

Truro Climate Action Committee Remote Meeting Agenda

When: Thursday, November 10, 2022, 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Location: GoToMeeting Videoconference

Invitees: Carol Harris, Emily Beebe, Fred Gaechter, Georgia Neill, Lili Flanders, Rebecca Bruyn, Stephanie Rein

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

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1. Assign notetaker for this meeting
2. Public Comment
3. Review and approve 10/27/22 minutes
4. Truro Talks:
 - Review and approve December article -- all
 - Confirm next articles and authors -- all
5. Update on 2024 budget -- Carol
6. Update on outreach and education -- Rebecca, Lili, Georgia
7. Proposal on microgrids -- Lili
8. Proposal on septic in flood zones -- Fred
9. Updates on current actions:
 - Whole Government Approach
 - Climate Coordinator position
 - Electric chargers and vehicles
 - Update on Climate Action Plan
 - Other?
10. Proposed new actions:
 - If any....
11. Set agenda for next meeting
12. Adjourn

TOWN OF TRURO
10:02 AM
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TOWN CLERK

CAC Meeting Info 11/10/22

Climate Action Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 27, 2022

Present: Carol Harris, Rebecca Bruyn, Fred Gaechter, Lili Flanders
Guests: Bob Higgins-Steele, Louise Briggs, Joan Holt

Topic	Discussion	Action
Minutes	Minutes for 10/13 meeting, with one adjustment to be made by Carol, approved.	Approved by all. To be sent for posting on town website.
Public Comment	none	
Truro Talks	Carol asked for clarification on upcoming articles. Fred's Nov. article has already been submitted. Rebecca and Lili will continue to work on water articles for Dec. & Jan.	Lili will provide a draft for Dec. article at the next CAC mtg.
Request from Planning Board Re: 2024 budget	Discussed and determined this might be a good move for CAC. Carol will meet with chairs of committees and boards to learn more.	Rebecca, Lili & Georgia will determine what budget Outreach might need and report back at next mtg.
Update on Climate Action Plan	Carol and Rebecca have been working on a draft, which will be presented to all members for input and editing in a work session.	Carol will try to secure a room at the library before 11/18 for workshop mtg.
Lili/ All: microgrids	Lili and Bob presented their shared interest in pursuing microgrid possibilities in Truro, with a particular focus on resiliency and equity.	Bob & Lili will create a proposal to share at the next CAC mtg.

Discuss incorporating Recycling Committee in CAC	Rebecca would like to re-energize recycling practice in Truro. It was agreed that CAC could take this on through Education/Outreach. Fred thought it would be best to ascertain what could be accomplished, based on statistics, before incorporating RC into CAC.	Carol will invite Jarrod Cabral to the CAC mtg. to discuss with him.
Whole Government Approach	Bob updated the comm. on the work he, Fred and Brian Boyle had done on WGA proposal. Carol asked to see the latest draft before sending it on to the Select Board. She will coordinate with Brian Boyle.	After review and consultation with Brian, Carol will send the WGA proposal to SB.
Climate Coordinator Position	All thought the latest draft was ready to send to the Select Board.	Carol will finalize draft and send to SB.
Electric Vehicles	Louise Briggs shared with the group her frustration with finding charging stations on the Cape for her new EV. Rebecca gave an update of ongoing communications with Truro businesses regarding installing EV charging stations. Rebecca shared her communications with Caitlin Fletcher at Recharge MA. There will be an EV event in Hyannis in June. CAC could be a sponsor. Caitlin spoke with Rebecca about a leadership "pledge" which CAC will consider.	More to come In future agendas, EVs and Charging Stations will be given separate headings.
Proposed New Actions	Lili wondered about an action to contract with bus companies that provide electric school buses. Fred mentioned sending a memo to the Planning Board about new septic systems installed near tidal waters.	Carol will find out about coordinated efforts in the OCCC regarding electric school buses and report back. Memo to SB re: septic will be discussed at next CAC mtg.
Next Meeting	November 10	Meeting adjourned at 12:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Lili Flanders

DRAFT: Truro Talks December Article on Water

WATER WISE

Truro, like the rest of Cape Cod, depends upon a sole source aquifer as its main source of fresh drinking water. The only form of replenishment for the aquifer is precipitation: rain or snowfall. As effects of climate change—such as increased temperatures, longer periods of drought and sea level rise—impact the level and quality of fresh water on the Cape, it is increasingly important for us to use this precious resource wisely.

Below are some suggestions for reducing water use in your home this winter, as well as guidelines for getting your well water tested by the town, so you can be sure of its quality.

If you have a dishwasher, put down your scrub brush! [According to the NRDC], washing dishes by hand typically uses more than 25 gallons of water, while an Energy Star-rated dishwasher uses less than 5 gallons of water.

Choose showers over baths. [Eversource reports] that it typically takes 35-50 gallons of water to fill a bathtub, while a ten-minute shower uses 25 gallons of water.

Go easy on laundry detergent. Using too much soap may require extra rinse cycles.

While brushing your teeth, turn off the tap. This simple action can save up to 200 gallons per month!

Fix leaky faucets. Though it only happens a drop at a time, a leaking faucet can waste more than 100 gallons a year, [reports the United States Geological Survey.]

Replace old and broken appliances with Energy Star models. Eversource can give you information about rebates for these products.

<https://www.eversource.com/content/nh/residential/save-money-energy/efficient-products/appliances-other-products>

Barnstable County Health dept. recommends that Cape Cod residents with private wells get their water checked regularly. You can pick up a water-testing kit from the Health & Conservation office in Truro town hall. The kit includes all the containers you'll need, plus easy-to-follow directions. Once you have filled the containers with your water samples, you will

need to drop them off at the Wellfleet Health Department for testing. The cost for testing is \$55 and you will typically receive results within 10 days. For more information, visit the Truro town website:

[https://www.truro-ma.gov/health-department/pages/water-testing-for-private-wells-water-quality-information#:~:text=Truro%20Health%20Department%20carries%20Barnstable%20County%20water%20test%20kits.&text=The%20following%20types%20of%20kits,Nitrates%2C%20and%20Manganese%20\(%2455.00\)](https://www.truro-ma.gov/health-department/pages/water-testing-for-private-wells-water-quality-information#:~:text=Truro%20Health%20Department%20carries%20Barnstable%20County%20water%20test%20kits.&text=The%20following%20types%20of%20kits,Nitrates%2C%20and%20Manganese%20(%2455.00))

[Should this be included in the article?]

The gray water and waste that flows out of our homes affects our aquifer and, by extension, the quality of water that comes in through our faucets. With that in mind, be prudent when using household cleaning products and manage your waste responsibly.

Use phosphate-free detergents whenever possible.

Avoid using cleaning products that contain chlorine bleach or ammonia.

Use drain cleaners and carpet cleaners sparingly.

Dispose of hazardous products at the transfer station, not down your drain!

The 2022 season for hazardous waste collection has ended, but you can get more information about other options here:

<https://www.capecod.gov/departments/cooperative-extension/programs/hazardous-waste-water-quality/household-hazardous-waste/>

Keep your septic system maintained. Get it pumped regularly and replace it when needed. You can get information about the septic loan program here:

<https://septic.barnstablecountyhealth.org/posts/septic-loan-program>

Solar Microgrids Proposal:

To form a cooperative ad hoc subcommittee of the Truro Energy and Climate Action committees to research the feasibility of solar microgrids in Truro, as a way to decrease dependence on fossil fuels and to increase energy reliability and resilience, with the intent to provide the Select Board and town residents with actions upon which they can vote.