

From: Joan Holt <capejoanholt@comcast.net>

Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2020 2:22 PM

To: Jan Worthington <jworthington@truro-ma.gov>; Robert Weinstein <rweinstein@truro-ma.gov>; Kristen Reed <KReed@truro-ma.gov>; Susan Areson <SAreson@truro-ma.gov>; Stephanie Rein <srein@truro-ma.gov>

Cc: Rae Ann Palmer <rpalmer@truro-ma.gov>; Noelle Scoullar <nscoullar@truro-ma.gov>

Subject: Next Select Board agenda.

I agreed to request, on behalf of myself and a number of people who watched your last meeting, that **the agenda for your next meeting include further discussion about Town Meeting, the draft and final warrant, essential articles vs. postponable items, mail-in voting, etc.**

There is no perfect substitution for Town Meeting as we have known it. Whenever and however Truro's legislative (Town Meeting) decisions are to be made, some Truro voters will be unable to participate. For example, though Bob and I can "attend" remotely, a June public gathering in June, whether indoors or outdoors, would rule us out, because our ages put us in a high-risk category. However, there are others who **cannot** participate remotely because they lack computer-skills or don't even have a computer or smart phone.

The Select Board has to aim to replicate Town Meeting features. That goal must include:

1. INFORMATION PROVIDED TO EVERY VOTER (and to our part-time residents who may want to express an opinion)
1. MAXIMUM PARTICIPATION (date, time, and method)
2. A MINIMUM NUMBER OF ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY ARTICLES (only what can't be postponed)
3. AN OPPORTUNITY FOR VOTERS TO LEARN THE PRO AND CON OPINIONS (the different views of our neighbors)
4. A WAY TO VOTE THAT IS AVAILABLE AND FAIR TO EVERYONE

At the very least, before making any decisions about Town Meeting, the Select Board needs to hear from the public and to consider a range of suggestions. I have some ideas that I will put into an e-mail for your next meeting. Others have different ideas they may want to suggest. There are more thoughts that need to be considered before you decide how to proceed.

Thank you,

Joan

p.s. You might prominently on the town website invite folks to comment by email on how Town Meeting should take place.