

Carol Harris 3/28/22

Truro Climate Action Committee Minutes January 20, 2022

Climate Action Committee: Carol Harris, Rebecca Bruyn, Fred Gaechter (Alternate), Eric Mays, Bob Higgins-Steele, Stephanie Rein SB liaison

Attending from the Conscomm: Carol Girard-Irwin, Diane Messinger, Linda Noons-Rose, Emily Beebe, staff liaison for both Committees

Joint Meeting (Work session) with Conservation Commission 10:30-11:30

Carol's introduction:

- All of Truro is affected by Climate Change
- Summarized the CAC charge i.e. to address climate change for the Town or Truro exclusive of municipal buildings
- All Committees and departments have a stake.
- Described the whole government approach to climate change. Committees and departments should be considering climate change when acting in their Committee's capacity.
- Integrate climate thinking into the work and decision making in Town Hall

The Committees discussed the Conscomm's scope, mainly as a committee that enforces Federal, state and local rules. The primary State statutes are the Wetland Protections Act and Rivers Protection act.

Local Conscomm criteria can be stricter, not less strict than state rules. Stricter rules can be enacted through bylaws passed by the Town. Two criteria for changing a conservation bylaw are public benefit and public interest.

How is the Conscomm affected by climate change?

Some topics discussed:

- Conditions on the ground change rapidly. The conditions when a resident applies to perform work may be vastly different 10 months or a year out.
- The Commission is hampered by out of date flood plain maps. State law does not accommodate conditions that may arise 5 or 10 years from the time of application. It would be helpful to look ahead.
- What is the cumulative effect of many small projects on the natural resources in the Conscomm purview?
- Is there a way cumulative over 5-10 years can be considered as part of an application? (Currently, no)
- while promoting carbon sequestration climate resiliency and more energy efficient homes is desirable it is outside Conscomm scope. Can this be linked to Wetlands protection act and codified? What is the linkage.
- The effect from debris from snow fences on beaches, negative effects from armoring beachfronts and other shorefront management.

What can CAC do to help Conscomm with their work? Joint projects? Education? Truro Talks articles?

Conscomm adjourns

CAC Meeting starts

No Public Comment

Acceptance of the minutes from 11/22/2021 and 1/06/22 are postponed pending corrections.

Worked on Committee's 2021 draft goals.

First step: Is the goal more appropriate for EC or CAC? Completed o to transmit to EC

Chair requested we vote on 9 CAC goals individually.

We agreed to capture the exact wording on a motion so that the motion and vote can be accurately presented in the meeting minutes. The entire committee agreed.

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| 1. Develop a climate action plan for the town. | Vote 4-0 |
| 2. Promote EV Charging Stations for businesses in Truro | Vote 4-0 |
| 3. To draft a job description and recommend a position to the Select Board for a Climate Agent for the town of Truro and/or Outer Cape towns. | Vote 4-0 |
| 4. Outreach at Farmers' Market, COA, Library, and other town events | Vote 4-0 |
| 5. Improve the Climate Action website | Vote 4-0 |

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6. Meet with all appropriate boards and committees to identify climate change actions.

Vote 4-0

7. Request town government to commit to whole government approach to addressing climate change.

Vote 4-0

8. Assess working with the Cape Light Compact to stay connected and working with them as a goal

Vote 3-0-1 (Abstension)

9. Make Article 17 of the 2020 warrant binding by the 2022 Town Meeting if possible. If not 2023

Vote 4-0

Discussion on process to accomplish. Bob to Contact Town Clerk for process. Bob and Rebecca to talk offline
Bob to contact Emily with some questions. Emily emailed Rebecca some bullet points,

Member update: EV person to present at Outer Cape Climate Action Committee

Adjourned

Respectfully submitted, Bob Higgins-Steele

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