

Town of Scarborough Sustainability Committee

January 21, 2026 | 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. | Scarborough Town Hall and via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Committee (in person): Anton Bodor, Geoff Gezik, Deb McDonough

Committee (Zoom): Lydia Jopp, Patrice Kastenzholz, Dan Shapiro

Town Council: Bill Donovan

Staff: Jami Fitch, Helen Harmon

[Meeting recording](#)

Call to Order

1. The meeting is called to order at 8:00 am.
2. Anton motions to approve the minutes, Patrice seconds. Rollcall vote was unanimous. Motion passes.

Public Comment

1. None.

Old Business

1. [LD1870](#) – “An Act to Establish a Climate Superfund Cost Recovery Program to Impose Penalties on Climate Polluters”
 - Deb shares that she has not received a letter from Scarborough’s legislative delegation. She will follow up with Sen. Brenner’s office.
 - Bill notes that he gave the draft resolution to Council Chair Fellows. Councilor Fellows supports bringing the resolution forward once the Committee is ready.
 - The Committee reviews the draft resolution that was tailored to Scarborough and does not have any changes.
 - *Patrice motions to approve the resolution and send it to the Town Council. Lydia seconds. Rollcall vote was 5 in favor, 1 abstain (Bodor). Motion passes.*
 - **ACTIONS:**
 - **DEB will follow up with Sen. Brenner’s office.**
2. Sustainable Scarborough Day
 - After some discussion, the Committee decides to hold the event again in 2026.
 - Suggestions to improve the event:
 - Involve schools – tie in a beach clean up and art/sculpture contest
 - Offer repair of small items – there may be a partnership opportunity with the library
 - Halloween costume swap

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- The Committee would like to engage with schools. Jami will connect Patrice and Dan with contacts at Scarborough Public Schools. Bill will also help with coordination with the Board of Education.
 - Patrice will talk to the Rotary about organizing an e-waste collection.
 - Advertising the event at the Farmers' Market and sporting events would be helpful.
 - **ACTIONS:**
 - **JAMI will do initial outreach to Scarborough Public Schools**
 - **JAMI will reach out to Scarborough Public Library to discuss their potential role in Sustainable Scarborough Day**
 - **PATRICE will talk to the Rotary Club about e-waste collection at the event**
 - **LYDIA will coordinate the Halloween costume swap**
3. Sustainability Committee Webpage
- The Committee reviews updates that were made to its webpage, including project highlights and resources.
 - The Committee offered the following revisions:
 - Change the cover photo to something from Sustainable Scarborough Day
 - Change "liaisons" to contacts
 - Lydia asks if the Committee could have space in the Town's e-newsletter, which is emailed on the 1st and 15th of each month.
Committee members are welcome to compile information and provide it to Jami who will facilitate getting it into the newsletter. Information should be provided to Jami a week before the newsletter is distributed.
 - Deb suggests that the Committee review the website at least annually.
 - **ACTIONS: JAMI will make the requested updates.**

Updates

1. Town Council
 - Bill notes that he will share information about Sustainable Scarborough Day with the Town Council.
 - The Council is taking an active role in opposition of LD1829, which passed last session. There is a workshop scheduled on 1/21 with members of the Maine Legislature.
2. Planning Board
 - The Planning Board is reviewing a workforce multi-family housing development in the Dunstan area.
 - An Arby's is proposed at the Little Dolphin Plaza.
3. Conservation Commission
 - Conservation Commission has selected supporting the process to pass of a Low Impact Development ordinance as its primary focus in 2026.
4. Climate Action Plan
 - The Climate Action Plan Advisory Group will meet in late February. Geoff is the Committee's representative on the Advisory Group.
 - The branding for the Plan is complete, and community engagement will begin in March.
 - The Greenhouse Gas Inventory is nearly complete and will be reviewed with the Advisory Group.
5. Transportation Committee
 - Transportation Committee is supporting the development of the Town's Complete Streets and Traffic Calming Manual.

6. Other

- Scottow Hill Road - The Town Council will host a workshop on 2/4 related to options for Scottow Hill Road.
- Route 1 marsh crossing – MaineDOT is still working on the design for the Rt. 1 crossing. Staff are meeting with DOT on 1/22 to discuss the project.
- School Building Project - The Committee would like an update on the school building project at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 am.

Next Meeting: February 25, 2026 at 8:00 am.

Future Projects List:

- School Building Process
- Communications, outreach, and engagement
- Community solar / municipal solar array
- Revamp [Sustainability Committee webpage](#)
- Recycling information for homeowners when houses change hands
- Composting/food waste
- Residential energy efficiency grants
- Coordination with Scarborough Public Schools
- Municipal building energy audits
- Electric school buses
- Tree preservation ordinance
- Swap shop
- Energy stretch code
- Incremental fees for trash bins
- 10-year cost-benefit analysis for building systems
- Storm drain stenciling

RESOLUTION 26-00X

Resolution in Support of a Maine Climate Superfund

WHEREAS the Scarborough Town Council has adopted the Scarborough Vulnerability Assessment, which includes many actions needed to adapt to climate change, all of which require resources to implement; and

WHEREAS Scarborough is developing its Climate Action Plan that outlines necessary steps to reduce climate pollution, which will also require resources to implement; and

WHEREAS climate change and the resulting storms are costing Mainers billions of dollars; and

WHEREAS 2023-2024 winter storms caused \$90 million in damage to public infrastructure and untold more in private property; and

WHEREAS climate change is already shifting storm patterns in Maine in ways that will continue to severely damage public and private infrastructure; and

WHEREAS expensive fuels continue to strain working families' budgets; and

WHEREAS in the face of environmental and economic crises for Maine people, international oil companies continue to take in near-record profits year after year; and

WHEREAS the world's largest fossil fuel corporations should contribute significantly to local communities to fix the damage they've caused; and

WHEREAS a Maine Climate Superfund will help Maine determine the true cost of dealing with climate change and make polluters to pay for the climate damage they caused; and

WHEREAS under such a program, the state will produce a detailed report of the financial impact of fossil fuel-related climate pollution, then identify the largest emitters responsible for that pollution and recover costs in proportion to their share of emissions; and

WHEREAS payments from those large oil and gas corporations, instead of taxpayer dollars, will be used to finance projects that can protect Maine people, businesses, and property from the devastating impacts of climate change and help our communities adapt to new environmental realities; and

WHEREAS the original Superfund program and its "make polluters pay" principle has withstood challenges for decades and can be easily applied to the environmental damage caused by climate change; and

Town of Scarborough

WHEREAS Maine would join national leaders championing this innovative policy, building on bipartisan legislation successfully enacted in Vermont and New York in 2024;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of Scarborough that, Scarborough urges the Maine Legislature and Governor to pass legislation to create a Maine Climate Superfund, to protect Maine communities and ensure the largest oil and gas companies pay their fair share for climate-related damage.

Signed and sealed this **xx day of March**, 2026, on behalf of the Scarborough Town Council and the Town Manager of Scarborough, Maine.

Signed by: _____
/S/Cory Fellows
Council Chair

Attested by: _____
/S/Kristen Barth
Town Clerk