

Minutes of Energy Efficiency Sustainability Committee  
Town of Kennebunk, Maine  
January 8, 2026

Present: Tony Dater, Chair; Tom Schenck, Vice Chair; Linda Miller Cleary; Wayne Berry; Leah Ingram; Joe Wolfson; Maggie Bartenhagen; Ian Murphy; David Morrison; Karen Plattes, Select Board Liaison  
Opening of meeting at 5:35

Tony moved to approve the minutes of Dec. 11, 2025, Tom seconded the motion, and there was unanimous approval.

**Cooperation with Other Town Committees:** Maggie talked briefly about the upcoming Connectivity Workshop to be offered by the Conservation Committee on January 24<sup>th</sup>. The workshop would work on connections between both committees and land trusts, while , for instance, considering local trails.

**Solarization Program:** Tom reported that information on the Community Action Grant Application had not been reported, though results were supposed to be available by December. Further, he and Wayne will meet with Mark Jago about another project grant. He reported that the tax rebates are still going through for now. Connection with RSU 21 is still on the back burner, but they will continue to reach out if the grant possibilities look good. They had made several queries to the RS21 Superintendent, but there had been no reply. It was proposed that, considering the lack of engagement, the best way to connect with RSU 21 might be through the student groups if we want progress in solar, compost, and other green initiatives. Wayne alerted EESC that there would be a discussion coming up about changing the 100 kilowatt limit at community solar farms to 5 megawatts. If that passed, it would make solar farms more feasible. Wayne remarked that this proposal still would need to go through KLP. The committee discussed the safety issues for keeping the energy out of the grid if it goes down, endangering firemen and power workers. Wayne noted that they were waiting for lobbyists to react. Tom volunteered to draft a letter to Kennebunk legislators to support the proposed legislation.

**Energy Efficiency Program:** Collaboration with the Climate Action Committee still needs attention. Maggie went to the committee meeting noting that there was still attention there to composting. It was decided that there still needs to be collaboration versus duplication. Karen noted that she had scheduled a meeting with Lisa, Select Board Liaison for the Climate Action Committee, to discuss this topic. Discussion of the Maine Green Schools Initiative ensued. The committee agreed that we should try to support the district in that state endeavor. Karen suggested a connection with a Board Member might be a good start. Ian and Dave were on that.

Joe noted that “No Idling” signs had been put up with some impetus from him. Committee members chimed in with places they had noticed them. Joe said more would be placed when the ground thawed in the spring.

Maggie noted that the Climate Action Committee would meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month. She would attend meetings if possible and keep up with how EESC might collaborate or participate in that event in a spring event.

Ian showed interest in the Facilities Committee and in connecting with Chris Osterrieder concerning energy audits and windows as the town needs to consider from EESC that three-layer windows would allow for significant payback. Need for audits was again discussed as a concern for EESC.

**Composting Program:** Leah announced that Brian Laverriere had looked into our funding schedule for the Composting Pilot Program and had given us the go ahead for setting it up with Garbage to Garden. She received an excited response! The group generated questions for Garbage to Garden, and Leah will talk with them so we might put the pilot program in action in early spring. Strategies for town education were discussed. Possible places for drop offs were again considered: Town Hall, Library, Bowling Alley,

Dorothy Stevens, Washington Hose, etc. Linda will talk with Hannaford's as an option. The Composting Group will meet and work on next steps.

Tony moved to change our meeting time to February 5<sup>th</sup>. Tom seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Next meeting: February 5 with an emphasis on the upcoming budget  
Meeting adjourned at 7:00.

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