

Truro Part Time Resident Advisory Committee
Recommendation to Truro Select Board
2025-10-20

To the Select Board:

The feedback that we have collected from part-time residents in Truro indicates that many part-timers want to be more engaged in the policy-setting and decision-making of the Town. Finding a way for part-timers who cannot vote in Truro to have a voice in Town decisions is thus a key area of focus for the Committee. While this work continues, the Committee believes that one important way to better enable part-timers to participate in Town decision-making is by allowing them to serve on a greater number of Town committees. By allowing part-timers to serve alongside other residents, committees will benefit from broader participation and an even wider diversity of views.

While part-timers can currently serve on some Town committees, as a matter of Town policy regulatory committees are open to Truro voters only. Having considered Massachusetts General Laws, and Truro Town Charter rules, regulations, and policies, the PTRAC understands that in order to enable part-time residents to serve on one or more of the regulatory bodies designated by the Town (the Board of Health, Board of Assessors, Conservation Commission, and Zoning Board of Appeals), it is necessary only to change Select Board policy (specifically Policy 13). The PTRAC recommends that the Select Board consider and adopt the changes to Policy 13 necessary to enable part-time residents of Truro to serve on some or all of such bodies.