

**Dummerston Energy Committee  
Meeting Minutes — 8/31/09**

Present: Alex, Sam, Diana, Chris, Bill, Jerelyn,  
Guest: Bob Sherwood  
Absent: Suzanne

**NOTES**

Meeting called to order 6:10 pm

**1. Reviewed agenda**

**2. Approved minutes of 8/3/09**

Minutes approved unanimously

**3. Discussion of open position on DEC meeting**

Bob is a writer, researcher and editing; can do web work for DEC – and will do even if he moves to Putney; interested in renewable energy for his house on E-W road;

**4. Discussion of school lighting proposal - Diana**

Diana called three times and in the first round 16 of 40 were published and in the second round 30 of 86 were published; we were just under the cut off; too brief on one of the questions; we did not have an energy audit; she recommended we do an energy audit and look forward to submitting again; not that interesting; Community Climate Change for VT DEC. Agency of Natural Resources;

**5. Discussion of other funding opportunities worth pursuing - Bill, Sam, Diana**

Solar for schools opportunity

Sam still talking to Bob Glennan to make a strategy

CEDF (Clean Energy development Fund) potential

Keep this in mind for a feasibility study for the school solar project

Stimulus funds

Windham Regional Commission input – Jerelyn

Jerelyn will email Jim to find out what their time frame is for seeking input from energy committees

Low-income weatherization (SEVCA eligibility in town) – Sam

SEVCA – waiting list of homes to weatherize; fuel assistance list comes from the State – these people are put on the waiting list and invited to apply; 30 houses in Dummerston are on their list; SEVCA has an outreach program to support these households through their system;

Are the low income people taken care of through the SEVCA?

Is it the mid-income residents that need DEC support?

Other

SEMP (School Energy Management Program)

Sam found notice of this grant on the bulletin board when paying his taxes! This is how the funds are coming to the towns;

The school is the biggest energy use of energy in the town

Sam to ask Jo Carol for the actual audit by Norm Etkind at SEMP in October 2007; Examine the audit to see what potential projects it might point to;

Bill to contact Craig Stead and invite him to our October meeting to look at the audit and make recommendations as well as use some monitoring devices to give current information;

Town report – where is our town energy use  
What might be our plan for creating a program for encouraging and supporting residential energy retrofits?

Jerelyn to email Daniel about what Putney is doing

Bill will look farther a field and see what other places are doing

How can the DEC address transportation in Dummerston?

Ride share system – maybe there is a model for Dummerston residents; VT Ride share; Diana will look into how we might describe this for Dummerston residents

Park and ride lot in another location

Bicycle path – from Brattleboro to Putney; good joint program for Putney and Brattleboro energy committee

High-speed access could allow saving trip to work

#### **6. Lighting at Town Garage & Town Office**

Update on both projects

No information at this point; Bill will still pursue

#### **7. Anti-idling resolution**

Next steps

On select board agenda for 9/9/09

Diana will check where it will be on the agenda and we will ask Suzanne to attend

#### **8. Dummerston Town Plan**

Report on Town Plan hearing and next steps (if any)

No action necessary; consider piece for Views after it passes

#### **9. Allard Lumber CHP plant**

Discussion of role DEC should take in helping to advance this idea

Alex will keep the DEC apprised but we could provide a letter of support for the project

#### **10. Report on other meetings and activities**

Windham Energy Group (WEG) - Sam

Scott Farm – Alex

They are expecting to submit a proposal to the CEDC and DEC will provide a letter of support

Other

Button Up

Jerelyn to email Daniel to see what Putney is doing

Sam to go to meeting

#### **11. Website - Diana**

Discussion of needs and opportunities

Brainstorm what we would want on our website; what information resources;

Diana will create list of what is currently

#### **12. New business - none**

Adjourned @ 7:56 pm

#### **Action Items**

Alex to recommend Bob Sherwood to Select Board for DEC

Alex to notify Laurie about DEC meeting on 9/28 (instead of 10/5)

Sam to make spreadsheet for Town energy use and cost  
Sam to try to get school audit  
Sam to go to Button Up meeting  
Sam talking to Bob Glennon  
Bill to contact Craig Stead about coming to next DEC meeting (9/28)  
Bill to look for program where municipalities support energy retrofit and ways to fund them  
Jerelyn email Jim Mateau and Daniel Hovis (retrofits, Button Up, WEG)  
Chris to research VT Ride Share  
Diana to inquire about anti-idling agenda item (Alex will ask Suzanne to go)  
Diana to put up notice of next DEC meeting at school

**Action Items from previous meeting:**

Diana - invite Bob Sherwood  
Alex - communicate to Laurie that next DEC meeting is August 31  
Diana - call to see why we didn't get the school lighting grant  
Sam - look up CEDF grant and give info to Diana  
Sam - explore numbers of eligible townspeople for SEVCA help  
Jerelyn - send Jim an e-mail with list of the kinds of things we can suggest for putting stimulus money to good use  
Bill - inquire about schedule for lighting work with Pam  
Bill - revisit process w/ Lee around garage lighting  
Suzanne - work on anti-idling resolution  
All - be familiar with energy section of town plan  
All - go to Aug. 26 public hearing on town plan if possible