

**Truro Board of Selectmen &
Provincetown Select Board Joint Meeting
Tuesday, November 27, 2018
Provincetown Town Hall**

Truro Selectmen Present: Chair Robert Weinstein; Maureen Burgess, Kristen Reed, Paul Wisotzky, Janet Worthington

Provincetown Select Board Present: Chair Thomas Donegan; Cheryl Andrews, Robert Anthony, Lise King, Louise Venden

Present: Truro Town Manager Rae Ann Palmer; Provincetown Town Manager David Panagore; Truro Assistant Town Manager David Gardner; Truro Assistant Town Manager Kelly Sullivan-Clark; Richard Brady, President of Matrix Consulting Group; Provincetown Recording Secretary Linda Fiorella

Provincetown Chair Thomas Donegan opened the Provincetown Select Board meeting at 2:00 p.m., and Truro Chair Robert Weinstein opened the Board of Selectmen meeting.

Matrix Shared Services Presentation

Truro Town Manager Rae Ann Palmer gave background information on how the shared services study had originated. She introduced Richard Brady, President of Matrix Consulting Group, who had prepared the report: *Opportunities for Sharing in the Delivery of Municipal Services: Provincetown and Truro, Massachusetts*. Mr. Brady discussed the concept of shared services through a slide presentation, highlighting advantages, a variety of types of sharing, Cape towns' cooperation, feasibility, impacts on infrastructure, and financial benefits. He explained the methodology of collecting information from staff, learning differences, compilation of services offered, and review of material with the Town Managers. He listed the types of resource sharing and discussed regional mergers of departments. Mr. Brady said the two Towns already share some services. He shared responses from survey takers, including staff, that support service sharing. Mr. Brady broke down short term opportunities, which included Administration, IT, Building permitting, Harbormaster, Public Safety, and Recreation programs and equipment. Longer term opportunities included buildings, IT on a larger scale, and Public Works. He concluded with the study's insights on receptivity, approaches, successes, and opportunities.

Discussion

Richard Brady answered questions from members of both Boards. He said Public Safety is a good example of shared services. He explained why dispatchers had been separated from the Police since dispatchers deal with different protocols in emergency situations. Employee union rates, liability issues and the volunteer staff all come into play in a consolidation of Police or Assessors. Mr. Brady noted that emergency communications and response of Police and Fire are already successful regional effort. He said law enforcement becomes more efficient by

providing even more regional services. Lise King asked some particular questions regarding attrition of citizens and coastal communities' concern about climate change. Richard Brady said the demographics had been included in the report and the services that would be needed in the future. He said there was nothing on climate change.

Methodology

Around 600 people had responded to the survey, but Mr. Brady did not have a firm figure of staff participants. He dealt with the low number of Provincetown respondents, both staff and citizens, explaining that the survey provides different perspectives; a greater response would require a fuller and more expensive survey. Both Towns made use of Survey Monkey, but Truro had sent additional post cards. Ms. Palmer explained how the post card had been included with other information. Town Manager David Panagore expanded upon response numbers. He said it was about exploring attitudes. Conversations about sharing are a starting point that could lead to informed sharing in the future.

Other opportunities for sharing

Based on the success of Police and Fire sharing, the Town Managers and both Boards explored areas that could benefit from sharing. Cheryl Andrews related a Provincetown situation when they had no Health Agent. Rae Ann Palmer explained that Truro has used County Health Agents. She enumerated on situations when Provincetown has shared with Truro. Opportunities exist in policy for coastal resilience, greater sharing in transportation, water resources, an HR person, Recreation, Public Works, and Library. Besides technical changes in sharing, adaptive changes of values make sense for economic and environmental reasons. This will ensure being able to stay here and see that future generations can remain here.

Next Steps

Rae Ann Palmer described a 5-town regional group that she had experience with. The group met quarterly to discuss policy, operational sharing, equipment sharing, and regional staffing. Employees will recognize the advantages of sharing, she and Richard Brady said. There was interest in forming a group including the towns from Eastham to Provincetown to plan possible regional shared services. The four towns have already signed a shared services agreement. The group would consist of the Town Managers and two representatives from each Select Board. Desired goals, operational areas, policy, sustainability, and many other issues could be addressed on a quarterly basis. David Panagore said he would place this on agenda for the next Provincetown Select Board meeting. Chair Robert Weinstein said it would be on the agenda for the next Truro Board of Selectmen meeting.

Adjournment

Paul Wisotzky moved to adjourn the Truro Board of Selectmen's meeting. Kristen Reed seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Provincetown Chair Thomas Donegan called for adjournment. Everyone said *aye*, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Mary Rogers




Robert Weinstein, Chair

Maureen Burgess, Vice-chair


Kristen Reed


Paul Wisotzky


Janet Worthington, Clerk

Public Records material for the meeting of 11/27/18

Matrix report: *Opportunities for Sharing in the Delivery of Municipal Services*