

## APPROVED MINUTES

Dummerston Energy Committee – December 5, 2011

**Members attending:** Chris Derby, Sam Farwell, Diana Lischer-Goodband, Stan ("Smokey") Howe, Alex Wilson, and Jerelyn Wilson (Chair)

**Member absent:** Bill Conley

**Guests:** Eva Greene (community member), and Martha Nelson (taking minutes)

**Jerelyn called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.**

**0. Approve minutes of November 7, 2011 meeting.**

Sam moved to approve the minutes, Alex seconded the motion, and the minutes were unanimously approved. Martha to send minutes to Jerelyn for posting on the website.

**1. Community Input.** Eva Greene, an Interested Party in Sandri's proposal to build a Dunkin' Donuts franchise and drive-through lane onto their existing retail store and gas station at Interstate 91, Exit 4 South in Dummerston, presented her arguments for why the project should not be approved. The committee considered her comments and concluded that any involvement of the committee in the process would need to be restricted to the issue of energy use. **Action item:** Alex made a motion that he draft a letter on behalf of the committee to be sent to the DRB with a cc to the Selectboard in which the committee make a case for controlling idling and advancing the idea that the project be a demonstration of energy efficiency, including the use of renewables. Diana offered a friendly amendment that the committee ascertain the proper channel for making the recommendation before sending the letter. The motion as amended was unanimously approved. Sam to consult with the selectboard, Mary Ellen Copeland, and the DRB on the matter. Carry forward to February agenda.

**2. Current Business**

**a. Smart Grid Rollout.** **Action Item:** Bill to write article for the winter issue of *Views* reminding the community of the upcoming rollout, and to post a summary of the article on the DEC website. Carry over to February agenda.

**b. LED Street Lighting Program.** CVPS has removed the light fixtures from the two streetlights approved for removal in West Dummerston village. Smokey reported that he replaced the malfunctioning driver unit for an LED light at the Covered Bridge. He also reported that he received word from Efficiency Vermont that they no longer provide an engineer to advise on lighting matters. **Action Items:** Sam to schedule a meeting with Jo Carol Ratti, Smokey, and himself, to address questions regarding the public space lighting at the school. Carry forward to February agenda.

c. Idle-Free Zone Signage. With the installation of two signs at the Irving Gas location, the project has been completed. Diana to contact VIFF to inquire if they can provide flyers explaining the anti-idling resolution to hand to those caught in the act of idling.

**Action Item:** Sam to post sign locations on DEC website.

d. Vermont Idle Free Fleets. **Action Items:** Sam to contact VIFF to inquire if they are interested in working with our rescue "fleet" in their efforts to reduce idling. Carry forward to February agenda.

e. Solar coaching. **Action Item:** Diana to leave a supply of Solar Energy brochures at the Town Office and town library. Alex's proposal that the committee invite a representative from Integrated Solar to give a presentation to the committee is carried over to the February agenda.

f. Municipal energy use data project. Smokey continues to make progress on his data gathering. **Action Item:** Smokey to meet with Nicole to summarize and incorporate data she received from providers. The committee to consider ways to display data at town meeting (item on agenda for January retreat).

g. Go VT Pilot program. **Action Items:** Jerelyn reminded committee members to register with Go VT on their website. Diana to leave a supply of posters and brochures at Town Office and town library. Smokey to make a supply of posters and brochures available at the Vermont Yankee corporate training center. Exploring transportation issues to be added to February agenda.

h. *The Energy Planning and Implementation Guide for Vermont Municipalities and Communities Tackling Vermont's Energy Challenges.* Committee members were supplied with a copy of brochures for their information.

i. Promoting energy resiliency. **Action Item:** Alex will be writing a series of articles for the weekly Energy Solutions column in the Reformer. Carry forward to February agenda.

j. Park and Ride. **Action Item:** Sam to contact Wayne Davis with VTrans to inquire if they would be interested in providing assistance in creating a Park and Ride site along Route 5 near Exit 4 South in Dummerston. Jerelyn advanced the idea that Park and Ride locations ideally be located at bus stops. Alex to consult with Matt Mann, Transportation Planner with the Windham Regional Commission, about the matter. Carry forward to February agenda.

k. Cool Planet grantor about DEC internship. **Action Item:** Diana to submit report on Nicole's internship. Carry forward to February agenda.

l. Implementing PACE in Dummerston. **Action Item:** Carry forward to February agenda.

**m.** VECAN award. Tom Bodett, Alex, and Jerelyn attended December 3rd VECAN annual conference to receive award. **Action Item:** Diana to write press release for Reformer and Commons, and to provide Bill with information and a photo to include with his January *Views* article (see below).

**n.** Energy Committee's budget request to the Selectboard. Jerelyn submitted request for \$350 to cover costs as follows: \$200 for survey work, \$50 for conference fees, \$100 for supplies and postage. Diana reported that the budget is short \$70, and has inquired if Transition Putney will cover the amount. Carry forward to February agenda.

**o.** Changing domain name for Dummerston Energy Committee. The committee agreed that the name should remain the same. **Action Item:** Jerelyn to notify Bob of the committee's decision.

### **3. New Business**

Consider door-to-door survey to obtain data on baseline energy consumption. **Action Item:** Item on agenda for January retreat. Alex recommended that the survey have residents consider the question: How resilient are you? Carry forward to February agenda.

### **4. Upcoming Transition Dummerston event.**

Building Community Resilience in the Face of Rising Energy Costs, Climate Disruption and Economic Challenges; Dec. 9th- 11<sup>th</sup>, Friday Eve w/Potluck Dinner, Saturday All Day w/ Lunch, Sunday Afternoon, Dummerston Congregational Church  
Cost \$65. **Action Item:** Sam's wife, Carol, to provide input to Sam on the meeting and to consider ways DEC can support them in their efforts to build community resiliency.

### **5. Final Items**

**a.** Annual Retreat scheduled for January 7, 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Committee to consider the following: (1) Conducting a door-to-door survey on energy resilience, (2) Developing a municipal baseline energy data display for presentation at town meeting, and (3) Establishing primary goals for 2012. **Action Item:** Jerelyn to warn the Retreat.

**b.** *Views* deadline: January 10, 2012  
Bill to write article about the Smart Grid rollout and VECAN award.

**Alex made motion to adjourn (8:30 p.m.), Chris seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.**