

Dummerston Energy Committee
Monday, October 3, 2016 6 pm
Dummerston Community Center

Meeting came to order at 6:08pm, in attendance were Stanley Howe, Will Collins and Julien Geiser

Guest: Sam Farwell

1. Review agenda, add items as needed.

2. Approve minutes from September 9 meeting

- Julien moved to approve the minutes, Will seconded the motion. All members in attendance were in favor of approving the minutes.

3. Discussion of potential solar system on the capped WSWMD landfill

Potential contract with the Town – We believe that the Selectboard has reached out for a proposal from the energy provider.

Potential contract with the Dummerston School – Will attended the last school board meeting and they broached the subject of the landfill solar project. There was some pushback from Frank Rucker who had concerns that locking the school into a contract price could be disadvantageous in the future if electric costs were to go down. The DEC was unanimous in agreeing that this was unlikely from an energy cost perspective and that this made good sense from a financial standpoint for the future of the school. Will and Julien may attend next Tuesday's School Board meeting and encourage the School Board to direct Dr. Rucker to contact the energy provider and at least request a proposal that they may consider.

4. Work session on Energy Chapter of Town Plan

Will asked whether there was a Resilience Chapter/Plan somewhere in the Town Plan. The survey we ran was an attempt to reach out to the community and provide some educational benefit. Sam indicated that the Windham Regional Commission was assisting in all towns in Windham county write a Emergency Management plan and that could contain a section on Resilience but this would be separate from the Town Plan. We are next on their list to receive assistance from them in writing that plan. Our Energy chapter could reference the Emergency Management Chapter of the Town Plan and the future plan to be developed.

- Utilities Chapter doesn't mention water or heat conservation; we should maybe discuss water conservation and secondary means of pumping/purifying water under the Resilience section.
 - Will suggested an exhortation in our goal that we want to move away from the use of non-renewables towards renewable sources. Our data is meant to highlight the costs of not doing that and perhaps our goal should be less quantitative and more qualitative.
 - Smokey to send out the updated Energy Chapter to all members for one final review.
 - We should aim to send our final version to the Planning Committee by Thanksgiving at the latest.
5. New members for DEC – We discussed that the Transition Dummerston might be a good organization to reach out to for new members. Julien to get connected and perhaps go to the next meeting.
6. Adjourn – Will moved to adjourn the meeting, Julien seconded. All members in favor of adjourning. Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.
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2016 Priorities for Energy Committee

Dummerston School Energy Consumption REDUCTION

Dummerston energy consumption – benchmarking

Continue with benchmarking 2010 energy consumption in town

Continually Seek data from fuel providers

Continue charting and trending that data if we can normalize it

Further evaluating and making use of survey results

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