

**KENNEBUNK SELECT BOARD
and CLIMATE ACTION PLAN TASK FORCE**

JOINT WORKSHOP MINUTES/NOTES

**TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2024 – 6:00PM
IN-PERSON AND TELECONFERENCE MEETING VIA “ZOOM”**

This meeting was recorded for future viewing and is available at www.kennebunkmaine.us/tv

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:01pm by Select Board Chair Shiloh Schulte and Climate Action Plan Task Force Liaison Lisa Pratt. Those in attendance were:

Select Board: Shiloh Schulte (Chair), Lisa Pratt (Secretary), Leslie Trentalange and Kortney Nedeau (K. Nedeau participated via zoom until 6:15pm)
Absent: Miriam Whitehouse (Vice Chair), Kevin Therrien and William Ward, Jr.

Climate Action Plan Task Force:

Mark Kerr (Conservation Commission Representative)
Chris MacClinchy (Planning Board Representative)
Alison Malmqvist Malmqvist (Community Member)
Elizabeth Smith (Community Member)
Joshua Tabor (Community Member)
Yvette Webster (Community Member)
Lisa Pratt (Select Board Liaison)
Chris Osterrieder (Director of Community Development)
Bryan Laverriere (Assistant Town Manger/Director of Public Services)
Tom Berry (Resource Partner) – non-member, however, very active volunteer on task force

Also Attending: Heather Balsler (Town Manager), Stephen Houdlette (Economic Vitality Director)

2. Meet with the Climate Action Plan Task Force to Hear an Update on the Planning Process
3. Discuss Recommended Strategies and Action Items
4. Consider Next Steps for Implementation of the Plan

View supporting material:

- [Workshop Slideshow \(PDF\)](#)
- [Kennebunk Strategy Posters \(PDF\)](#)
- [Public Engagement Feedback \(PDF\)](#)
- [Feedback from TOK Staff, Committees, Community Stakeholders \(PDF\)](#)
- [Kennebunk Climate Action Plan Strategies – Draft \(PDF\)](#)
- [Kennebunk Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment Summary \(PDF\)](#)
- [Kennebunk Municipal and Community Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory \(PDF\)](#)

Discussion:

A. Malmqvist presented L. Pratt’s Power Point summary of the process and activities leading up to the draft plan.

L. Pratt presented the Executive Summary of the Plan and described the collaborative process with SMPDC and the three other Cohort towns.

C. Osterrieder took the group through the high-level breakdown of strategies and invited questions and comments.

K. Nedeau asked how strategies would be organized and prioritized.

S. Schulte asked about the Task Force's connections with other municipal entities – CMP, KLPD, Sewer, etc. He asked if we would be exploring planning and capacity at primary utilities.

In Buildings & Energy, L. Trentalange asked what was meant by KLPD's barriers to solar.

In Transportation & Infrastructure, S. Schulte noted that EVs are already prevalent in Kennebunk but we need the support infrastructure and grid to keep up.

S. Schulte noted that the Conservation Commission is already working on the walkability/bikability challenge. He asked how the proposed Climate Action Committee would intersect with other committees and boards.

In Land Use, S. Schulte noted that we are ahead of the game in protecting wetlands thanks to the Conservation Commission's work. He noted that it may be time for a new Open Space Plan and greater recognition that forestation, like wetlands, plays an important role in cooling and carbon sinking.

In Health & Safety, there were no comments.

In Leadership, S. Schulte pointed out that this topic may be the most controversial in terms of its implications for staffing and budget. The Board will want input from Staff if the draft becomes a firm proposal. H. Balsler noted that more work needs to be done on prioritization, cost estimates, specific steps to implementation, staff support requirements.

C. Osterrieder commented that the draft is a good "introductory" plan – aimed at changing behavior, not yet establishing hard metrics. He noted that it will need constant rebalancing as "we get into the weeds".

S. Schulte agreed that measuring outcomes matters – carbon dioxide output, concrete adaptation measures. Current draft is a starting point. Implementation will require metrics, particularly if "we're spending money" on it.

The Public was invited to comment:

L. Trentalange read an email from Susan Bloomfield asking "who will make the hard decisions" when it comes to managed retreat (no more seawalls). S. Schulte responded that current governance requires participation of Board and voters to approve budgets and land use ordinances. Strategies affecting quasi municipal utilities will require collaboration.

Brenda Robinson spoke in support of the Draft Plan and urged the Task Force to be in touch with the Charter Commission. She promoted the idea of change in governance to Council from Town Meeting (currently under discussion) in order to step up the speed of acceptance and implementation of climate change strategies.

Barbara Fleshman noted that a very significant amount of construction/deconstruction solid waste is going to landfill – possibly another "action" item in Buildings & Energy.

Adjournment

At 7:24pm, the workshop adjourned.

Minutes/Notes by Heather Balsler, Town Manager and Betsy Smith, Climate Action Plan Task Force