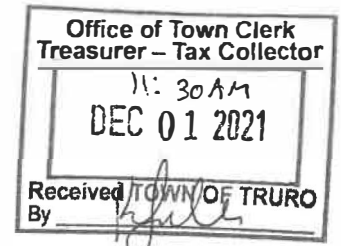


Walsh Committee

Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2021 meeting



Attending members: Paul Wisotzky and Fred Gaechter, co-chairs; Christine Markowski, Betty Gallo, Susan Howe, Eileen Breslin, Craig Milan, Todd Schwebel, Steve Wynne, Morgan Clark, Kenneth Oxtoby, Stephanie Rein (Select Board liaison).

Also attending: Darrin Tangeman, Town Manager; Kelly Clark, Assistant Town Manager; Barbara Carboni, Town Planner and Land Use Counsel

Roll call was taken by Co-chair Gaechter

Minutes of the previous meeting (September 29, 2021) were approved.

Co-chair Gaechter asked about Community Conversations (in-person one-on-one interviews). Member Howe said she has had many interesting conversations. Example: to develop something called Walsh Village on site of existing cottages and create community on that site; build around it. Member Gallo noted that she put links to the survey on the Truro Housing Authority meeting agenda and will talk about why it's important. She has asked people who have email lists to send out links.

Member Breslin asked about devoting time to demographics next meeting. Co-chair Gaechter noted that Planner Carboni had done some research and the topic would be put on next agenda.

Co-chair Wisotzky noted the posting of an ongoing multi-committee online survey. Assistant Town Manager Clark advised 285 responses so far. Member Howe noted that she has heard good feedback and thanked Assistant Town Manager Clark and Planner Carboni. Clark and Carboni thanked Co-chair Wisotzky for his help with the survey. Clark advised on some particulars: respondents most in 56-75 age group; 244 responses from that group. She noted that it would be premature to try to make sense of data. We haven't yet heard from parents and families. She will provide updates.

Town Manager Tangeman discussed the building evaluation study and timeline. A Committee member asked about the choice of consultant Weston & Sampson. Town Manager Tangeman and Town Planner Carboni explained the procurement process including the exemption under 30B for engineering and related services; the lack of timely response from other vendors; and that fact that Weston & Sampson has provided quality work to the Town on other projects.

Member Schwebel presented slides on several affordable housing developments, including one in Dennis, as examples of what might be accomplished on the Walsh site. Other members had looked at these links provided to these projects ahead of time and appreciated it.

Walsh Committee representation at the Fall Fest was discussed. Assistant Town Manager Clark suggested a doodle poll for shift/task sign up.

Co-chair Gaechter led discussion of the Work Plan. This will be on Committee's agenda for most meetings. Topics discussed included the timeline for getting to 2022 Town meeting. Steps include review of reports from consultants (buildings and feasibility study) by November. Work on warrant article will be in December.

Member Schwebel asked about the logistics/management of swearing in Committee members for new term. Some members not in Town for a while. Assistant Town Manager Clark advised that swearings-in are still taking place live. Town Planner Carboni advised that the lack of new oaths would not hinder the Committee's work, but that members should get sworn in as soon as they can.

Town Manager Tangeman advised on the availability of hybrid meetings in the near future. The Select Board is ready to kick off and will have a policy in place. He noted that if the Walsh Committee could not get a quorum in person, meeting might as well be remote. Hybrid meetings are intensive in terms of staff needed to run equipment; Select Board needs to have policy discussion on how to allocate resources to run these meetings.

A show of hands indicated how many members could/would be willing to attend in person: a few. The merits of meeting in person were discussed, as well as the benefits of remote participation.

The next meeting date set was October 27th.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:18.

Prepared and respectfully submitted by Barbara Carboni, Town Planner

