

Community Resilience Grant Committee Meeting Notes

09/16/2024



Attendees:

Committee Members Present	Linda Meadows Kathy Kamzelski Sarah Hardy Charlie Smith Ernie Kalinisan
Committee Members Absent	Aaron Zeisler Serena Cole
Community Attendees	Marsha Shute, Selectperson Elizabeth Lenharr, Selectperson

Yellow Highlight indicates NEW or not-yet-completed action items

Green Highlight indicates COMPLETED action items * try to find a lighter green to use for highlighting.

#	Agenda	Notes
1	Call to Order Quorum present	Meeting Start at: 6:01pm See attendance above
2.	Adjustments to the Agenda	Added section to Finish List of Community Actions
3.	Review and Approval of 9/9/24 Meeting minutes	Changes were made in the document – changed document was approved by attending members.
4.	Update on Action Items	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Bonnie Jean Brooks will confirm with the Brooks family about the overlap of their property and Sandy Point and report back to the committee next meeting. Bonnie Jean has not been able to join our meetings recently so no response from her but during the walk through today with Rick Harter it was confirmed that there are private trails that link up to the public trails. The landowner is maintaining them. We were surprised when Tom Moore told us that there is no County hazard mitigation plan. Serena volunteered to call Belfast county seat to ask about this. Because Serena is not available, Linda called instead. She talked to Dale Rowley on the phone and found out that a document exists, and she has the link (see below). Dale mentioned that the County is also going through a county hazard mitigation planning process, which they expect to complete by the end of the year. Only 10 towns out of the 26 towns in the county are participating. Stockton Springs is not for whatever reason. Work and meetings started in February. The review is a FEMA process, once it's completed that would be used to get FEMA money if there were to be an emergency (no involvement then no money). Dale didn't remember why Stockton didn't participate. Some towns

		<p>didn't even respond, he thought that some towns didn't think the value of any funds would out way the hassle of participating.</p> <p>Waldo County Emergency Operations Document link: Cover Sheet (waldocountyme.gov)</p> <p>Linda also found the ongoing County Hazard mitigation planning work on the Searsport town website, not the county website. This link gets you to 4 documents: Regional Hazard Mitigation Planning - Government - Searsport Maine These documents give the details of what towns are working on this – it is NOT just for searsport.</p>
5.	Finish List of Community actions	<p>Updated the remaining line items that we had previously skipped. All lines are now complete.</p>  <p>List%20of%20Community%20Actions_2023-</p>
6.	Review and Prioritize Potential Project List	Reviewed the list Linda provided (attach)
7.	Fill in our questionnaire	<p>What do we do well</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strong Emergency Services 2. Public works is proactive and keeps equipment in good working order <p>What needs to be improved</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update the comprehensive plan 2. Improve residents knowledge of emergency management information/services/plans etc. <p>What's important to address in the long term</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emergency shelter 2. Planning for displacement during storms  <p>Community%20Resilience%20Self-Evaluatic</p>
8.	Discuss and come to a recommendation on wording for municipal resolution to join Community Resilience Partnership	<p>Action: - considering that the state owns the land for sandy park, and town has agreed to maintain it, what boundaries are we working with related to getting grants and doing any work on the park? (linda)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluate and mitigate shoreline erosion issues on public properties. Include education programs for citizens for the same on private property. 2. Establish community gardens in Stockton Springs. 3. Vulnerability Assessment using the new state program 4. Green Valley Rd Culvert replacement 5. Improve walkability in town for biking and walking safety

9.	Discuss the town resolution language	Linda provided the template for the resolution and we decided we will use that template and add 4 additional preamble statements (see the sheet)
10.	Discuss Resiliency Committee By-Laws	On 8/19/24 the committee reviewed the draft document that included both Serena/Linda's draft and Kathy's suggestions. Suggestions for changes were provided. Linda updated the draft document with the suggested changes. In future meeting to review/update. The biggest discussion point was around the purpose of the committee: should it include verbiage around reducing carbon emissions and transitioning to clean energy or just about becoming more resilient to climate change effects? We decided to wait until the next meeting when more of the committee was present to discuss this again and take a vote on it.
11.	Future meeting dates	Next meeting is Monday, Sept 23. Weekly on Mondays through October @6pm. If we decide we don't need them, we can cancel.
12.	Adjournment	Adjourned at 7:

Table A: Summary of Ideas from 6/17/24 Public meeting

Idea	# votes
Sandy Point Beach Erosion restoration	7
Green Valley culvert replacement plan (needs to allow salmon access)	7
Emergency Shelter – new building	7
Heat pumps in ambulance building and public works building	6
Sandy Point trails – improve resiliency to storms (add to erosion restoration)	4
Fire hydrants that work for all	4
Community garden	3
Point person, coordinator for projects/case studies	3
Roof repair of municipal buildings	3
Solar upgrades	2
Vulnerability assessment of all town properties to effects of climate change (includes residential properties)	2
Roadside solar/EV charging	1
Breakwater for Stockton Harbor	1
Senior Housing	1
Municipal composting	0
Broadband	0

*note: zero votes does not indicate no interest or that we shouldn't pursue it, it simply means that folks chose to use their prioritization votes elsewhere and it is a lower priority.

Projects from the list of community actions the committee listed as Future High

Strategy Area A: Embrace the Future of Transportation		
Accelerate the Transition to Electric Vehicles (EVs)		
A2	Install EV chargers in public parking areas.	Efficiency Maine: EV supply equipment initiative (\$)
Improve Mobility and Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)		
A5	Implement strategies that increase public transit ridership and alternative transportation modes, including bike and walking infrastructure.	
A9	Adopt a Complete Streets policy which addresses safety, bike/pedestrian uses, and transit.	Maine DOT Complete Streets
A10	Adopt a broadband plan that reduces the need to drive by increasing access to high speed internet for underserved residents to support telecommuting, access to remote education and telehealth.	Maine Connectivity Authority planning and infrastructure grants (\$)
Strategy Area B: Modernize Maine's Buildings		
Transition to Cleaner Heating and Cooling, and Efficient Appliances in Municipal/Tribal Buildings		
B4	Install a heat pump system or VRF system for heating/cooling and heat pump water heating in municipal/tribal buildings.	Efficiency Maine: Public Sector (\$)
B6	Adjust procurement policies to prioritize climate-friendly Maine forest products (e.g. mass timber, wood-fiber insulation) in construction projects.	
Strategy Area C: Reduce Emissions through Clean Energy Innovation		
Reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions		
C1	Conduct a baseline for energy useage by municipal/tribal government including electricity, heating and transportation fuels, and other energy sources.	
C2	Identify and track a simplified set of emissions indicators for community emissions reduction (e.g. number of EVs registered in the community, number of homes with solar panels, number of heat pump rebates from Efficiency Maine).	
C3	Adopt a resolution setting targets and a plan for reducing emissions and advancing clean energy from municipal/tribal operations that align with the state's targets.	
Strategy Area D: Grow Jobs and Protect Natural Resource Industries		

Support Maine's Natural Resource Economy		
D1	Adopt policies that enable, support, or incentivize local food production and consumption, including community gardens.	
Strategy Area E: Protect the Environment & Promote Natural Climate Solutions		
Protect Natural and Working Lands and Waters		
E3	Create or update a watershed plan to identify flooding and water quality priorities and adaptation options.	ME DEP Nonpoint Source Priority Watersheds List & grants (\$)
E5	Conserve, revegetate and reconnect floodplains and buffers in riparian areas.	
E9	Identify and protect sites for living shorelines and saltmarsh migration areas.	ME Natural Areas Program: Maps, Data, and Technical Assistance
Strategy Area F: Build Healthy & Resilient Communities		
Plan for Community Resilience		
F1	Conduct a community vulnerability assessment that identifies climate risks and vulnerable populations and includes a review of existing plans and policies. Adopt a climate resilience plan that describes high priority strategies for reducing risk and vulnerabilities (may be a standalone plan or included in a comprehensive plan).	-
Reduce Flood Risk		
F5	Complete the Maine Flood Resilience Checklist.	Maine Flood Resilience Checklist
F12	Adopt a low-impact design (LID) standard for stormwater management.	Low Impact Design Manual for Maine Communities (PDF)
Strengthen Public Health		
F13	Identify and plan to reduce public health threats in the community that are exacerbated by climate change.	US CDC Health Harm Cards and Climate & Health Planning Worksheet
F14	Develop and implement an extreme temperatures emergency plan, including strategies that increase use of cooling centers by residents.	US CDC Heat & Health Tracker Resources: Heat Response Plans and Use of Cooling Centers
Strategy Area G: Invest in Climate-Ready Infrastructure		
Utilize climate-ready standards, designs, and practices to improve infrastructure		
G5	Adopt DEP's Stream Smart Crossing Guidelines as standard practice for culvert and bridge improvements. Identify vulnerable crossings and apply for DEP improvement funds.	DEP Stream Smart Crossings Grants and Pocket Guide (\$)
Strategy Area H: Engage Maine People		
Increase public awareness of climate change impacts and opportunities to take action		

H4	Engage youth in resilience, clean energy, and energy use reduction.	
H5	Engage populations that are vulnerable to climate impacts in resilience, clean energy, and GHG emissions reduction.	