

# Town of Brunswick, Maine

## SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

### Monthly Committee Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, August 22 2023, 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm

IN PERSON – TOWN HALL, Council Chambers

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|---|---------|
| 1. Call to Order / Intros                         | 4:00 PM |
| 2. Review/approve June Minutes                    | 4:05    |
| 3. New Committee Charge                           | 4:10    |
| 4. Climate Action Task Force Update – Rumpf/Ecker | 4:20    |
| 5. Solid Waste & Recycling - Wood                 | 4:40    |
| • Town BBQ 9/9                                    |         |
| • Solid Waste Collection Contract Review          |         |
| • Organics Update                                 |         |
| • Other   |         |
| 6. Energy & Sustainability Update - Weems         | 5:00    |
| • EV Stations                                     |         |
| • CPACE   |         |
| • Window Dressers                                 |         |
| • Other   |         |
| 7. Public Comment**                               | 5:20    |
| 8. Adjournment                                    | 5:30 PM |

\*\* Public Comment can be given at this point in the meeting via the Zoom dial in number provided during the televised meeting. Alternatively, written comments in advance of the meeting can be sent to [jastle@brunswickme.org](mailto:jastle@brunswickme.org) and they will be read aloud at the appropriate point in the meeting.

## MINUTES

### BRUNSWICK RECYCLING AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

June 27, 2023

Brunswick Town Hall – Council Chambers

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jamie Ecker at 4:30 PM.

**Members present:** David Costello, Dieuwke Zolas, Jamie Ecker (Chair), Shelley Raymond (Zoom), Tom Rumpf, Steven Weems, Stephen Wood, Karen Topp

**Town personnel present:** Jay Astle (Director of Public Works)

**Public present:** Bill Good

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#### Administrative & Brief Updates

Approval of May 2023 Minutes – Moved by Tom Rumpf, seconded by Steve Weems. Approved unanimously by those present.

New Meeting Time - Due to conflicting meeting times, the R&S Committee meetings will now start at 4:00pm and end at 5:30pm.

#### Solid Waste Committee Updates – Wood/Astle

- Recycling Information Event: Stephen shared that we will participate in the Town barbeque on 9/9. EcoMaine will participate and share information on solid waste recycling. Garbage to Gardens and Agricycle have also agreed to participate. The R&S Committee will also have a tent to share information on organics recycling. Stephen Wood will coordinate member's volunteering time slots for staffing our tent.
- The R&S Committee will also be producing a video on the 3-prong approach to organics recycling. Reach out to Jamie if you'd like to participate.
- Jamie noted that we are tentatively scheduled to participate in the Senior Expo on 10/19. We can decide at a later meeting about our participation.
- Green Expo plans are on pause for the time being, as per Ashely Charleson, the Town's Environmental Planner.
- Eliza Blood, the intern working on organics recycling, will continue to work throughout the summer. Jay indicated she is available for other related work, including Climate Action Plan public announcements.

#### Energy & Sustainability Committee Updates – Weems

- CPACE – A clean energy loan program recently implemented in Maine that provides loans to commercial entities for clean energy initiatives. It requires both State and Local actions to implement. The State has taken legislative action to approve the CPACE program. In order to participate, the Town must pass an ordinance for implementation in Brunswick. Steve Weems will come back at a

later meeting with a more concrete plan to bring forward to the Town Council, including a few businesses interested in participating.

- Window Dressers – Two R&S Committee members participate in this program. There is a build event happening in Brunswick in October. More info to share at a later meeting.
- The Town is continuing to explore options for electric vehicle charging stations. No new updates, though.

#### **Climate Action Task Force Update – Rumpf**

- The Task Force has met twice. They expect to have the preliminary results of the GHG emissions research in mid-July. They also need to elect a Chair and other committee leadership positions. Their next meeting is July 10, with regular monthly meetings scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month.
- There has been a lot of discussion on how to engage the community and gain input. A public engagement event will happen in September. GPCOG has created a website for a public survey, likely to launch in the next two weeks.

#### **Presentation & Q&A**

- George Parmenter, Sustainability & Health Manager at Hannaford's, presented on the sustainability and health practices of the company.

#### **Public Comment**

- Bill Good thanked the Committee for their work, and supported having guest speakers at meetings.

**Adjournment:** Upon a motion made by David Costello and seconded by Stephen Wood, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 5:31 pm.

Sustainability Committee Charge  
Revised June 26, 2023 (Appointments Committee)  
Revised by Staff 7/27/23

**Town of Brunswick, Maine  
Sustainability Committee**

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**Mission/Purpose:**

Sustainability encompasses a balance of environmental stewardship, social equity, and economic vitality to meet the needs of current generations while ensuring that future generations have a strong foundation to achieve a more sustainable community.

To ensure that a sustainable present and future is possible, the Committee shall support the Climate Action Task Force in their development of a Climate Action Plan and advise on the implementation of the proposed action and recommendations of the Plan. The Committee will also assist in the review of the management and reduction of municipal solid waste, to include making recommendations for the improvement or enhancement of the Town's recycling programs.

**Committee Membership:**

The Sustainability Committee consists of ten (10) members:

- Nine (9) members will be residents of the Town of Brunswick, In appointing members to the Committee, the Town Council shall endeavor to appoint candidates with a diversity of experiences and backgrounds.
- One (1) ex-officio, voting member will be appointed by the Town Council Chair from members of the Town Council

Members shall serve a term of three (3) years. Terms shall be staggered to the extent practical. A full term is considered to be a term lasting three (3) full years; an appointment to the Committee in mid-year, to fill a vacancy, is not a full term.

The Committee will select a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary.

**Committee Meetings:**

The Committee will meet monthly on a schedule to be determined by the Committee. At its first meeting of the year, the Committee will set the schedule for the year and provide it to the Town Clerk. Meetings shall be publicly noticed by the posting of agendas and related materials on the Town's website. It is the Town Council's intent that Committee meetings be scheduled so that they can be televised on one of the Town's two cable tv channels and recorded for on-demand streaming from the Town's website.

**Committee Responsibilities:**

The Committee's principal duties are to:

1. Collaborate with other Town committees to make recommendations to the Town Council regarding actions that will implement the Climate Action Plan's recommendations related to

the community vulnerability assessment, including the impacts associated with greenhouse gas emissions (GHG);

2. Make recommendations to the Town Council regarding actions that will implement the Climate Action Plan's recommendations on increasing the use of clean, renewable energy throughout Brunswick, including the Town and School Department's facilities and government operations, as determined in the Town's Climate Action Plan.
3. Coordinate with other related committees to develop and promote public education initiatives to raise awareness and understanding and inspire action within the community to take action on all of the recommendations of the Climate Action Plan in order to meet the need for climate change mitigation, reduce solid waste and increase recycling, and attain sustainable living throughout the Town of Brunswick; [
4. Study and make recommendations to the Town Council for the sustainable management of Brunswick's solid waste in conformance with Maine's Solid Waste Hierarchy; this would include measures for waste reduction, reuse, recycling and public education; [This may or may not fit into the stated purpose. Some solid waste issues are probably going to be addressed in the Climate Action Plan, but not all solid waste issues are climate-related.]

In the conduct of its work and the development of its implementation recommendations, the Committee shall consider:

- a) efficiency and economic sustainability;
- b) environmental and public health concerns;
- c) the needs of the citizens, businesses, and other institutions of Brunswick;
- d) the essential value of making information and education readily available to the diverse communities in Brunswick about these issues; and
- e) Brunswick's Comprehensive Plan, the Climate Action Plan, as well as other duly adopted policies, resolutions, and plans of the Town of Brunswick.

**Committee Staff:**

The Town Manager shall select the staff that will provide administrative and technical support for the Committee. In consultation with the Committee Chair, staff shall be responsible for preparing agendas and minutes, posting public hearings, and maintaining official records.

**Reporting:**

The Committee shall report on its activities to the Town Council, at least quarterly. The reports shall be prepared in accordance with the requirements for inclusion in Town Council meeting agenda packets.

Proposed to Town Council: July 27, 2023  
Adopted by Town Council: August 7, 2023

## **Brunswick Recycling & Sustainability Committee**

### **2023 COMMITTEE GOALS**

**As Presented to Town Council 1/17/22**

#### Solid Waste & Recycling

1. Improve Brunswick's solid waste & recycling community education programs by taking full advantage of ecomaine's resources and programs, including participation in community events, standardization of public education materials, and updating of the Town's website.
2. Standardize & report on the Town's Solid Waste Management Metrics, allowing the Town to assess performance and effectiveness of its programs for solid waste disposal, single stream recycling and organics recycling.
3. Develop long-term recommendations, as appropriate, regarding potential adjustments to the Town's solid waste management contracts for solid waste disposal, recycling, and collection services.

#### Energy & Sustainability

4. Support the Town's development of a Climate Action Plan, as outlined in the recently awarded State of Maine Community Action Grant. This includes an updated, comprehensive greenhouse gas emission inventory, vulnerability assessment, prioritized action plan and implementation plan.
5. Develop recommendations to facilitate the Town's conversion to electric vehicles throughout Brunswick (including but not limited to municipal and school operations), and the development of supportive electric vehicle charging infrastructure in public, commercial, and residential spaces.
6. Organize and support direct services to help Brunswick residents implement energy conservation measures and convert to renewable energy sources for transportation and building heating/cooling (with attention to the needs of low and moderate-income people).