

## Open Space Committee, Friday, March 18, 2022, Virtual Meeting

**Members Present:** Nick Norman, Thomas Bow, Susan Girard-Irwin, Jane Petterson, Janice Parky

**Also Present:** Barbara Carboni, Town Planner

Ms. Girard Irwin called the meeting to order at 12:45

Minutes of December February, 2022 meeting were approved with changes.

**Update on Status of Open Space and Recreation Plan:** Ms. Carboni informed the Committee that a DLTA (District Local Technical Assistance) reimbursement type grant application for the update has been submitted to the Cape Cod Commission in the amount of \$30,000.00. A warrant article has been submitted requesting a transfer from free cash to fund the Plan, per Kelly Clark, Assistant Town Manager. Ms. Carboni suggested waiting to see if the DLTA grant is approved before applying for additional grant funding.

Required procedure is to solicit at least 3 bids, obtain quotes and award to lowest bidder. The Committee agreed that there would not be much change to the new plan. Mr. Norman requested Jeff Thibideau, author of the current plan, be included in the solicitation and noted that the new plan has to reflect the updated Local Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Norman also suggested the Committee begin the survey process. Ms. Girard-Irwin will bring survey questions from the expired OS Plan to the next meeting. She will also reach out to Damien Clements to update him and request his input.

**Other Business:** Mr. Bow updated the Committee on activities of the Truro Conservation Trust. The High Head Conservation Area which constitutes 48 acres, and of which the TCT is caretaker, is slated for the addition of walking trails and benches over the next 2 years. The Wisniewski property which abuts High Head, was sold to the Top Mast Resort. If the property does not prove to be buildable, owner may be willing to sell.

**Next Meeting:** April 22, 2022, 12:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 1:18

  
Respectfully Submitted, Janice Parky

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11:48 AM

APR 27 2022

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# TOWN OF TRURO

P.O. Box 2030, Truro, MA 02666

Town Manager

Tel: 508-349-7004, Extension: 110 or 124 Fax: 508-349-5505

February 9, 2022

Kristy Senatori, Executive Director  
Cape Cod Commission  
3225 Main Street  
Barnstable, MA 02630

Re: 2022 DLTA Technical Assistance: Open Space and Recreation Plan

Dear Ms. Senatori,

I write to request District Local Technical Assistance funds on behalf of the Town of Truro to support the preparation of an updated Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Town's most recent Open Space and Recreation Plan, dated June 1, 2015, expired in 2021. The Town seeks to remedy this lapse by preparing an updated Open Space and Recreation Plan by the end of this calendar year. A DLTA grant would allow for the hiring of a consultant to assist the Town's Open Space Committee and Town staff in preparing such Plan.

As the Commission is aware, the Town of Truro, like other Cape towns, is experiencing demographic changes as well as the impacts of climate change. Both phenomena have implications for preparing an Open Space and Recreation Plan. How are existing natural resources and the built environment being affected? What recreational facilities and activities can best serve Truro's residents, in the most inclusive way? These questions, among others, must be explored through an analysis of existing conditions and a needs assessment. Along with data and forecasting from the Commission regarding demographic and climate changes, this will allow the Town to build an Open Space and Recreation Plan that is climate-conscious as well as age- and ability-friendly.

The ability to complete an Open Space and Recreation Plan within a relatively short period of time is critical to the Town's wider planning efforts. As the Commission is aware, Truro is in the process of preparing a Local Comprehensive Plan, its first update since 2005. Consistent with the Commission's new Local Comprehensive Plan template, the Truro LCP Committee will draw on the specific expertise and efforts of other Town boards and committees, rather than seeking to duplicate their efforts. The Local Comprehensive Plan, which is on a timeline to present to Town Meeting in 2023, will incorporate plans prepared by other boards and committees so as to build a unified, 360 degree planning document. Funding for a consultant will allow for the preparation of a high-quality Open Space and Recreation Plan on a condensed schedule, so that its findings and recommendations may form a part of the Town's Local Comprehensive Plan.

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February 9, 2022  
Kristy Senatori, Executive Director  
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The Town's funding proposal is responsive to the Project Selection Criteria, in particular, to supporting Community Compact best practices. This includes Sustainable Development and Land Protection best practices (e.g., "[c]omplete a Master or Open Space & Recreation Plan to guide land conservation and development decisions including zoning & land acquisition", Public Health best practices (e.g., Healthy Community Design: ensuring that people with disabilities have access to facilities and services), and Age and Dementia Friendly best practices (e.g., "create ongoing process of community assessment, action planning and implementation, and prioritize age and dementia-friendly efforts").

The Town's funding proposal is directed to the production of an Open Space and Recreation Plan (the deliverable), to be approved by the Division of Conservation Services, and incorporated into the Town's Local Comprehensive Plan.

It is my sincere hope that you will consider the Town of Truro's request for \$30,000 of DLTA funding to develop an Open Space and Recreation Plan. If you have any questions about the project, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

  
Darin K. Tangeman, ICMA-CM  
Town Manager  
Truro, Massachusetts

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