

DRAFT AGENDA
2016 Dummerston Energy Committee
Monday, April 04, 2016 6 pm at the Dummerston Town Office

Meeting at 6:03pm, in attendance were Larry Doucette, Stanley Howe, William Collins & Julien Geiser

1. Approve minutes from March meeting

Stanley moved to approve the meeting minutes, William seconded the motion. March minutes approved

2. Collecting 2010 Energy baseline data for assessing progress toward energy goal in Town plan

Committee continues to work on how to know where we are toward the 40% reduction goal—and do we have a real baseline at this point. Good report out on status in the March meeting.

Notes: Stanley reported that he had gathered all data that he could from the town office. He has to get school energy consumption numbers from the school's business manager. Stanley and Larry have been working on collecting the data over the past two months. There was discussion about getting data from the fire department, the grange, school, potentially larger businesses that are in Dummerston?

3. Dummerston School (we want to focus on helping the school be more efficient) and potentially swap to pellet burning boiler

Per March meeting:

Stan suggests that a role we could play would be to research other funding sources.

There is some low-hanging fruit—efficiency measures that would pay back in a year or two.

Action: Talk to Chris Hebb (engineer) to explore what opportunities may exist with the current system and any role DEC could play.

Notes: William said that he would go to the next school board meeting to hear what their next steps are for getting a new boiler. A bond may need to be proposed/raised in November for between \$150,000 - \$200,000 for the system. We have offered the school board to help with planning and expect that as the fall draws nearer and a bond proposal imminent, that we may be brought in to help with some of the planning/proposal items. William is going to email Chris Hebb to find out more about the existing “new” control system that is not allowing the building occupier to make intelligent choices about energy use/run times/set points etc.

4. Covered bridge lights need repairs or replacement

Nothing new to report on the cover bridge.

5. DEC web site.

Notes: Julien proposed that perhaps the DEC reconsider the value of the DEC website to the community. Proposed that this be a thought/discussion item over the coming month and that we make this a discussion and decision item at our next meeting.

6. Town Plan

We can work on this as we have time, but it does not need to be on the fast track

From March meeting: Perhaps we can get data from GMP on solar generation in Dummerston, or from the Public Service Dept. If we can't get actual kWh generation data, we should be able to get installed kW data from the Public Service Dept.

We should update consumption numbers with information we've collected (or can collect) and from the town energy survey that was conducted.

Will notes that we should address resilience; and reference Irene.

- Our work on the Town Plan should be completed and delivered to the Planning Commission by May of 2017.

Notes: Three pages of the Town Plan are set aside for the Energy Committee. The last Town Plan from 2005 did not contain very accurate data and the Energy Committee would have the chance to add some of the more recent data that they've collected over the past 2-3 years. Draft for Sam (Head of Planning Commission) goal date of 31 January 2017. Keep this item on the agenda and review 2005 Town Plan in preparation for next meeting.

7. Review of the Dummerston Center Fire Station Building Plans

This item will need review promptly and response promptly if we wish to have any input or suggestions. They are not waiting for energy committee response, we are just one step in their process, but NOT worthy of holding up their progress. If we think it is that important we should be diligent about providing feedback. Discussion and/or suggestions and comments?

Notes: Larry thinks that the Fire Department is going to be moving pretty swiftly on this and that we will likely not have another month to review and provide feedback. He also expressed that we should really only provide feedback on energy consumption and building design/details and not on the use of the building, that perhaps a town meeting or select board meeting would be a more appropriate venue.

We discussed that once this building goes out to bid their budget may change in one or another direction. Any changes that we make or recommend could impact the cost of the building, how do we justify that kind of change, especially when they've already taken this to the town at Town Meeting and it was well received by the community members in attendance.

We are going to provide feedback to Larry to send to Rich Cogliano by next Friday, 15Apr16.

8. Committee Chairperson

This is Larry Doucette's last meeting as a member of the Energy Committee. He has been a steadfast and committed member for years and a great Chairperson over the past year. He will be moving from Dummerston in the coming month for a new career opportunity. The Energy Committee decided to wait until next meeting to decide on appointing a replacement to chair the board.

9. Priorities for Energy Committee

1. Dummerston School Energy Consumption REDUCTION
2. Dummerston energy consumption – benchmarking
 - a. Continue with benchmarking 2010 energy consumption in town
 - b. Continually Seek data from fuel providers
 - c. Continue charting and trending that data if we can normalize it
 - d. Further evaluating and making use of survey results

NOTE. Alex has rejoined the committee, lifetime member!

Julien motioned to adjourn at 7pm and Stanley seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

DEC mission statement: The committee supports the town in monitoring locally important energy issues and developments, and promoting energy conservation, efficiency, and increased use of renewable resources.

Using education, projects, and advocacy, the DEC will help Dummerston and its residents reduce their reliance on polluting forms of energy and achieve reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

Energy goal in Town Plan: To reduce total per-capita non-renewable energy consumption 40% by 2030 from a 2010 baseline