



# Sustainability Commission

## Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Tuesday, January 20, 2026  
Meeting Time: 7:00 PM  
Meeting Location: Groton Center

### Attendees

- Charlette Weigel
- Bruce Easom
- Alison Peterson
- Veronica O'Donnell
- Ken Horton
- Ginger Vollmar
- Pat Parker-Roach

### Called to order by Charlotte at 7:00pm

- Review meeting minutes from any Commission meetings as necessary
  - Ken motion to accept as corrected
  - Unanimous pass before Ginger arrived
- Annual Town Report – review of DRAFT and update for FINAL
  - Charlotte moved to accept as corrected
  - Ken seconded
  - Unanimously passed
- Climate Change update
  - Specialized stretch code outreach coming up

**Bruce reported that he met with Mark Haddad and found that there is no formal requirements when hosting a Public Hearing. Mark is supportive of our doing one. We will call it an Informational Forum. We will host one at Town Hall in first floor meeting room Target for early March (shoot for a Thu evening) Will offer food (pizza, soft drinks, etc.)**

**Charlotte reported that the following presentations are scheduled**  
Council on Aging 1/23  
Conservation Commission 1/27  
Affordable Housing Trust 2/19  
Potential Trails Committee in Feb  
Invasive Species Committee 1/26  
Groton Grange Feb  
Destination Groton Committee some Wed in Feb (Ken)  
Groton Business Association – Pat to get on agenda

- Municipal decarbonization roadmap

**Ongoing progress**

- Energy Coaching update
- Grant update

**Regional School District working on Regional School District Decarbonization grant for replacing fossil fuel kitchen equipment and water heaters with electric equivalent.**

- Pollinator Habitat and Pollinator Pathway update

**Alison reviewed signage, pathway and budget data.**

**Requests**

**Signage**

**Charlotte moved to authorize Alison to spend \$280.00 for sign for Pollinator Habitat**

**Ken seconded motion**

**Unanimous approval**

**Upgrade to walkway surface**

**Bruce moved to authorize Alison to spend up to \$2500.00 for purposes of installing a 85ft x 4ft walkway**

**Alison seconded motion**

**Passed with 1 nay vote by Charlette**

**Veronica moved to reconsider**

**Charlette seconded motion**

**Passed with 6 of 7 votes**

**Bruce moved to**

**Ken seconded motion**

**Bruce moved to authorize Alison to spend up to \$2500.00 for purposes of installing a 85ft x 4ft walkway**

**2 approved, 2 abstention, 3 nays – motion failed**

- Outreach/Communication update

**Old SustainableGroton.org website has been replicated onto the new MassEnergize WordPress version. Pat has put in a request for MassEnergize to migrate the domain name to the new site. Once in we can start taking advantage of the new features of the WordPress and related new platform features.**

- Budget review

**Nothing has changed since last meeting except the \$280 authorized during this meeting.**

**We need to make a decision on whether we will do a tire event in the Spring.**

- 2026 Planning (continuation)

**Continue to work on Climate Leaders program**

**Add education seminars**

**Potentially do tire program in spring**

- Open Discussion Topics

**Bruce proposed meeting closed at 9:15pm**  
**Seconded by Ken**  
**Passed unanimously**

Respectfully submitted,  
- Charlotte Weigel

Approved by Groton Sustainability Commission, **February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026**