

Minutes
Dummerston Energy Committee
Monday, October 8, 2018 @ 6pm
Dummerston Town Office

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:20pm:
 - a. Stan Howe, Eric Lineback, Alex Wilson and Calvin Farwell were in attendance.
2. Welcome guests: No guests were present.
3. Reviewed agenda: No new items added.
4. Approved minutes from July 2, 2018 meeting:
 - a. Motioned by Alex.
 - b. Seconded by Stan.
 - c. Unanimously approved.
5. Portfolio Manager for municipal buildings – update (Stan):
 - a. Stan completed online training regarding web app revisions.
 - b. Score on town office is now 22 out of 100.
 - c. ACTION: We need to update all our town energy data. Stan will coordinate a town office visit.
 - d. ACTION: Stan will attend next online training (201) and send follow-up materials.
6. DEC website – update (Eric):
 - a. Updates are being finalized.
 - b. ACTION: Eric will send doc to Kevin when ready.
7. “No Idling” campaign – update (Eric):

- a. Eric checked with Lee and confirmed that the town has signposts we can use. Ordered 6 new signs.
 - b. Scott Farm is so far the only location that has agreed to put up a new sign. The school, it turns out, already has one.
 - c. ACTION: Alex will reach out to Kampfires campground.
 - d. ACTION: Eric will reach out to KOA, as well as coordinate outreach to all others.
8. WRC REP – Department of Public Service public hearing on June 5 in Townshend regarding determination of energy compliance – report and discussion of renewable energy storage options (Calvin):
<http://www.windhamregional.org/energy/act-174-energy-planning>
 - a. Calvin reported that the meeting was poorly attended. He noted that the “90% by 2050” goal appears unachievable without a significant increase in solar capacity.
 - b. Calvin discussed the old Black Mountain quarry as a potential water-based energy storage site in town (he calculated it would be approximately 1,000 KWH). He talked with GMP and found out they are only interested in systems 5,000 KWH or larger.
 - c. ACTION: Calvin will continue to do research.
9. VT Climate Action Communities Program – update:
<https://www.vtenergydashboard.org/90-by-2050/detail/vermont-climate-action-communities-local-government-day-feb-15-2018>
 - a. ACTION: Eric will add link to the website.
 - b. ACTION: All should continue to explore for ideas.
10. Vermont Energy Climate Action Team August 7 meeting – report (Alex):
 - a. ACTION: Alex will send the draft plan (?).

- b. They are looking for new business opportunities which address climate change.
- c. Discussed new electric assist cargo bikes which “level Vermont.”

11. Recent purchase of Maple Valley Ski Area: DEC involvement? – update and discussion (Eric):

- a. Eric got in touch with Keane, and he is interested in attending a future DEC meeting (possibly with his architect).
- b. ACTION: Eric will follow up.

12. Potential funding opportunities for Putney Park & Ride EV charging stations – discussion:

Municipal Park-and-Ride Grant Program (being considered; no URL yet)

- a. ACTION: Eric will complete and return survey.

Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) program

<http://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/electric-vehicle-supply-equipment-evse-grant-program>

- a. Discussed potential for working with the Putney Energy Committee on installations at the Park & Ride, which is situated in both towns. There are currently Level I chargers, but no Level II chargers.
- b. What are the costs involved? Who pays for the electricity?
- c. ACTION: Eric will contact Daniel Hoviss at the PEC.

13. Potential participation in Northern Forest Center’s “Feel Good Heat” campaign and WRC’s Windham Wood Heat Initiative – discussion:

<https://feelgoodheat.org/>

- a. ACTION: All members should review the materials that Eric forwarded. To be discussed further next month.

- b. What are the long-term environmental effects of wood burning? It was suggested that people watch the movie “Burn.”

14. 2019 town budget planning – discussion:

- a. We agreed to request level funding again this year for DEC (\$350).
- b. ACTION: Eric will follow up with Zeke.

15. Consider new heat pump at town office to replace current AC and electric heat – discussion:

- a. We agreed that this would be a good idea.
- b. ACTION: Alex will ask the Selectboard if this is something they would like DEC to pursue. If so, we will work on getting some quotes.

16. Potential future town purchase of Renaud gravel pit on Route 5 – discussion (Eric):

- a. This was just to get it on the radar.
- b. Lee would like to attend a future DEC meeting to discuss.
- c. ACTION: Eric will follow up with Lee.

17. Future projects: Promote electric vehicles and electric bikes? Town-approved solar park? Heat pumps? Energy storage (possible zinc battery array at the landfill, flywheels, Vernon)?

18. New business:

- a. Calvin discussed the recent UN climate report which indicates that we have only 12 years to act until major changes will be seen.

19. Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm. Next meeting will be November 12 at 6:00pm.