

Climate Action Plan Task Force, April 4, 2023
MINUTES

Call to order ~ 9:05 by Maggie Bartenhagen, Chair

Members present: Lisa Pratt; Chris MacClinchy; Mark Kerr; Bryan Laverriere; Maggie Bartenhagen; Chris Osterrieder;

Members absent: Lily Martin; Chris Pasciuto; Alison Malmqvist

Guests/Resource Partners: Tom Berry; Yvette Webster; Josh Tabor

Discussion of several sample Climate Action Plans (CAP). Members felt that smaller, more user-friendly plans ~ like York's and perhaps Bar Harbor's ~ might be good models to consider for a Kennebunk plan.

Other plans, like Portland/South Portland's, have some interesting and user-friendly sections such as Portland's Implementation Matrix.

Members felt strongly that any plan that is developed must be user-friendly, says 'who we are', and continue to be relevant for some time ~ but that would also be flexible enough to adapt, or be tweaked, to changes that are currently unforeseen at this time. One suggestion would be that the CAP be reviewed and perhaps updated every few years. There was agreement that this must be a 'living' document.

K.Winton shared the Town's current interest in, and efforts to continue to work towards, Kennebunk as an 'age friendly' community. There was discussion on how to collaborate in reaching our 65 and older residents both on this issue and the climate issue. There was also discussion on how to begin to work more closely with our 'sister' community, Kennebunkport, on these efforts.

Discussion continued on how to be most effective in our efforts with public outreach. It was suggested that storytelling (including images of areas flooded around Town in previous storms) and the impacts to the community when this happens could be effective. It was also suggested that there should be little distinction between "stakeholders" and "decision makers" as input is solicited from community members as to how they envision their Kennebunk of the future.

Outreach efforts suggested include: cards with a link (QR code) to survey on-line distributed to local businesses and partners; paper surveys; engaging local businesses and partners in these and other outreach efforts. It was suggested that the historic district could be looped in as well,

especially as it might relate to the older housing stock in Kennebunk. Carol Morris (Carol Morris Communications) will be invited to our next meeting to help guide this discussion.

Members emphasized that education is key as to what is happening with flooding and the resulting disruption of access to parts of the community.

The Members felt that the Vulnerability Assessment Summary for Kennebunk was difficult to read in some areas and there was uncertainty about the accuracy of some of the data. M. Bartenhagen will reach out to SMPD to clarify.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 AM.

The next scheduled meeting of the CAP Task Force is April 18, 2023 @ 9:00 AM in Room 300 at Town Hall.