

SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION March 2, 2026

Present: Brad Favreau, Jeff Goldsmith, Joie Grandbois, Bev Thorpe, Will Kochtitzky, Brad Crickard, Mikaela Greenwald, Nadia Crockett, Emily McCauley

Absent: Max Zakian, Patrick Conlon

Guests: Ken and Kathy Griffin, UNE student Edward, UNE Faculty Jenn Brousseau, Richard Rhames from the Conservation Commission

1. Quorum was present
2. Minutes from 02/02/26 were approved unanimously with Nadia abstaining since she wasn't officially a commissioner then. Motion by Brad and seconded by Bev. The 2nd commission meeting was cancelled due to weather on the 21rd of February.
3. Public Market cancelled its presentation and rescheduled for 04/06/26.
4. Financial matters were discussed. Then Sustainability Commission was originally granted about \$64,000 in 2021. About half that is still in the bank. In addition, the SC got \$3000 budgeted the first two years.
 - a. ICLEI is an organization that the SC is registered as a member—currently \$1800/year. The importance of this expense was discussed, as was the possibility of negotiating a multiyear membership with a lower annual fee. Jeff Goldsmith made a motion to discuss this option with ICLEI in the next two weeks, having their feedback at the next SC meeting in 2 weeks. Mikaela Greenwald seconded the motion and it was approved 6-0.
 - b. There was a lengthy discussion about projects that the SC might engage with to use the money. These projects included: develop a Beach Management Plan for Biddeford, Tree Inventory Ordinance, Public Transportation benches/sites/bike racks, Earth Day events, planting native plants in the Adopted Park on Main Street, a public EV Charger at the Martin Center, and Solar energy promotion.
5. Old Business
 - a. The EV Ordinance was asked to correct the wording.

- b. The Solar Ordinance was paused to gather more information.
 - c. The Landscaping Ordinance was approved by Planning & Development and sent on to the Policy Committee.
 - d. There was a discussion about events by different departments for Earth Day, April 22, 2026.
 - e. The Pollinator Festival is scheduled early May.
 - f. The SC will be present at the SOS-Saco Bay workshop at City Hall in Saco in March.
6. Joie Grandbois wishes to step down from the public newsletter by the SC. Nadia agreed to pick it up to facilitate.
7. New Business
- a. Dune grass will be planted by the BP Conservation Trust next week. Volunteers desired 3/10-3/15.
8. Joie made a motion to adjourn at 6:59pm, seconded by Jeff Goldsmith, passed 6:00