

## Minutes from Dummerston Energy Committee April 4, 2011

Attending: Jerelyn Wilson, Sam Farwell, Bill Conley, Stan Howe, Diana Lischer- Goodband, Chris Derby and guest Jane Michaud

1. Approved minutes from 3/7/11. Sam moved, Chris seconded . Unanimously approved.
2. Community Input. Jane Michaud sat in and described her interest in energy issues. Follows Post Oil Solutions and Transition Putney work.
3. Current Business.
  - a. Sam reported that the woodsove in the town office does not burn overnight, may be related to faulty air intake damper.
  - b. Community Center: Sam attended the recent meeting. No recent action to report.
  - c. Bratt Energy Committee's "Way To Go" meeting was not attended by any committee members. We are hoping to sign up 20 Dummerston residents in their commuter program. Diana will contact Bob Sherwood to post "Way To Go" promotional info.
  - d. Baseline Energy Consumption Data. Smokey reported on his findings and research into methodology to gather raw data. Last year Dummerston residential electrical consumption dropped but Commercial consumption almost doubled! Smokey presented many graphs and charts that lead to his suggestion that we continue to gather data and focus on energy savings in 1. Municipal usage, then 2. Commercial usage, and 3. Public Organizations. He will try to find commercial users facts through the town office.

Smokey found that a small town in Maryland got a grant for residential audits. If we were able to get a grant for such an audit, we may be able to gather usage data in return for participation in the program . A good model for Dummerston? Maybe commercial audits could be another place to prioritize if we couldn't get a residential grant?

It seems hard to gather data on wood/ pellet usage.

There are problems with some fuel oil/ LP venders responding- it may be hard for them to break out Dummerston's consumption from their records.

Smokey and Sam have begun collecting the municipal energy data from the town office. This month the data was collected foe electricity used at the town office, highway garage, covered bridge and street lighting, also collected were heating oil at the highway garage, highway department road diesel and propane for the generators. The data was collected for 2009, 2010 and a portion of 2008 but they plan to also gather 2005 through 2008 data to see if any trends are indicated.

Jerelyn suggested that a presentation be made to the committee in September to make sense of the data.

The Renewable Energy Atlas was mentioned as a website resource for inclusion in the Dummerston Views.

We should aggregate the Energy Consumption Data by calendar year, not fiscal year or other way.

4. New Business. Open Meeting Law Training. Diana reported that we have good transparency but should have draft minutes available five days after meetings to comply.

Jerelyn said she would ask Bob to post on the DEC site that minutes are available through the chairperson until they are approved and posted.

Vermont Idle Free Fleets can provide support and educational info, no funding available. Application Due April 30. Jerelyn moved that Diana apply for this, Diana seconded. Approved Unanimously.

Diana reported on the movie "Tapped", about the bottled water industry, and suggested talking with the Conservation Commission about a co-sponsored showing of the movie to interested participants. Sam made a motion to have Diana present this to the Con Comm, Bill seconded. Approved Unanimously.

Smokey reported about a LED Street Lighting Program. Street Lights in Dummerston served by CVPS and GMP . Lights that changed as needed will be replaced with metal halide fixtures instead of the more efficient LEDs unless a program is pursued. He suggested that there be a needs assessment first to determine which lights truly benefit the public before any replacement occurs. He discussed the various issues surrounding ownership, rates charged and outlay costs of different options.

Sam moved that that a working group form to pursue this program. Chris seconded. Approved Unanimously.

There will be a Regional Energy Round Table meeting April 14. Sam expressed interest in going.

5. Other Business. Views deadline April 5

Lawn Mower Exchange April 30 , 9am to 1 pm at WSWMD.

6. Future Agenda Items . Button Up in the Fall

Biomass Program May 14- Speakers, Vendors, Tours

Sam moved to adjourn, Diana seconded. Passed Unanimously.