

Meeting Minutes

York Maine Climate Action Committee

Date and Time

July 9, 2025, 6:00 pm

Location

Zoom meeting

Attendees

Members:

- Cornelius Murphy, Chair
- Roy Sieber, Secretary
- Wayne Boardman
- Kiki Tidwell

Town Staff

- Taylor Maguire, Environmental Planner

Public

- Sarah Palmer, York Ready for Climate Action (YRCA)
- Edward (Mac) Macabee, YRCA
- Susan Covino
- Carol Libby

Call to Order

Cornelius Murphy called the Climate Action Committee (CAC) to order at 6:26 pm. A quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes

The committee approved the June meeting minutes, as submitted: 4 in favor, 0 opposed.

Agenda Items

Tracking and Reporting Progress

The Climate Action Committee (CAC) and YRCA members discussed the origin of the Climate Action Plan (CAP) and its relationship to York joining the Global Covenant of Mayors agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The conversation centered on how to best track progress with respect to the CAP, and the reporting and scoring system under the Carbon Disclosure Program

(CDP).

Cornelius will continue to work with YRCA and Town staff to define the best metrics and monitoring methods to track progress.

The CAC will also coordinate with YRCA to develop a reporting approach to keep the York selectboard informed and engaged.

Witchtrot Site Solar Development

Cornelius sent an inquiry to SunWealth, Revision Energy, and Maine Solar Solutions soliciting feedback on what information would need to be included in a request for proposal. He is waiting for responses. Kiki Tidwell suggested also sending the request to Nextamp solar.

The CAC discussed the rapidly closing window for federal support for solar development projects under recently passed legislation. Given the short window of opportunity, Kiki recommended that town staff begin working on an RFP for solar development at the Witchtrot site.

Kiki made a motion seconded by Wayne Boardman:

“Town Staff should prepare a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a solar development project at the Witchtrot Site, not to exceed 1 Megawatt capacity, that optimizes the potential of the site, considers interconnectivity costs, and provides a warranty for 25 years.”

The motion passed with 3 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention.

Additional work will be needed to secure appropriate financing. Cornelius will work with Town Staff to see if they could invite representatives of Androscoggin Bank to present information on this topic.

Fire Station Solar Project

It may be possible to finance a town-owned solar project on the village fire station using existing money in the town sustainability fund. The fund has a current balance of approximately \$109,000. The CAC anticipates the project can be completed within that amount.

In addition, the town would be eligible for direct payment of 30 percent of the project cost from the federal government when the town files its tax forms, under a current program that will soon expire.

The CAC recommended getting multiple bids from among the solar providers we have been talking to to support the sustainability fund grant application to the selectboard.

EV Charging at Hannafords

Wayne noted that the EV charging station had been removed from the Hannafords parking lot. Taylor will follow up with the Hannafords sustainability representative to check on the status of EV charging at that location.

Public Comments

YRCA representatives were active participants in the discussion of tracking and reporting progress. No additional public comments were received.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Prepared by:

Roy Sieber, Secretary