



PENOBSCOT CLIMATE ACTION

PCA Committee

January 9th, 2025

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Location: Zoom

Objectives

- Finalize Committee purpose, structure, participation, procedures, and goals to base our efforts and conduct on going forward.
- Facilitate convenient committee member communication and collaboration.
- Outline near term focus of Committee work/effort.

Minutes

1) Opening (2:00 - 2:05)

- Facilitator Maddie Jensen (BACTS) explained the Agenda and reviewed the Committee Objectives.

2) Catch-Up (2:05 - 2:18)

- This is a standing agenda item to allow attendees to catch up on recent local activities. Information shared during this time includes:
 - Maddie Jensen and Megan Hess: Dr. Klein with the University of Maine leads a class that connects students with real, local projects. This class project is a great learning opportunity for students and can provide some much needed capacity for small projects going on locally. Megan Hess has participated in the past and recommends it to others. A list has been shared in the PCA Google Drive with project ideas everyone is welcome to use. Proposals must be submitted by 1/13/25.
 - Anja Collette: The City of Bangor received an Energy Efficiency Block Grant. It will be used to create an EV transition plan for the City and to purchase an EV vehicle for general municipal business. The City of Bangor has also been conditionally awarded an RFP from Efficiency Maine to install more Level 2 EV chargers at the municipal garage. Finally, Anja has set up an internal Climate Working Group for staff to discuss any opportunities that arise.
 - Greg Edwards: The City of Bangor received \$40,000 to complete an urban forestry management plan that will create a 10-20 year strategic plan for the forestry department. This may be a good model for how other communities can manage their tree programs.
 - Dan Dixon: Will be getting a part time AmeriCorps member to work on a Campus Climate Action Corp program out of the UMaine Office of Sustainability. Three main focuses include energy efficiency in low income households, environmental restoration, and outreach and education.

3) Adopt PCA Committee Charter (2:18 - 2:40)

- Participants reviewed the draft PCA Committee Charter and provided comments (as documented below). Maddie Jensen will make these updates and upload the finalized V1 charter document to the PCA website.



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- Section 1.2, 1.4, and 2.4: Review the language that speaks to BACTS facilitating the Committee. Create flexibility in the language should BACTS one day no longer be able to facilitate this group. The goal should be for the group to continue regardless of the official facilitator of the effort.
- Geographic limitations: The group should remain focused on local action (i.e. the PCA study area), however, there is no need to limit participation at this stage. Meetings are open to the public and we will remain open to future opportunities which may bring in new communities.

4) Communication/Collaboration Platform (2:40 - 2:54)

- Maddie Jensen walked the group through the PCA Google Drive which will hopefully facilitate member collaboration. Access to the drive is open to all members currently, however, this will likely be reevaluated in the future as the group grows and changes. The group discussed the need for members to be cautious about only uploading relevant content (i.e. only materials that are to be discussed by the Committee or a particular working group) and keeping the drive organized so information can be found easily. Maddie also walked the group through the PCA Google Group platform which should enable easy communication between members and make it easier for the ever changing contact list to remain up to date.

5) Working Group Creation (2:54 - 3:28)

- In order to engage the entire group (including those that could not attend the meeting), Maddie Jensen will create a spreadsheet/poll which allows members to sign up for the groups they wish to participate in. During this discussion, it was emphasized that we should 1) limit the number of working groups we ultimately create in order to keep us from over-committing; 2) ensure that we have identified committed participants for each working group before creation can occur; 3) and, while any topic area might be proposed for working group focus, participants should consider activities outlined in the 10 toolkits first.

6) Other Business (3:28 - 3:30)

- No other items were brought up for discussion.

7) Closing (3:30)

- Upcoming Meetings:
 - April 10th at 2:00-3:30PM (VIRTUAL)
 - July 10th at 2:00-3:30PM (VIRTUAL)
 - October 9th at 2:00-3:30PM (VIRTUAL)