

Town of Scarborough Sustainability Committee

October 28, 2026 | 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. | Hybrid Meeting – Town Manager’s Conference Room and Zoom

To participate in the Sustainability Committee’s meeting, please use the following link:
https://scarboroughmaine.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_rymuEp6ISsC6H7px3tEZQg

To view in the Sustainability Committee’s meeting, please use the following link:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCD5Y8CFy5HpXMftV3xX73aw>

Agenda

- 8:00 am** **Call to order and attendance**
(1) Welcome and introductions
(2) Vote on minutes from 9/23/26
(3) Review 10/28/26 meeting agenda
(4) Public Comment
- 8:10 am** **Old Business**
(1) Data Centers – update on process
(2) [Climate Action Plan](#) – identify priorities for Committee to address
- 9:00 am** **New Business**
(1) EECBG Grant – received notification the grant is moving forward
(2) Tabling at the polls – opportunity to share space with Conservation Commission
- 9:15 am** **Updates**
(1) Town Council
(2) Planning Board
(3) Transportation Committee
(4) Conservation Commission
(5) Scarborough Public Library
- 9:25 am** **Next meeting**
TBD due to Thanksgiving
- 9:30 am** **Adjourn**

Town of Scarborough Sustainability Committee

September 23, 2026 | 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. | Scarborough Town Hall and via Zoom

Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

Attendance

Committee (in person): Ron Allen, Lydia Jopp, Deb McDonough

Committee (Zoom): Dan Shapiro

Town Council: Bill Donovan

Staff: Jami Fitch, Autumn Speer

Guests: Paul Lyon

[Meeting recording](#)

Call to Order

1. The meeting is called to order at 8:05 am.
2. Lydia motions to approve the minutes, Ron seconds. Vote was unanimous. Motion passes.

Public Comment

1. None.

Old Business

1. Data Centers
 - Autumn provides an update on the process to update the Town's Zoning Ordinance to effectively ban data centers.
 - The Town Council had the first reading of the Zoning Ordinance update on 9/16. The Council approved the first reading and referred the ordinance change to the Planning Board.
 - The Planning Board will hold a public hearing on 10/19, and the Town Council will hold a public hearing on 10/21. The Council's second reading and vote will be on 11/4.
 - Deb notes that the Committee's memo recommending a data center ban was sent to the Council.
2. Greater Portland Metro transit pilot
 - Microtransit is now available in Scarborough. It's in a "soft launch" period so they're still working out kinks.
 - The fixed route will launch on 10/4.
 - There is a launch event on 10/2 at 9:00 am at Town Hall. The public is invited to attend.
 - The bus and microtransit services are free through the end of October to encourage people to ride.
 - Deb shares that she had issues using Metro's app to request a microtransit ride. Jami shares that Metro recently launched a new app, so anyone having issues with the app should try reinstalling.

[Apple app](#) | [Android app](#)

Engineering & Technical Services

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

- The Committee suggests opportunities to help advertise the service:
 - Send notice to the high school
 - Post flyers in local establishments like coffee shops
 - Town social media
- Metro is seeking feedback from the public. Emails can be sent to info@gpmetro.org.
- **ACTION: JAMI will re-send the information about the Metro launch event.**

New Business

1. Climate Action Plan

- The [draft Sustaining Scarborough climate action plan](#) is available for review. Public comment is also being accepted.
- A Town Council workshop about the plan is scheduled on 10/21 at 6:00 pm.
- Paul asks if there is a plan to have members of the Advisory Group serve as an advisory board to support implementation of the plan. He's seen the model work effectively in other municipalities.
- Jami walks the Committee through the goals, actions, and strategies in the *Sustaining Scarborough* climate action plan.
- Comments on the plan:
 - Add GHG emissions per capita
 - Include smaller trash bins as a way to reduce solid waste
 - Consider improved cell service as part of emergency communications plan
- Clean Energy and Efficient Buildings, Waste Management, and Transpiration/EV charging as being the primary sections related to the Sustainability Committee. They may have reduced or support roles in other actions.
- The Committee expresses interest in focusing on the goals related to renewable energy.
- The Committee will spend time at the October meeting to identify one or two actions they would like to focus on initially.
- Autumn notes that prioritizing actions and strategies will be helpful leading into the Town Council's annual goal-setting process.

Updates

1. Town Council

- No update this month.

2. Planning Board

- School projects are going to Planning Board for advisory opinions.

3. Transportation Committee

- Transportation Committee is reviewing MaineDOT's options for the [Portland West Project](#) (formerly the Gorham Connector).

4. Conservation Commission

- Conservation Commission is developing a stewardship guide for residents.

5. Scarborough Public Library

- Upcoming community events:
 - Keith Carson speaking about how to talk about climate change – 9/28
 - Halloween costume swap – 10/3
 - Adult and teen clothing swap – 10/17
 - Several sustainability/conservation talks are also planned through early October

Meeting adjourned at 9:29 am.

Next Meeting: October 28, 2026 at 8:00 am.

Future Projects List:

- School Building Process
- Communications, outreach, and engagement
- Community solar / municipal solar array
- 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