water, sustainability education: Education: UCLA, Geography (PhD), Harvard University (MA), Bard College (BA). <https://eco.umass.edu/people/faculty/crow-miller-britt/>

Date: **Saturday, October 9 @ 2PM**

Location: **The Old Mill Trail** (Route 8 & Old Dalton Road)

2PM Walk Leaders: **D Colin** and **Anita Milman**

**D Colin** is a poet, actor, and visual artist originally from Bridgeport, CT, living in Troy, NY. She holds a BA in English from Southern Connecticut State University and a MA in Africana Studies from University at Albany, SUNY. She is the author of two poetry collections, has been exhibited in multimedia art exhibits, and runs her own art and handmade jewelry company. Her artwork aims to cultivate space for stories, healing, and community. <https://www.dcolin.com>

**Anita Milman** is an Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Conservation, UMass Amherst. Her research on environmental governance focuses on water resources in the context of global change. She is particularly interested in how adaptation to climate change in the water sector is influenced by a) institutional structures 2) the socio-political-cultural lenses used in interpreting information and c) the need to make decisions and act under uncertainty. Her research is itself a form of boundary work, with a special interest in connecting those who

produce knowledge with stakeholders, policymakers, and government agencies. Her current projects include: Science-policy interfaces in transboundary rivers. Groundwater governance. Adaptation to extreme flood events in New England.

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/anita-milman-0466956/>