

Town of Scarborough Sustainability Committee

January 22, 2025 | 8:00 – 8:30 a.m. | Scarborough Town Hall and via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Attendance – in person

Committee: Anton Bodor, Lydia Jopp, David Kirstein, Deb McDonough, Rick Meinking

Town Council: Bill Donovan

Staff: Angela Blanchette, Jami Fitch, Helen Harmon, Autumn Speer

Public: Paul Lyons, resident

Attendance – Zoom

Committee: Ron Allen

[View the recording of the Sustainability Committee's 1/22/25 meeting.](#)

Call to Order

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:05 am.
2. Deb motions to approve the minutes, David seconds. Vote is unanimous.
3. The Committee welcomes Bill Donovan as the Town Council liaison.

Public Comment

1. None.

Updates

1. Town Council
 - The Town Council will vote on the wetlands setback ordinance at their 1/22/25. Bill expects the majority of the Council to support the ordinance. Committee members in support of the ordinance are encouraged to attend the meeting to make public comment or send emails to the Town Council.
 - Town Council will undertake their goal setting process on 1/25/25. Bill is advancing a new school building topic, and April has shared that she plans to bring sustainability-focused items forward.
2. Planning Board
 - Rick is now the Chair of the Planning Board.
 - The FedEx terminal on Holmes Rd was approved.
 - The Downs received approval for an amendment to their Town Center subdivision.
3. Conservation Commission
 - Conservation Commission is focused on the wetlands setback ordinance.
 - They are also contemplating a tree protection ordinance.

Engineering & Technical Services

259 US Route One | PO Box 360 | Scarborough, ME 04070 | P: 207.730.4400 | scarboroughmaine.org

4. Transportation Committee
 - The Town's draft [Transportation Study](#) is available for public comment.
5. Open Space Plan
 - The draft plan is available for review and comment. The deadline to submit feedback has been extended to 1/24/25.
 - The project will wrap up in early 2025. A Town Council workshop is scheduled on 2/19/25.
6. Vulnerability Assessment
 - The Vulnerability Assessment Working Group is in the process of selecting pilot project locations. More in-depth adaptation strategies will be developed for these project locations. Tentative locations are Payne Rd, Bayview Ave at Higgins Beach, and future planning for Pine Point.
 - An interactive StoryMap showing current and future flood vulnerabilities will be available in early 2025. As the project progresses, the StoryMap will also include general adaptation strategies for areas and infrastructure in Scarborough.
 - MaineDOT is applying for a large grant to address flooding on Route 1 where it crosses Scarborough Marsh. The design includes a raising the road 4-feet and constructing a bridge over a portion of the Marsh.
7. Sustainability Reserve Account
 - The Finance Committee was supportive of establishing a reserve account. They recommended seeding the account with an initial \$25,000 and directing 50% of excess electrical permit fees to the reserve account.
 - The Town Council will discuss the reserve account as part of their goal setting process.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 am.

Next Meeting: February 26, 2025 at 8:00 am.

Future Projects List:

- Coordination with Scarborough Public Schools
- Community solar / municipal solar array
- Municipal building energy audits
- Residential energy efficiency grants
- Electric school buses
- Recycling information for homeowners when houses change hands
- Composting/food waste
- Tree preservation ordinance
- Swap shop
- Energy stretch code