



TOWN OF TRURO

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2024 – 4:00 pm

BOARD OF REGISTRARS MEETING

Office of Town Clerk

9:59am
JUN 13 2024

Received TOWN OF TRURO
By: *[Signature]*

Members Present (Quorum): Elisabeth Verde (Town Clerk); Elizabeth Sturdy (Vice Chair); Heather Harper (Clerk); Francis Johnson (Member)

Members Absent:

Other Participants: Jon Slater (Truro Voter and Complainant); Robert Panessiti (Truro Voter and Respondent); Daniel Paisner (Truro Voter and Respondent); Nancy Medoff (Truro Voter and Respondent)

The meeting convened at 4:00 pm, Tuesday, April 16, 2024, by Town Clerk Verde who opened the meeting via the Zoom videoconference platform, at the Truro Community Center, 7 Standish Way, North Truro, MA 02652.

Town Clerk Verde read aloud the process for these hearings as well as housekeeping rules for those in attendance. Town Clerk Verde noted that there would be no public comment this evening and this meeting was not being livestreamed.

Hearings

Robert Panessiti – Town Clerk Verde announced the complaint filed by Mr. Slater relating to the voter residency of Robert Panessiti in the Town of Truro. A copy of the complaint is posted on the Town website.

Town Clerk Verde swore in Mr. Slater and told him that he was sworn in for the remainder of the meeting.

Town Clerk Verde announced Mr. Panessiti's name and Mr. Panessiti replied that he was present. Town Clerk Verde swore in Mr. Panessiti.

Town Clerk Verde announced that she had made copies of the original complaint, the issued summons, a copy of Mr. Panessiti's voter history, the documentation that Mr. Panessiti submitted to demonstrate his residency, and binders submitted by Mr. Slater.

Mr. Slater presented his case to the Members and provided background information as to the basis of his complaint. Town Clerk Verde asked Mr. Slater to stay on topic of his complaint and Mr. Slater then distributed the written basis of his complaint to the Members.

Town Clerk Verde announced that these documents would be marked into the 24015 file and asked Mr. Slater to present the documents in the binder regarding this matter. After repeatedly asking Mr. Slater to present the documents, which he did not to the satisfaction of Town Clerk Verde, Town Clerk Verde

announced that the Members would take a few minutes to read the documents from their individual binders.

Upon completion of the Members' reading the documents, Mr. Slater summarized specific documents as evidence which included the following highlighted items: a 2016 homestead declaration for a property not in Truro, a 2019 mortgage loan which listed a Boston property as the principal address, a recent Truro Assessor's record for Mr. Panessiti's Truro home listed the principal address for Mr. Panessiti was in Boston, MA, a rider for the previous listed mortgage loan was for a second home not a primary residence, a 2024 homestead declaration that listed Mr. Panessiti's Boston address, a limited Power of Attorney document that indicated the same Boston address, a Miami property owned by Mr. Panessiti that also lists the Boston address, and Truro Transfer Station information regarding Mr. Panessiti's annual and seasonal use of the transfer station over the last several years.

Following Mr. Slater's presentation, Town Clerk Verde announced a 5-minute break.

Town Clerk Verde then recognized Mr. Panessiti who presented documents pertaining to Mr. Slater's deed of property ownership in Wellfleet, MA, and his first quarter property taxes reflecting the property in Wellfleet, MA to the Members and Mr. Slater. Mr. Panessiti stated that since Mr. Slater lives in Wellfleet his complaint is no longer valid. Town Clerk Verde said that she would not yet enter these documents into evidence as there was not a complaint to challenge Mr. Slater's voter residency and the other Members concurred.

Mr. Panessiti made an opening public statement and noted that he took exception to the allegations and statements made by Mr. Slater as many were false. Mr. Panessiti explained his ability to participate in various committee meetings remotely from Florida and elsewhere when traveling for pleasure or business. Mr. Panessiti noted that the Board of Registrars and Mr. Slater have been in possession of his memorandum and documents since March 1, 2024 and yet Mr. Slater still chose to pursue the complaint instead of opting to drop the complaint. Mr. Panessiti said that he had answered all of Mr. Slater's questions and he had witnesses present this evening who could attest to his presence as well his social and civic engagement in the community over the last 23 years.

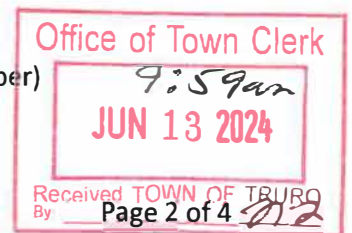
Town Clerk Verde then invited Mr. Panessiti to review his presented documents which included his driver's license, his motor vehicle registration, his boat registration, his IRS tax return reflecting an address change, and his homestead exemption.

Town Clerk Verde then reviewed Mr. Panessiti's voting history dating back to 1995. From 2002 to the present, Mr. Panessiti has been a registered voter in Truro. Members then reviewed the documents presented by Mr. Panessiti.

Mr. Panessiti asked Town Clerk Verde if he could present witnesses and Town Clerk Verde agreed.

The following individuals were sworn in by Town Clerk Verde and provided sworn testimony who attested to Mr. Panessiti's full-time residency in Truro as well as his local social and civic engagement:

- Breon Dunigan (former Chair of the Truro Select Board)
- Trudi Brazil (Truro Town Accountant)
- Lori Meads (President of Seamen's Bank and Truro Finance Committee Member)



Town Clerk Verde gave Mr. Slater an opportunity to ask Mr. Panessiti any questions which Mr. Panessiti answered.

Town Clerk Verde gave Mr. Panessiti an opportunity to ask Mr. Slater any questions and Mr. Panessiti stated that he did not have any questions for Mr. Slater.

Town Clerk Verde and the Members then reviewed all of the submitted documents before the Members asked Mr. Slater questions regarding his complaint.

Town Clerk Verde read aloud a summary of Mr. Slater's complaint and polled the Members as to how they would vote after a deliberation.

Member Sturdy made a motion to allow Robert Panessiti to remain on the Truro voting roll.

Member Harper seconded the motion.

By a vote of all in favor, 4-0-0, the motion carries.

Town Clerk Verde announced that Ms. Medoff had requested to have her hearing heard second and there were no objections.

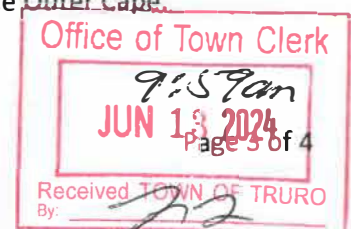
Nancy Medoff – Town Clerk Verde announced the complaint filed by Mr. Slater relating to the voter residency of Nancy Medoff in the Town of Truro. A copy of the complaint is posted on the Town website.

Town Clerk Verde announced Ms. Medoff's name and Ms. Medoff replied that she was present. Town Clerk Verde swore in Ms. Medoff and invited Mr. Slater to present. Town Clerk Verde noted that Mr. Paisner was seated next to Ms. Medoff but his hearing would be held next.

Mr. Slater presented his evidence of the complaint that included the following items: an amendment of a document of trust that was listed as a primary address, a homestead declaration from 2015, a quick claim document, a professional affiliation document from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts that referred to a Brookline address for Ms. Medoff, various social media postings by Ms. Medoff related to her current professional work that listed her locations as the Boston and Florida, Truro Transfer Station information regarding Ms. Medoff's trip history to the transfer station that reflects those activities as a part-time resident and not a full-time resident, a Truro Assessor's property card that reflects a Brookline mailing address for property owned in Truro by Ms. Medoff, a history of Ms. Medoff's volunteer record in Boston, a change of address that reflected Ms. Medoff's business address in Truro after Mr. Slater's voter residency complaint was filed, screenshots of Ms. Medoff's remote participation in Town committee meetings, and a mortgage document.

Town Clerk Verde then recognized Ms. Medoff who read aloud a prepared statement. After she read her statement, Ms. Medoff requested that Mr. Slater withdraw his complaint, which he did not. Ms. Medoff noted that she has brought to the hearing over 70 documents to demonstrate her full-time residency in Truro. Ms. Medoff then responded to several allegations by Mr. Slater which Ms. Medoff said were incorrect and misleading.

Ms. Medoff then summarized the documents which she had submitted for this hearing to include legal documents and household receipts from various retailers and businesses on the Outer Cape.



Town Clerk Verde then reviewed Ms. Medoff's voting history that demonstrated that Ms. Medoff had voted in Truro from February 2020 to the present.

Town Clerk Verde asked a question for Mr. Slater regarding a Brookline condominium association that he had presented and he answered the question.

Mr. Slater asked Ms. Medoff if she had signed a declaration of homestead in 2021 and Ms. Medoff replied that she signed one in 2015 and not 2021. Mr. Slater said that he had a copy of the declaration of homestead in 2021 and stated that it was included in the Members' packet. Town Clerk Verde said that the document was not included in her packet. It was included in another Member's packet and Town Clerk Verde announced that it would be added as Exhibit #24036 and gave Ms. Medoff an opportunity to respond. Ms. Medoff responded that she had not seen it and in respect to the Board of Registrars she wanted to move on. Once the document was provided to her, Ms. Medoff replied that it was the first time that she and her husband had seen it and that they were speaking with their attorney about a declaration of homestead.

Ms. Medoff declined to ask Mr. Slater any questions and Town Clerk Verde opened questions for Board discussion and there were none. Town Clerk Verde noted that there was evidence that supported Ms. Medoff as a resident of Truro. There were no objections.

Member Harper made a motion to allow Nancy Medoff to remain on the Truro voting roll.

Member Sturdy seconded the motion.

By a vote of all in favor, 4-0-0, the motion carries.

After the vote, Town Clerk Verde announced a 5-minute break.

Following the break, Town Clerk Verde asked Mr. Slater to make a statement. Mr. Slater then announced that he withdrew the complaint against Mr. Paisner.

Town Clerk Verde made a motion to accept the withdrawal of the complaint against Mr. Paisner.

Member Harper seconded the motion.

By a vote of all in favor, 4-0-0, the motion carries.

Review of Meeting Minutes – Although this was an agenda item for this meeting, no review or vote on the previous meeting minutes were conducted due to the length of time of the hearings.

Town Clerk Verde adjourned the meeting at 7:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Alexander O. Powers
Board/Committee/Commission Support Staff

Attachment:

Legal Notice

