

City of Biddeford
Climate Change task Force
August 14th, 2023 6:00 PM Second Floor Conference Room & Zoom

1. Member Attendance

- Kiara, Brad, Meaghan, Steve, Max
- Meeting commenced at 6:05 pm

2. Guest Recognition & Presentations

3. Adjustments to the Agenda

4. Staff Liaison Business

5. Approval of Meeting Minutes

6. Old Business

Wrap-up on strategies: The task force held one final discussion to review the CAP strategies after receiving public input:

- Meaghan: equity is not coming across strong enough
- Max suggested identifying affordable housing and resilience hubs as top priorities in the health and safety chapter
- Steve observed that many of the input provided “quick kill” strategies that would be very simple to implement
- Steve brought up the time frame proposed during the workshops, as he hopes that will make it to the plan
- Kiara mentioned bike safety needs to be enforced in addition to expanding bike lanes
 - Meaghan suggested the plan make sure it incorporates Complete Streets and Vision Zero
- Meaghan suggested noting energy efficiency as the top priority in buildings and energy
- Meaghan suggested noting sustainable food systems and mixed-use zoning as the top priorities for land use and natural environment
- Meaghan wants to make sure the suggestion to encourage green public spaces is encapsulated in our strategies
- Meaghan suggested making a specific strategy for tree-covered streets
 - It is distinct enough to be separate from the Shade Structure Ordinance strategy
- The public comments showed how important cooling centers will be. Many public comments during the open house came from homeless people who were scared of how rising temperatures would affect them without a cooling center available
- School curricula was indicated as a top priority in the leadership and capacity chapter. A lot of people had input regarding how to expand education and outreach, especially for youth

Next steps: Karina will take final feedback and begin drafting of climate action plan

Survey Results:

- 18 respondents; pool too small to analyze results

Council Presentation:

- Workshop went well, councilors are on board
- No discussion about a sustainability coordinator/forming a climate commission
 - Max hopes it is brought up at the next workshop

- Next workshop will be in mid-September, a joint meeting between council and planning board to go over the draft of the CAP
- Meaghan suggested following up with councilor Lessard, who was not present for the workshop, to get his feedback

7. New Business

Riverjam planning:

- The task force plans to table at the event
- Other sustainability groups will be tabling
- Concerns about enough volunteers to man table
- Steve wants us to table at Fringe Fest as well; task force didn't think there was enough capacity

Miac:

- Zoe Miller asked task force members to send in any photos that may be usable for the climate action plan
- The Vulnerability Assessment has been completed and will be sent to task force members soon

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm