

Town of Kennebunk, Maine



Kennebunk Climate Action Committee Minutes

Monday January 12th, 2026 – 4:30 PM

Present: Josh Tabor, Mike McAtamney, Alison Malmqvist, Lisa Pagano, Beth Sandmire, Tom Wellman, Lee Jay Feldman, Committee Liaison, Lisa Pratt, Selectboard Member.

Absent: Mary Naples

David Lounsbury, Community Member Committee Liaison

I. Open Meeting 4:34

II. Agenda Items

- a. Approval of Minutes for December meeting. Josh T motioned, Mike M seconded. Approved
- b. Updates from Committee Members-
 - David L about Chief Cooper regarding price for cots. Mary has pricing on them for us to add to our budget and possibly fund raising ideas as well. Also developed a draft for improving smoke detector ordinances which would include that the town needs modern linked smoke detectors because buildings burn so quickly these days. In assessing the current ordinance, there is no language regarding interconnection. Also, there is no CO detector ordinance by the town but there is for the state.
 - Lee Jay: Who is going to enforce this?
 - David: Is there someone I could talk to see who might enforce the ordinance?
 - Lee Jay: Town enforce MUBEC (Maine Building and Electrical Code) and FD enforces the National Fire Protection Association, NFPA.
 - Lisa Pratt: Need to keep in mind the cost to homeowners.
- c. Planning for Jan 24th *Connecting Kennebunk* meeting (1-4 pm)
 - Alison CC update: Connecting Kennebunk event which is on the 1/24/26 1-4 pm. Can we have more than two committee members since this is a public event? Lisa P: will have to produce an agenda and at the bottom

there will be a disclaimer that there may be two or more members from each committee attending and for them to submit minutes.

- The event is shaping up nicely; especially seeing how the maps show where there are connections within the town.
- Lots of groups are coming.

d. Develop 2026 Work Plan

- Josh T: There are potential elements around land use for the CAC to explore but to what extent do we want to be part of the discussions? For example, buildings on or near wetlands. How do we get our voices heard during the decision process?
- Lisa Pratt: There are site walks by the CC that are courtesy only.
- Lee Jay: If this is something that occurs the committee should have a tutorial regarding the ordinances because there are three classes of wetlands-class 1, 2 and 3. Required to have a wetland specialist to survey the area and identify specifically where that wetland is and what class it is.
- Alison: Wetlands are critical to climate resiliency and are addressed in the CAP.
- Lisa Pratt agrees that it is appropriate to have these conversations and to develop new ordinances as is reference directly in the CAP (13 and 14)
- Lee Jay: A rewrite of a zoning ordinance is possibly 100K.
- Lisa Pratt: Not everything needs to be an ordinance, can develop policies too. Remember to make sure to use SMPDC as a resource but all requests should go through Lee Jay
- Josh T: The CAC could work to see where we can develop ordinances amendments. Will require doing an audit of existing ordinances both here in KBK and surrounding towns. Lee Jay suggests South Portland where they have two full time sustainability staff.
- Lee Jay: ADU and houses owners need to submit a plan, and they will look at the wetlands map and then there will be analysis where and what type of wetlands are there and then where is the septic go and will the grading of the house affect the wetlands. This does not go to the planning board but is scrutinized “in-house”.
- Mike M and David L signed up for the Community Emergency Response Team, or CERT program.
- David and Josh: Fund raising for cots and smoke detectors and educational material around the KNOX BOXES.
- Josh: We must be careful that the FD does not dominate too much of our committee time.
- Lisa Pratt: We need to focus on the CAP. The cots do align with actions outlined in the CAP.
- Josh T: We may get to the point where we can outsource the work to another group (seniors and/or seniors at KHS)
- Mike M: having the communication for emergencies in place and there is a list of people in the community we know who to do checks on. Lisa P: there are current lists to use from Meals on Wheels.

- Lisa Pratt: We don't have an overnight warming center. We have the KFL, but they are often closed and only available during business hours.
- Chief Cooper manages the shelters and warming centers but is practically a conflict as he and his staff will be needed to respond to emergencies. What are the staffing requirements?
- Shelters are different than warming centers because you can't have people in schools while there are kids attending.
- Lisa Pratt: York County Emergency will help set up a shelter but will not provide any. West K FD could house a small number of people.
- Davd L: There are stipulations mandated by the state about shelters e.g., Bring your pets is mandated.
- Committee Concerns/Questions: We need more information about the fundraising, like where are the cots going to be stored and used for and what other services there are that might be able to help?
- Lisa Pratt: Advocates for more warming and cooling centers in town.
- Josh: We should come up with a plan on how to go about new wetland ordinances. Lisa Pratt suggests an in-service, so we know what exists and maybe invite a wetland scientist.
- Alison: we should loop the CC into this plan.
- UNE/SMPDC November Workshop: Mike M went to the coastal breakout session and suggested reaching out to Dr. Pam Morgan to invite her.
- Lisa Pratt: About the GHG inventory and how it is being used in other communities because we have two data sets/years to compare to. The main question that came up is what does the community think about it? It has not been released to the community and Brian feels strongly that the results should be communicated by the CAC and then suggests small steps what community members could do. Probably it would not require a lot of work, but it should be a priority for the CAC. We could work with Tina (Town) and Karina (SMPDC) to create something for release. Lee Jay will reach out to Karina. One idea: Pushing something out on the website/social media and then creating a pamphlet. And use emails we have.

III. New Items

- Lisa Pratt: Eco Maine presentation tomorrow 1/13/26 at the Selectboard meeting. Will explain the EPR legislation. The town will not get money in 2026 (collecting data year) 2027 dividends will be released from the program.
- The recycling numbers have increased.

- Kittery Alternative transportation study (KATS) is a task force looking at smart transportation in the region.
- Beth: The solar panels for the Waterhouse are still moving forward so maybe we need to provide education around that.

For Committee Reference:

Lisa Pagano: Shared Hampton wetlands planting pamphlet.

Lee Jay shared: <https://sustainablecitycode.org/subchapters/>

IV. Adjournment

6:15 pm