Committee for Energy Efficiency and Sustainability (CEES)

Please join my meeting: https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/810806229
You can also dial in : +1 (872) 240-3212
Access Code: 810-806-229

Item	Agenda	Start Time
1	**Call to Order: Welcome!**	**7:00 PM**
2	**Appointing a Committee Chair**	**7:00 PM**
2	**Approval of the December 8, 2021, Meeting Minutes**	**7:05 PM**
3	**Community Resiliency Partnership Action Plan** **Background:** The committee will review a list of action items associated with the State's new Community Resiliency Partnership program. Review of this document is required prior to requesting grant funds or technical assistance through the program. **Action Required:** Review the attached list and identify priority action items.	**7:05 PM**
4	**Ongoing Project/Policy Update(s)** **Background:** Committee members and staff will provide updates on current projects. Those projects include: Electric Vehicles, LED Streetlight Conversion, Solar PPA, Community Solar Development, and municipal broadband. **Action Required:** No action required.	**7:45 PM**
5	**Other Business** **Background:** The Committee will reserve time for new topics for future discussion. **Action Required:** No action required.	**8:00 PM**
6	**Adjourn**	**8:30 PM**

Packet Materials

- December 8, 2021, Meeting Minutes
  Community Resiliency Partnership Action Item List

YARMOUTH
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Committee for Energy Efficiency and Sustainability (CEES)

Board Members Present

☒ Toby Ahrens   ☒ Peter Fromuth   ☒ David Ertz   ☐ Scott Sherriff   ☒ Michael Sears

☒ Kurt Adams   ☒ Chuck Parker   ☒ Bill Dunn   ☒ Danielle Hood   ☒ Anna Siegel (TC)
☐ Heather Abbott (TC)

☒ Scott LaFlamme (Staff)

Public in Attendance: Karen Orenstein, Megan Hellstedt

Agenda Items

Approval of the November 10, 2021, Meeting Minutes

Toby Ahrens brought the December 8, 2021, CEES meeting to order at 6:00pm. David Ertz moved to accept the November 10, 2021, meeting minutes, as presented. Danielle Hood seconded the motion. It carried unanimously.

Green Voices Society – Climate Action Emergency

During the November CEES meeting, the Committee was asked by the Town Council to review the Green Voices Society's (GVS) proposed climate action emergency. A work group was created to review and provide recommended edits for the December meeting. Anna Seigel and D. Hood provided context from their discussion and gave an overview of their proposed changes. The one question that remained was whether to aspire to zero carbon emission reductions or net zero carbon emission reduction. After a brief discussion, it was suggested that the Town follow the State's climate action plan and pursue a net zero outcome.

A. Seigel and D. Hood volunteered to continue the discussion offline and come back to the group with a fresh draft to review.

Ongoing Project/Policy Update(s)

- S. LaFlamme reported that the LED streetlight conversion has been completed.
- Solar PPA: D. Ertz and Peter Fromuth reported out on the Town's recent ribbon cutting event at ReVision/Soltage's Acton site.
- Community Solar: D. Ertz and S. LaFlamme reported that the Town and EDPR are continuing to work with CMP to finalize option agreement requirements. Work is ongoing, albeit slowly.
- Electric Busses: P. Fromuth reported to the School Committee voted to acquire one electric bus for their fleet, with an opportunity to purchase a second in the upcoming budget year.

YARMOUTH
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Committee for Energy Efficiency and Sustainability (CEES)

- P. Fromuth provided the Committee with his work associated with proposed revisions to Efficiency Maine's electric vehicle subsidy program. The Committee will review his findings and discuss a possible resolution in January.

Adjourn

The Committee adjourned upon mutual consent at 7:15pm.

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Community Resilience Self-Evaluation

Instructions: This tool is intended to help organize your community's approach to increasing resilience to natural hazards and climate change impacts. Answer the questions to the best of your knowledge and seek information from your colleagues in municipal and county government and organizations in your community. Provide any relevant information in the explanation field. If it is difficult to give a clear yes or no response to a question, use the explanation field to explain why. **There are no wrong answers and the responses here will not affect your community's eligibility to receive grants.** Where the response to a question is no, that may indicate an area of opportunity to address through a Community Action Grant.

Community name:	
Self-Evaluation responses provided by: Please include contact info	
Date:	
Was this evaluation discussed during a community workshop? Include the date of the workshop.	

Once the questions on the following pages are complete, use these prompts to identify potential next steps for your community:

What are two things your community is doing well?	
What are two areas that could be improved in the short-term?	
What is important for your community to address in the long-term?	
What specific 3 to 5 actions are priorities for your community?	

Minimizing Risk and Exposure to Hazards	
1) Has your community assessed the likelihood of various types of hazards or disruptive events?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Your local or county hazard mitigation plan is a good starting place to find this information. Hazards can include storms, floods, wind, fire, extreme temperatures, drought, etc. Likelihood could be indicated either numerically or qualitatively as low, medium, or high.	Explanation:
2) Has your community assessed how the likelihood of each hazard has changed over time and may change in the future?	☐ Yes ☐ No
If your community has not tracked trends historically, you might infer past trends by determining if current priorities have shifted compared to past hazard mitigation plans. For example, drought or wildfire might be an emerging concern.	Explanation:
3) Has your community assessed the impacts or consequences of each type of hazard for the community?	☐ Yes ☐ No
For example, flooding on Main Street impedes emergency services or affects local businesses.	Explanation:
4) Is your community taking steps to reduce exposure to multiple risk types?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Your local or county hazard mitigation plan probably contains this information.	Explanation:
6) Is your community preparing for low-probability-but-high-consequence events?	☐ Yes ☐ No
These events could be, for example, a 1-in-100 year flood, or a prolonged electricity outage or heating fuel shortage. What events might the community need to consider?	Explanation:
7) Has your community assessed the consequences of multiple events or different types of hazards occurring in geographic or temporal proximity?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Examples could include back-to-back flooding events or a power outage during a heat wave.	Explanation:
8) Is your community assessing emerging risks (e.g. drought, wildfire) and identifying blind spots?	☐ Yes ☐ No
In addition to natural hazards, consider public health threats that might be worsened by climate change, such as contamination of drinking water sources and vector-borne diseases from ticks and mosquitos.	Explanation:

Understanding Sensitivity and Building Resilience	
9) Is your community tracking underlying societal characteristics and trends that increase vulnerability?	☐ Yes ☐ No
This information might be found in your community's comprehensive plan or economic development plan. Examples of characteristics and trends might include older or low-income populations, low housing availability, reliance on a single economic driver, aging infrastructure, environmental degradation, etc.	Explanation:
10) Is your community proactively addressing vulnerabilities associated with these underlying characteristics?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Look in your community's comprehensive plan or economic development plan for strategies that might address these trends.	Explanation:
10) Does your community have financial resources in reserve to cope with or absorb shocks?	☐ Yes ☐ No
For example, a rainy-day fund.	Explanation:
12) Is your community building flexible human capacity that can be drawn on in emergencies?	☐ Yes ☐ No
For example, community emergency response teams (CERT) or mutual aid agreements with neighboring communities.	Explanation:

Improving Long-term Adaptive Capacity	
13) Does your community have plans or policies that anticipate future climate risks and community sensitivity trends?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Examples might include a comprehensive plan chapter that describes how the community is planning for climate change impacts, or a capital improvement plan that requires construction projects to consider future conditions like sea level rise, extreme rain, or drought.	Explanation:

14) Are there resources to sustain new capacity when needed?	☐ Yes ☐ No
This is different from Question 10 in that these resources would need to sustain a new long-term commitment rather than a one-time, short-term response. For example, if flooding emerges as an issue, a revenue source such as a stormwater utility fee could sustain a new community stormwater management program.	Explanation:
15) Does the community have policies in place to build back smarter or recover with resilience after a disruptive event?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Examples might include a flood ordinance that requires compliance with the current building codes after substantial damage, or a communitywide post-disaster recovery plan.	Explanation:
16) Does the community stress test to ensure plausible risks are manageable?	☐ Yes ☐ No
This might be a table-top exercise with emergency management and community stakeholders, or a financial health analysis.	Explanation:
17) Does the community have a policy or process for managing uncertainty?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Does the community have a way of making important decisions when information is incomplete or unavailable?	Explanation:

Community Resilience Partnership

List of Community Actions

Program Contact: Brian Ambrette
brian.ambrette@maine.gov
www.maine.gov/future/climate/resilient-maine

Community Resilience Partnership
List of Community Actions
Revised December 1, 2021

The List of Community Actions are suggested activities for communities that align with the goals and strategies of Maine Won't Wait. Communities will use the List first as a self-assessment tool to aid in determining where progress has already been made, then as a guide for identifying future priorities and funding opportunities.

All of the actions on the List – from planning projects to developing ordinances to capital improvements – are eligible for no-match Community Action Grants. Communities are encouraged to combine multiple related actions from the Inventory into a single application. Recognizing that some communities have in-house capacity and others do not, the grants may fund staff time or be used to hire external capacity, such as a consultant or regional planning organization, to assist with the project.

Community Action Grants are capped at $50,000 for individual communities and $100,000 for collaborative projects from a cohort of two or more communities. Action-specific caps may also apply (for example, communities may request up to a certain amount per electric vehicle purchase).

Community Action Grants may be used to augment other state funding opportunities, such as Efficiency Maine's rebate programs. However, the applicant must demonstrate that the other source of funding has been or will be maximized before funding from a Community Action Grant is allowed. For example, a town wishing to purchase an electric vehicle or upgrade to energy efficient LED lighting must demonstrate that Efficiency Maine's incentives are being applied first to the project budget.

Program Contact: Brian Ambrette
brian.ambrette@maine.gov
Community Resilience Partnership | Office of Policy Innovation & Future (maine.gov)

Community Resilience Partnership

List of Community Actions
Revised December 1, 2021

✓	Strategy Areas & Actions	Additional Resources ($=funding source)
Strategy Area A: Embrace the Future of Transportation		
Accelerate the Transition to Electric Vehicles (EVs)		
	A1	Purchase or lease electric vehicles for municipal or tribal government-owned vehicle fleets. (Grants capped at $2,000 per light duty EV.)	Efficiency Maine: Municipal EV rebates ($)
	A2	Install EV chargers in public parking areas.	Efficiency Maine: EV supply equipment initiative ($)
	A3	Adopt ordinances to encourage EV charging infrastructure, including at multifamily dwellings, businesses, and public parking areas.	Municipal Electric Vehicle Readiness Toolkit (Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission)
	A4	Adopt an anti-idling ordinance.	Example: Bar Harbor Municipal Code
Improve Mobility and Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)		
	A5	Implement strategies that increase public transit ridership and alternative transportion modes, including bike and walking infrastructure.	
	A6	Implement strategies that encourage municipal/tribal employees to commute via carpools, public transit, bike/walk, or other alternatives to single-occupancy vehicles.	
	A7	Adopt a telework policy for municipal/tribal government staff positions that can work remotely some days per week.	
	A8	Adopt land use and development policies in plans and codes that reduce the need for driving (e.g. locating schools, workplaces, and shopping near where people live; encouraging density of development near housing and transportation).	
	A9	Adopt a Complete Streets policy which addresses safety, bike/pedestrian uses, and transit.	Maine DOT Complete Streets
	A10	Adopt a broadband plan that reduces the need to drive by increasing access to high speed internet for underserved residents to support telecommuting, access to remote education and telehealth.	Connect Maine planning and infrastructure grants ($)

Strategy Area B: Modernize Maine's Buildings

Transition to Cleaner Heating and Cooling, and Efficient Appliances in Municipal/Tribal Buildings

	B1	Adopt and execute a plan for energy efficiency and building envelope weatherization improvements for municipal/tribal buildings. Collaborate with local school district for school building improvements.	Efficiency Maine: Public Sector ($)
	B2	Upgrade to energy efficient interior lighting in municipal/tribal buildings.	Efficiency Maine: Public Sector ($)
	B3	Upgrade to energy efficient appliances in municipal/tribal buildings.	Efficiency Maine: Public Sector ($)
	B4	Install a heat pump system or VRF system for heating/cooling and heat pump water heating in municipal/tribal buildings.	Efficiency Maine: Public Sector ($)
	B5	Upgrade streetlights and exterior lighting for municipally/tribally-owned facilities with energy efficient LED lighting (and minimize light pollution with downlighting where possible).	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.	

Advance the Design and Construction of New Buildings

	B7	Adopt the energy efficiency stretch building code (currently IECC 2021).	International Energy Conservation Code 2021
	B8	Require EV charging readiness and solar energy readiness for all new construction.	Municipal Electric Vehicle Readiness Toolkit (Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission)
	B9	Support regular professional development for code enforcement officers, especially Efficiency Maine's code trainings.	Efficiency Maine trainings
	B10	Adopt C-PACE ordinance for commercial property owners to install renewable energy systems, energy efficiency measures, and EV charging infrastructure (pending state program launch).	Efficiency Maine: Energy Loan Comparison Chart (PDF)

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 simplfied 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.	

Advance Clean Energy Adoption

	C4	Adopt a renewable energy ordinance(s) that allows, enables, or encourages community-appropriate renewable energy and energy storage installations.	US DOE SolSmart program and technical assistance
	C5	Adopt a streamlined permitting process for small-scale renewable energy installations.	US Department of Energy: SolarApp

Transition to Clean Energy

	C6	Enter into a long-term service contract or power purchase agreement (PPA) or adopt a clean power purchase policy to ensure increasing local government energy supplies come from renewable energy.	USDA Rural Development: Rural Energy for America ($)
	C7	Install a renewable energy project (solar, wind, geothermal, anaerobic digestion, etc.) on municipal/tribal property (e.g. school rooftop, wellhead protection area, landfill, brownfield site, etc.).	USDA Rural Development: Rural Energy for America ($)

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.	
	D2	Adjust procurement policies to prioritize climate-friendly Maine forest products (e.g. mass timber, wood-fiber insulation) in construction projects.	
Support Clean Energy Jobs and Businesses			
	D3	Assess the suitability of privately-owned brownfield and disturbed/contaminated sites for clean energy projects and encourage project development.	US EPA RePowering America's Land program
	D4	Establish incentives for clean energy industry or businesses to locate in community.	
	D5	Encourage and support clean energy industries in economic development plans.	

Strategy Area E: Protect the Environment & Promote Natural Climate Solutions

Protect Natural and Working Lands and Waters

	E1	Set targets for increasing green space and tree planting to increase shade and water access in public spaces and carbon sequestration.	DACF Project Canopy ($)
	E2	Incorporate a goal into conservation plans of conserving 30% of land in the community by 2030 (including undeveloped town property), with a priority on addressing conservation gaps related to high biodiversity areas, undeveloped blocks, and land and water connectivity.	IWF: Beginning with Habitat
	E3	Create or update a watershed plan to identify flooding and water quality priorities and adaptation options.	
	E4	Develop a natural resource and habitat inventory that includes climate stressors and impacts.	ME Natural Areas Program: Maps, Data, and Technical Assistance
	E5	Conserve, revegetate and reconnect floodplains and buffers in riparian areas.	
	E6	Preserve climate-threatened natural areas such as wetlands, riparian areas, and headwater streams through zoning or other regulations.	
	E7	Implement a source water protection program.	
	E8	Adopt policies that prioritize natural, nature-based or ecologically enhanced shoreline protection for coastlines, rivers, and lakes.	
	E9	Identify and protect sites for living shorelines and saltmarsh migration areas.	ME Natural Areas Program: Maps, Data, and Technical Assistance
	E10	Identify and protect open space in the floodplain to increase flood buffers and community resilience.	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).	
	F2	Update the local or county EMA hazard mitigation plan to address changing/future conditions and identify specific strategies to reduce vulnerability and increase resilience to climate change impacts.	
	F3	Develop or enhance early warning systems and community evacuation plans.	
	F4	Develop a storm debris management plan.	

Reduce Flood Risk

	F5	Complete the Maine Flood Resilience Checklist.	Maine Flood Resilience Checklist
	F6	Participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).	FEMA's Community Rating System
	F7	Enroll in the NFIP's Community Rating System (CRS) at Class 9 or better, reducing flood insurance premiums for community residents.	FEMA's Community Rating System
	F8	Achieve CRS Class 6 or better, maximizing flood insurance savings for community residents.	FEMA's Community Rating System
	F9	Map sea level rise projections in the local or county EMA hazard mitigation plan.	
	F10	Require consideration of sea level rise projections and impacts in planning and permitting coastal development.	
	F11	Adopt freeboard requirements in the special flood hazard area and higher freeboard critical infrastructure and long-lifespan assets.	
	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
	F15	Establish a peer-to-peer program for checking in on vulnerable community members during extreme heat or cold events.	
	F16	Increase community-level resilience to mosquito-borne diseases by implementing vector controls to decrease mosquito habitat.	Maine CDC Mosquito-Borne Illness Prevention & Response Guidance for Maine Towns and Communities (PDF)
	F17	Implement school-based programs to educate students about prevention of mosquito- and tick-borne diseases.	https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/epi/school-curriculum/index.shtml

Strategy Area G: Invest in Climate-Ready Infrastructure

Assess climate vulnerability of infrastructure

	G1	Conduct a vulnerability assessment for criticial community infrastructure that includes: 1) the climate hazards to which infrastructure assets are expose and how the intensity and likelihood will change over time; 2) the susceptibility to damage or failure given location, design, age, condition, and state of repair; and 3) the consequences that impairment or failure of the infrastructure will have on the community.	
	G2	Develop a Capital Investment Plan that a) identifies vulnerable municipal/tribal facilities and assets, and b) prioritizes resilience in improvements and/or new construction.	

Utilize climate-ready standards, designs, and practices to improve infrastructure

	G3	Improve and protect drinking water and wastewater treatment facilities to reduce physical damage and sustain function during extreme weather events.	
	G4	Adopt a policy that prioritizes green infrastructure to manage stormwater in developed areas.	
	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 ($)
	G6	Assess wastewater treatment facilities for clean energy potential (solar, anaerobic digester, etc.).	

Strategy Area H: Engage Maine People

	H1	Establish or recognize an official committee of community stakeholders.	
Increase public awareness of climate change impacts and opportunities to take action			
	H2	Create a climate change education, outreach, and engagement program, focusing on mitigation and adaptation for residents and businesses.	[US CDC Climate & Community Health (PDF)](#)
	H3	Amplify public health advisories for climate-related health and weather events, such as air quality advisories, extreme heat or cold events, extreme storms, power outages, waterborne disease outbreaks, harmful algal blooms, vectorborne disease trends, etc.	NWS advisories (weather.gov/gyx and weather.gov/car); DEP air quality advisories (maine.gov/dep/air/ozone/index.html); ME Tracking Network displays of near real-time heat illness, cold illness, or tickborne diseases (data.mainepublichealth.gov/tracking)
	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.	
Engage the business community and recognize climate leadership			
	H6	Create and support an energy reduction campaign or challenge among businesses.	
	H7	Initiate a community bulk purchasing program with a vendor, or vendors, to provide low cost equipment such as heat pumps and solar for interested residents and businesses.	[Portland's "Electrify Everything!" Initiative](#)