

**Minutes**  
**Bar Harbor Town Council Special Meeting**  
**February 3, 2026**

- I. CALL TO ORDER** – 6:30 P.M.—In attendance were Councilors Valerie Peacock, Steven Boucher (remote), Earl Brechlin, Maya Caines, David Kief, Randy Sprague and Joe Minutolo; and Town Manager James L. Smith.
- II. READING OF THE MEETING GROUND RULES**
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**—None.
- IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**—Ms. Caines, with second by Mr. Brechlin, moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Roll Call Vote:
- Kief                    Y  
Boucher            (Had not yet arrived)  
Brechlin            Y  
Peacock            Y  
Caines              Y  
Minutolo           Y  
Sprague            Y  
Motion passed 6-0.

**V. REPORTS AND UPDATES**

**A. Sustainable Tourism Management**

Planning Director Michele Gagnon gave an introduction to the project. The Council established a Sustainable Tourism Management Task Force in January 2025, to evaluate tourism management challenges, develop potential solutions, and provide findings and recommendations to the Town Council. In August 2025 the Town engaged consulting firms J.E. Austin and equator to assist with this work, with a completion date of November 2026.

Consultants Michele McKenzie and Ben Nussbaumer gave an update on the status of their work with the Task Force and the community. They noted that the Tourism Management Strategy will address the “diverse economy” theme in the Comprehensive Plan.

The project is entering the “design” phase, after months of work on defining sustainable tourism, the desired resident and visitor experience, and a shared vision and principles. Next they will work to develop goals and policies, an implementation and financing plan, and ways to monitor progress.

**VI. LICENSES AND PERMITS**

**A. Special Amusement Permit Class 3ad (new), Terramor Outdoor Resort**

1. Public Hearing: Lori Corbani, Barbara Pretorius, Paula Huntsman, applicant Russ Gibbons, Bo Jennings, and Guy Mahan offered comment.
2. Order 1, approve Special Amusement Permit

Ms. Caines, with second by Mr. Brechlin, moved to waive the reading that that the order have passage. Roll Call Vote:

Kief                    Y

Boucher \_\_\_\_\_ Y  
Brechlin \_\_\_\_\_ Y  
Peacock \_\_\_\_\_ Y  
Caines \_\_\_\_\_ Y  
Minutolo \_\_\_\_\_ Y  
Sprague \_\_\_\_\_ N  
Motion passed 6-1.

**VII. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Mr. Brechlin** spoke about the recent tragedy where a visiting man died who was believed to have been trapped on Bar Island overnight and asked about improving signage at the entrance to the sand bar, to indicate the severity of the risk.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**— Ms. Caines, with second by Mr. Brechlin, moved to adjourn at 7:41 p.m. Roll Call Vote:

Kief \_\_\_\_\_ Y  
Boucher \_\_\_\_\_ Y  
Brechlin \_\_\_\_\_ Y  
Peacock \_\_\_\_\_ Y  
Caines \_\_\_\_\_ Y  
Minutolo \_\_\_\_\_ Y  
Sprague \_\_\_\_\_ Y  
Motion passed 7-0.

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Elizabeth N. Graves, Town Clerk