

TOWN OF TRURO
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING OF TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2006

The Truro Board of Selectmen met for their weekly session on Tuesday, September 19, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. at the Truro Town Hall, 24 Town Hall Road, Truro. In attendance were: Chairman Alfred Gaechter, Vice-Chairman Gary Palmer, Clerk Christopher R. Lucy, Curtis Hartman, Jan Worthington, Town Administrator Pamela Nolan, Administrative Secretary Julie DuPree, Martha Nagy, County Commissioners Mary LeClair, Lance Lambros, and Bill Doherty, Maggie Downey, Fred Sateriale, Mike Roderick, Brenda Boleyn, Susan Kadar, Fran and Janice Johnson, Kathleen Walker, Postmaster Tom Gold, Fred Schilpp, and Steve Desroche of the Cape Codder. Assistant Town Administrator Charleen Greenhalgh was absent.

Mr. Gaechter convened the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

Minutes: Mr. Palmer moved to approve the minutes of the regular and Executive Sessions of September 12, 2006, as presented, and to hold the Executive Session minutes in abeyance. Mr. Hartman seconded it. Vote: 5-0, unanimous.

Public Comment: Susan Kadar distributed a copy of a graph from the Reporter, the newsletter of the CCC. It contains statistics on wages and the cost of housing which illustrates the need for housing. There was discussion on how important this issue is to the BOS. Mr. Hartman said there would be action on this issue by the Planning Board in the near future.

Barnstable County Services report: Commissioners Doherty, LeClair and Lambros gave the Board an overview of all the services that have been provided to Truro by the County in FY06.

Interview: Recreation Commission: Mr. Johnson explained that he had been asked to serve by a member of the Recreation Commission. His background is in education and sports and he is currently both a teacher and a coach. **Mr. Gaechter moved to appoint Fran Johnson to the Recreation Commission. Mr. Lucy seconded it. Vote: 5-0, unanimous.** Ms. Johnson has also applied to serve on the Recreation Commission. She is a teacher and has been involved with kids in education. She values the role of recreation and wants to get involved with the town. **Mr. Hartman moved to appoint Ms. Johnson to the Recreation Commission. Mr. Lucy seconded it. Vote: 5-0, unanimous.**

North Truro Post Office: Mr. Gaechter explained that the BOS have held two executive sessions to talk about the process and try to rejuvenate the project. Ms. Walker gave the Board an overview of what happened the last time when federal funds for constructing new post offices were frozen. She explained that new methods to sort mail have cut the size of the buildings needed. There was talk of closing down the North Truro Post Office, or consolidating the two post offices. She spoke successfully against that. Eventually it was agreed to replace the post office, and make it much smaller than was originally proposed. It now stands at 2,000 square feet, which means that they don't need as much land as before; they only need 20,000 square feet, or roughly a half acre. She decided not to re-advertise for potential sites, but she could be talked into changing her mind. Mr. Gaechter said that they have decreased the size so much that there may be properties that are appropriate now that were not before. She told the BOS that she would come back before them with sites that work for the USPS to get feedback, and if it is

reasonable, they will consider it. Mr. Gaechter said that re-advertising might be the best approach. Mr. Lucy asked if there was a design in place. She said that they would have to go through the site plan approval just as any other project would. They discussed time constraints. Ms. Walker said the need for a new post office doesn't go away, but they should try to do this as fast as possible. She needs to get a cost, take it to the government, and get the money put aside for it. Mr. Lucy noted that CCC involvement would take more time. Ms. Walker said that once a lease is signed, the money is committed. Mr. Gaechter asked if the USPS was exempt from County regulations, or just local zoning. She said that they probably are if they want to fight it; they prefer not to. Mr. Hartman said that with this size building there is no reason it would go to the CCC. Mr. Gaechter said that one potential site is the current post office site combined with the town-owned parcel next door. Ms. Walker said they have done this before with a town as landlord. Mr. Gaechter said that is a potential site and it is possible to do this; the town could make money. They need to move on this and get the ads in the papers as soon as possible. Ms. Walker said that the State has a say in properties over 50 years old, even if they are not historical sites. Mr. Gaechter said he had called the State on this and is waiting for a call back.

Library Grant: Ms. Nolan explained this was a \$5k grant for adult programs. The Friends of the Library will provide matching funds. The money is used to buy materials. **Mr. Palmer moved to approve the contract and authorize the Chair to sign it. Mr. Lucy seconded it. Vote: 5-0, unanimous.**

Town Administrator's Report: (action items)

- Reported that she tried to get an answer from the State regarding our request to use their property as a Flex bus stop, but she has been passed from department to department. Mr. Gaechter noted that they are already using the new site. Ms. Nolan said that they have been told to stay at Dutra's until permission is given. Mr. Gaechter said that the proposed location at the Community Center/Library site is not viable. Ms. Nolan said the RTA is aware of that. Mr. Gaechter said that town by town statistics on the number of deviations would be useful. Ms. Nolan said she is going to get them.

Selectmen/Liaison Reports: (action items)

Gaechter: -Attended the Board of Library Trustees meeting. He said it would be good to get periodic reports from the library such as they get from the COA Director. He asked Ms. Nolan to ask the Library Director for quarterly reports to the BOS.

-Noted that the BOS received a request from someone to endow a park bench at Pamet Park and place a plaque on it honoring their mother. This is an area that they did not cover in their Naming Policy. He directed Ms. Nolan to call Town Counsel and speak with our Town Accountant to see if the BOS is authorized to take endowments. Ms. Worthington reminded him that the BOS voted to place a plaque on the bench in honor of Lloyd Rose. He told her there are two benches at the park; someone needs to design the plaque for Mr. Rose. He added that an endowment can include the cost of maintenance. Ms. Nolan was directed to put the matter on their agenda after she gets the input from Town Counsel and the Town Accountant.

Worthington: -Asked what was going on with the Planning Board. Mr. Hartman said he preferred not to discuss it here, but to speak to each Selectman individually.

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Next week's agenda: John Portnoy will report on the East Harbor restoration project.

At 6:30 p.m. Mr. Palmer moved to adjourn. Mr. Lucy seconded it. Vote: 5-0, unanimous.

Alfred Gaechter, Chairman

Gary Palmer, Vice-Chairman

Christopher R. Lucy, Clerk

Curtis Hartman

Janet W. Worthington

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