

Community Resilience Grant Committee Meeting Notes

09/23/2024


Attendees:

Committee Members Present	Linda Meadows Kathy Kamzelski Sarah Hardy Charlie Smith Ernie Kalinisan
Committee Members Absent	Aaron Zeisler Serena Cole
Community Attendees	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: 6:00pm See attendance above
2.	Adjustments to the Agenda	Charlie would like to add a few minutes to discuss the Shelter Committee – just a couple of minutes
3.	Review and Approval of 9/16/24 Meeting minutes	We discussed the section of the notes related to FEMA and would like additional information about whether we'd be supported in the event a disaster (Linda to ask Dale).
4.	Shelter committee update – Charlie Smith	Charlie attended a meeting at Swanville at the Emergency (EOC) – to discuss emergency shelters. The Belfast YMCA, the school in KNOX (can accommodate 600 people) and Troy Howard elementary school are the three sites for the county. Charlie asked if we opened a shelter in Stockton, could we use the cots and other equipment they have. The answer was YES, as long as the rest of the county doesn't need to help more than 250 people at the other. They have never served more than 150 people. The county is also asking for additional people to join the committee – 5 more people – to complement the 3 they have. Eight people are needed to support each emergency territory. Suggestion to contact Mac and get it mentioned in the monthly newsletter (charlie's brother is Mac). Charlie takes the action item to get it in the newsletter. Liz expressed an interest in joining Charlie at one of their meetings.
5.	Update on Action Items	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) Linda has reached out to Mac and he got back to her that he received the request and needs some time to track down the information. He

		will get back to her when he tracks it down. Keep as an open action until he gets back to her.
6.	Review information gained from Sandy Point visits	 <p>Summary%20of%20Sandy%20Point%20Visi</p> <p>Went through the document that Linda sent out</p> <p>Potential action items –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the stairs to the beach need to be repaired. Without functional stairs people will slide down the bank and cause further damage. 2. planting marsh grass where it currently is sparse to help retain the beach sand 3. the trails need some rehabilitation but the town has some budget and public works is gradually repairing them with reclaimed asphalt.(not sure if we will pursue this in the grant or not) <p>Proposal – bring the Parks Committee into a discussion about the stairs, the marsh grass. Invite them to a meeting and discuss options. Linda will reach out to them and suggest 9/30 or 10/7 but it will depend on when they will be available.</p>
7.	Discuss best way to move forward & engage the community	<p>The select committee approved the resolution today 9/23.</p> <p>Regarding the education of private citizens about erosion avoidance for their private property. Linda found a very detailed PDF which has lots of information to determine suitability of erosion mitigation. Suggestion, we could put this on the town website.</p> <p>Regarding Community Garden – where do we start?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to identify location(s). plot near Jim Nichols house which was once used, Liz will reach out to Mac to see if the town still owns that tract. • Need to get people involved, would the garden club maybe get involved? Ask a question in the monthly newsletter (Linda) to gauge interest. Stockton Springs Talk post to gauge interest (Sarah). • Sandy Point water company is right next to the plot, maybe we could get water from them? Charlie’s brother is on the board of the water company. There is a community pump house. Charlie will go walk off the lot to see how open it is and evaluate it’s general state. Need to come up with a plan and an estimate to submit for December. <p>Vulnerability Assessment – this is a separate grant, it’s due on November 8th. We must join another community in order to submit for this grant. We must look for providers (consultants) – Linda to take this action.</p> <p>Green Valley Rd culvert – maybe we pursue a grant for the planning portion. Linda to ask George to get a quote for the design plan.</p>

		<p>Improve walkability in town – improve biking and walking safety. Need input of residents where would we like to see sidewalks? Bike lanes? What else can we do? We need an expert to help us think about ideas. Sarah to do a post on Stockton Springs Talks to get comments on where folks would like to improve, or do we have anyone who has ever worked on this before? Linda to ask the question in newsletter.</p> <p>The resolution also mentions being leaders on energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. We could pursue the energy audit of municipal buildings. Can we partner with the recycling and energy conservation committee?</p> <p>Question for the group? Do we want to come up with subcommittees to help get this work done? Yes potentially, if we can identify additional interested people.</p>
8.	Discuss Resiliency Committee By-Laws	<p>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.</p> <p>In todays meeting we shortened the mission and got bogged down on the purpose again. There was some disagreement in the group about whether to include the word policy in the mission and purpose. Sarah and Linda thought that since we marked all grant topics that mentioned “policy” or ‘ordinance”, as not applicable then we should remove reference to that from the mission. Kathy volunteered to rework the purpose and mission some more.</p>
9.	Adjournment	Adjourned at 7:33pm
10.	Future meeting dates	Next meeting is Monday, Sept 30. Weekly on Mondays through October @6pm. If we decide we don’t need them, we can cancel.

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.	