

**Minutes**  
**Dummerston Energy Committee**  
**Monday, February 10, 2020 @ 6pm**  
**Dummerston Town Office**

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:15pm:
  - a. Stan Howe, Eric Lineback, Calvin Farwell and Alex Wilson were in attendance.
2. Welcomed guests: No guests were present.
3. Reviewed agenda: Added items as needed (see #9 and #10 below).
4. Approved minutes from the February 10, 2019 meeting:
  - a. Motioned by Alex.
  - b. Seconded by Eric.
  - c. Unanimously approved.
5. Town office energy audit and retrofit:
  - a. Eric forwarded the Farnum report, recommendations and estimate to the selectboard, as well as our suggestion that they wait for a full year of experience with the new heat pump system before deciding how to move forward.
  - b. Stan forwarded the Efficiency VT incentives/rebates information to the selectboard.
6. West Dummerston Fire Department:
  - a. Stan followed up again and requested a status update, but has yet to get a reply.
  - b. ACTION: Stan will continue to reach out and follow up.

7. Covered Bridge: Should I Wait or Should I Go?:
  - a. ACTION: Eric will continue to work with Calvin on a spreadsheet of the model and ultimately write an article for the *Dummerston Views* newsletter (hopefully the spring issue); the model and detailed data/assumptions will be posted to our DEC Web site when complete.
8. Town energy plan:
  - a. Continued to review and discuss possible updates; need to expand on specific Policies and Action Items; possibly add and/or adjust Goals?
  - b. We will continue to work on gathering data for a solar energy usage baseline.
  - c. Discussed the idea of setting home building permit fees and/or property tax rates based upon the energy efficiency rating of homes.
  - d. ACTION: Eric will reach out to the town listers and propose we have an open-ended discussion about these ideas; try to determine what effects home energy efficiency may have on house values.
  - e. ACTION: Calvin will research and put together a list of incentives/resources currently available to homeowners regarding home energy efficiency improvements.
9. The future of DEC:
  - a. Discussed various options for restructuring the committee, as there will only be three members remaining after Stan leaves next month.
  - b. If we are unable to recruit more members, then perhaps we should consider changing the structure? Switch to an on demand, as needed status only?
  - c. We will discuss further and seek input from the selectboard about their thoughts and needs.

10. Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI):

- a. Calvin discussed the idea of attending an upcoming TCI meeting in Springfield on 2/13.
- b. Transportation accounts for about 40% of Vermont emissions. The TCI is looking to limit petroleum fuel supplies into the area, to establish a fee for use of such petroleum products, and to use the proceeds therefrom to develop better transportation options for rural and lower-income residents.
- c. ACTION: Calvin will try to attend the meeting and report back.

11. New business: No new business.

12. Meeting adjourned at 7:39pm. Next meeting will be held on March 2, 2020 at 6:00pm.