



TOWN OF HUDSON

Sustainability Advisory Committee

12 School Street.
Hudson, New Hampshire 03051

March 23, 2026

Buxton Meeting Room -7:00pm

1. **Call to Order:** at 7:05pm
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Attendance:** Kate Messner, Deb Putnam, Chris Thatcher, Jake Keller, Craig Putnam (alternate), Bob Larson, Heidi Jakoby (Selectman Liaison), Ed Thompson (Secretary), Karl Huber (Chairman), Phoenix Atkins (Alvirne Sustainability Club).
4. **Public Input:** None
5. **Presentation:** Mr. Belanger could not attend. **Postponed to a later date.**
 - **Tony Belanger - Casella**
 - Discussion topics were to better understand how Casella is building the infrastructure to handle key energy efficient programs, i.e. recycling, composting, etc.
 - **Jay Twardosky - Hudson DWP**
 - Mr. Twardosky – No current activities in the area of energy efficiency for DPW.
 - Composting pickups are starting on April 4th. Residents will be allowed to fill up Signage and flyers with instructions will be available. Soil analysis is completed and will be available. Pick ups will be using 5 gal pails. Flyers will be made up.
 - Recycling – Tough because of costs to the town. Towns are cutting back on recycling. Currently, averaging approximately 20% recycling. \$97.30 per ton for trash. \$113 to \$142.50 per ton for recycling. Casella is doing a pilot program that collects pre-separated recycling material. Mr. Twardosky explained the challenges of recycling including Styrofoam. Many towns have either cut back or removed recycling programs due to costs. The TOH has paid \$56k so far in 2026 on top of everything else. “Pay as you Throw” may be a program that the town could look into where materials are weighed and residents are charged according to weight of the material to be recycled.
6. **Approval of Minutes:** February 2, 2026 –Motion to approve by Chris Thatcher, seconded by Bob Larson. Motion passed. Note: p. 2 SAC resend the recycling for website updating.
7. **Reports:**
 - **Trash-Recycling Tonnage Report: 22.20 tons for February 2026** (Was included in Packet)
 - **Expenditure Report:** (Was included in Packet)

8. **DPW and Hudson Transfer Station:** Casella new phone number: 800-227-3552
The **2026 Solid Waste and Recycling Brochure, Additional Pass Info, and Transfer Station FAQ**, is available 24/7 through the DPW Transfer Station Hours & Rules web page at <https://www.hudsonnh.gov/publicworks/page/transfer-station-hours-rules>.
The next three dates when the Transfer Station will be fully open are Saturday – March 28, 2026, and April 11 & 25, 2026 – 8:00am-12:00pm.
Starting April 4th, the Transfer Station will be open Saturday 8am-12noon so residents can drop off metal, cut up cardboard, and yard waste without using a Transfer Station Pass.
The 2026 Solid Waste and Recycling Brochure is also available on the Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) website at https://www.hudsonnh.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/sustainability_committee/page/42953/2026_solid_waste_and_recycling_brochure.pdf
- NRPC 2026 Household Hazardous Waste Collections are scheduled for:**
- **Saturday, April 18th (Nashua) 8 am - 12 pm**
 - **Saturday, May 9th (Milford) 8 am - 12 pm**
- More information can be found on the NRPC website:*
https://www.nashuarpc.org/energy_environment/household_hazardous_waste_collections/index.php
9. **Community Roadside Cleanup (CRC) –**
- SAC will monitor any requests coming in via the “CRC Request Form” submitted from the SAC website.
 - Karl Huber will continue to work with Jay Twardosky (DPW) to ensure public safety is paramount in conducting CRC’s.
 - The Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) would like to acknowledge Martin Sheil and his neighbors for conducting a successful roadside cleanup along Greely Street and the Hudson DPW crew for collecting the bags from the roadside.
10. **Harding Metals Inc.** – Debbie Putnam provided a summary of information collected earlier this month from Tony Belanger. Recycling of Christmas lights. Will pay 0.25/lb to the TOH for strings of lights. Must be delivered to Northwood, NH to the company Harding Metals.
<https://hardingmetals.com/>
11. **Simplify Solar** – an effort by an organization called: Third Act (TA) – (included in packet) Kate Messner provided an updated summary the meeting she attended.
12. **Clean Energy New Hampshire (CENH) – This committee / Hudson does pay dues to be a member of this consortium and all CENH amenities are available to this committee as well as all Town staff.**
- Sarah Brock, Energy Circuit Rider Program Director sent email to Debbie Putnam (Feb 13, 2026) asking if the Town of Hudson would sign a letter supporting a particular bill - **SB538** that will extend municipal net metering.
 - Debbie Putnam told Sarah Brock to update CENH records to reflect:
 - Karl Huber as Chairman for the committee
 - Remove Bob Guessford
 - Heidi Jakoby as BOS SAC Liaison.
 - Sarah Brock was advised to communicate directly to Selectman Jakoby on issues like this. Sarah sent a follow up message to Selectman Jacoby copying SAC Chair and Debbie on March 17th.

13. NH DES Solid Waste (Food Diversion) Workshop - April 23, 2026 (9 am to 12 pm) – NHDES (29 Hazen Dr. Concord NH)

This free workshop can help solid waste facilities make important decisions about how to divert food waste from the trash. Panelists consisting of municipal staff, food waste haulers and compost facilities will discuss opportunities in NH.

Chris Thatcher shared email communication to SAC. After further review of the workshop information, this event would be better suited for the DPW in collaboration with Casella.

Karl Huber forwarded the NHDES info to Jay Twardosky (DPW) as well as Tony Belanger (Casella) as part of our SAC advisory responsibilities.

14. Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) Charter – The SAC team reviewed and edited the submitted Charter doc with the BOS proposed edits / comments, not included in the BOS meeting packet submission. The BOS comment version was handed out at the 03/03/26 BOS meeting. (The Charter with proposed edits included in the packet. It was previously released via email to individual members after the March 3rd BOS meeting.)

- SAC 2026 activity planning will adopt a project planning process of 2-3 months. This Committee will provide a list of targeted Hudson Community Events dates, renewal of membership in Clean Energy NH & forecast budget for BOS review. This comprehensive report will be supplied to the BOS after the April SAC meeting. Motion by Chris Thatcher, second by Deb Putnam, motion passed to approve and submit back to the BOS.

15. Discussion Regarding Suggestions by the Chair of the BOS at the BOS March 3rd meeting. Disban or not to disban? 503C or not? All members spoke on where they stood on what they felt would be the best way to move forward. Consensus was that members did not want to got with a 503C and wanted to continue as is.

16. The next meeting: Next meeting April 27, 2026, at 7:00 pm

17. Committee Member Comments: Chairman Huber acknowledged the support and contributions from Heidi Jakoby as the Selectmen Liaison and the entire committee for their support. Chair Huber mentioned the issue of a member that has not been attending and what actions need to be taken. He will consult with Mr. Sorenson and reaching out to member.

18. Motion for Adjournment: Motion by Kate Messner, seconded by Bob Larson. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.