

**Truro Select Board Meeting with the
Truro Conservation Commission
Tuesday, June 4, 2019
Truro Town Hall**

Select Board Members Present: Janet Worthington, Chair; Susan Areson, Maureen Burgess, Kristen Reed, Robert Weinstein

Conservation Commission Members Present: Deborah McCutcheon, Chair; Diane Messinger, Larry Lown

Present: Town Manager Rae Ann Palmer; Assistant Town Manager Kelly Sullivan-Clark; Health & Conservation Agent Emily Beebe

Chair Janet Worthington called meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Conservation Commission Regulation Changes

Emily Beebe, Health & Conservation Agent, presented the revised Conservation Commission Regulations, which had been reviewed by Town Counsel. The draft included Town Counsel's comments, reformatting and reorganization of material, she said. Ms. Beebe gave page by page explanations for each section, which included: submission of applications, definitions, what is and is not allowed in the buffer zone, mitigation possibilities, performance standards, the existing regulations and appendices. The Wetlands Protection Act guides the Truro regulations for areas in the buffer zones of ponds, river and sea.

There were suggestions for making the Truro regulations more understandable to the average person. Larry Lown recommended a glossary of terms in addition to the definition section. Deborah McCutcheon said an illustration of a coastal dune could be added. Town Manager Rae Ann Palmer said a flow chart would help direct applicants to their next steps in the Conservation Commission process. Robert Weinstein suggested developing a map which clearly indicates if a property is in or abuts Wetland Protection areas. Rae Ann Palmer said information to add more awareness of the Wetland Protection Act and Truro's Conservation Commission Regulations could be included in the October tax bill mailing.

More ways to combat the common excuse, "I didn't know," were examined. Kristen Reed attested to new residents' genuine lack of knowledge of Wetland Protection measures. Deborah McCutcheon conceived creative mitigation ideas that would get attention such as required tree plantings. The public hearing had not been well attended, but Ms. McCutcheon said there is no limit on the number of public hearings that can be held. Arborists, landscapers and contractors all need to be informed about the revised Conservation Commission's Regulations. Flyers in the tax mailing would be a start for more homeowner awareness.


ADJOURNMENT

Robert Weinstein moved to adjourn. Kristen Reed seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.
The meeting was adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Rogers, Secretary


Janet Worthington, Chair

Maureen Burgess, Vice-chair



Susan Areson



Kristen Reed, Clerk



Robert Weinstein

Public Records Material of 6/4/19

Revision of Conservation Commission Regulations

