

Truro Climate Action Committee – Minutes Wednesday, April 9th, 10:00 am

Town Hall, Historic Meeting Room, Type: In-person

Attendees: Lili Flanders, chair; Mark Gebhardt, vice-chair; Alex Limpaecher, member; Georgia, Neill, Chris Palmer, Climate Action Coordinator

Assign notetaker – Gebhardt

Georgia will not be attending the next meeting April 23, 2025

Public Comment/Introduce any guests - none

Approve minutes from 3/26/25 meeting – approved as modified: 3/3 approved

Climate Coordinator update:

2 MVP grants submitted last week.

a. One MVP grant submitted and received –for resilience hubs at Truro Central School and Truro Public Library - ~\$300,000 (2 year) for design and planning of hubs. Should get an answer in a few months. Chris is optimistic. There are some supporting partners such as Outer Cape Community Solutions. May just fund for one year or only one hub.

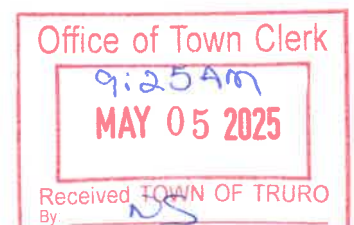
b. Second MVP grant addressing issues of Climate Change on Shore Road and needed changes before 2050 including putting the power lines underground on Rt. 6A (Shore Road). Engaging the community and recruiting engineers to get options on potential solutions, Shore Road to deal with potential flooding due to climate change. Also look at Pilgrim Lake (aka East Harbor) which is currently cut off from the ocean and bay.

Grant for Truro School not submitted for roof and windows because of timing issues/deadlines. There is another grant being written for later in April.

Green Committee grant – resubmitted from last November.

We should have plans for other projects that we might then use to look for grants to fund them (rather than looking at grants and then look for a project that fit). One possible proposal is for funding to assess redesign for town buildings (school, town hall, etc) to make them more energy efficient.

Sidewalks to connect Cloverleaf to Salty's and N. Truro Center



Consider collecting methane from landfills and deal with emissions better or burn the methane to make electricity. Need to avoid methane getting into the atmosphere. It contributes to climate change.

Other potential members of CAC: Benoit Allehaut has expressed interest but is currently occupied with his business. He may attend meetings until he decides between CAC and EC. Paul Holt has not let us know if he's interested.

Solar project at landfill: Brian Boyle and Chris talked to the Finance Committee, and they (FC) signed onto the plan and endorsed unanimously. Tax increases are estimated to be approximately \$115 on a \$1M home. This will have to be voted on at ATM and again 2 weeks later as a ballot issue. Makes it difficult to publicize the project (i.e., educate the public) because rules differ for ATM and ballot issues. Will check with Paul Wisotzky and Kelly. Town Council must weigh in. We are not permitted to give out fliers at community night, but we have the library session, Pre-Town meeting and ATM. Can talk about this plan. Alex's article was pulled from the March Newsletter but hopefully will be published in the April Newsletter with modifications prior to ATM. We may be able to put up fliers. Library session will be informational only.

Plan 4/15/25 CAC-Library Information Night: Two presentations:

1. Landfill project. Brian has slides and an 8-minute video. Either Chris or Alex will present some slides with talking points. We also have a FAQ on this (Lili will send to us). We reviewed the YouTube video, but it may be too much/complicated for the library session. We will stick with ppt presentation (Chris and Alex).

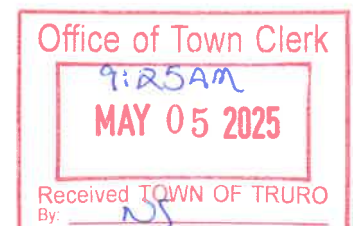
2. Pesticide reduction HRP: will also be discussed by Stephanie Ellis asking for changing the Home Rule so that in the future, Truro can decide about setting guidelines/limits for pesticides (doesn't limit pesticides now). Freedom to choose.

There will be a Q&A for each presentation.

T.T. Articles and guidelines

The solar article Alex wrote was excellent, but was replaced with the fire article until town council weighs in. Alex's solar article should be published in the April Newsletter, which comes out prior to ATM.

Future article on transportation, educating on options of transportation other than personal cars, such as:



CCRTA Dial-A-Ride Shuttle – door to door shuttle with other people and limited time (6AM and takes 5 hours to get to Hyannis with stop in Orleans). One must call 24 hours ahead.

Smart Dart – 10-mile radius door to door.

CCRTA bus from Ptown to Harwich is good and runs more frequently in the summer. Need better bus shelters to encourage more riders. Need to educate the public on the options available and convince the transportation systems to be cognizant of the need for more options, frequency and comfort.

Consider an article on electrifying a home (heat pumps and solar panels). Energy efficient homes.

General updates:

TCS Community Night – The school is an “Ocean Guardian” through NOA. Multiple clever children’s activities. Asked school kids what they think about Climate Change and plan for the next 50 years.

What would we do with National Seashore if it was turned over to the town by the US Government? Food for thought. Discussed briefly.

Earth Day – will have a children’s table about caring for the ocean. Everything else lined up.

Adjourn: 12:05 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Mark C. Gebhardt

CAC Vice-Chair

