



Cape and Islands Municipal Leaders Association, Inc.

Representing 22 Municipalities & 105 Elected Officials

Meeting Minutes
September 09, 2022
Zoom

President Paula Schnepf called the meeting to order and asked for the roll call.

Roll Call. Quorum met. Towns: ?

With Towns represented the Clerk declared a quorum.

Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Stephen Mealy presented the finance report showing a balance of \$21,433.65 after revenues and expenses. Motion to approve was made by Greg Milne, seconded by Doug Brown, and was passed unanimously.

Minutes. Minutes will be included within next month's meeting for review.

MEETING DISCUSSION

This month was a Zoom meeting but future in-person meetings to be undertaken.

The Treasurer asked for assistance for the Association's Web Site development. No volunteers; will continue to seek assistance.

Replacing a CIMLA Board Member, Andrew Gottlieb. Greg Milne nominated Doug Brown from Falmouth. Motion to place Doug on the Board of Directors passed unanimously.

Outstanding Issues by town representative present.

Chatham

Falmouth. Schools opened smoothly. Senior Centers busy. Real Estate booming, Airbnb appears to be flourishing. Moving on 50-unit senior living center. Redevelopment downtown per Planning Board for an additional 151 units appears to be moving forward. Many summer visitors, challenges within replacing senior leadership including TM. Housing costs appear to be reflected in difficulty.

Bourne.

New TA doing well, coming up to speed. Working on staffing including IT, Police Chief, issues with housing reflecting difficulty in hiring qualified personnel. Sewer Regulations updated.

Harwich.

Also experiencing senior staffing challenges. 8 department heads have left (retirement, moving on) still have 3 positions open. Some positions now open for over 9 months. Finding qualified candidates is a challenge. Summer help was likewise difficult to hire, delaying work within DPW. Harwich Port has reinvented itself, and resulted in increased noise complaints, etc. Restaurants success has resulted in traffic issues, with the town needing to address Uber, Lyft "pick-up" zones. Additional work on Wastewater Plan, focusing on Buck's Pond area, freshwater ponds are now being addressed earlier in planning rather than later. Working with Dennis in a possible joint wastewater plan.

Mashpee.

Working to replace recent Select Board member resignation. Phase one of the wastewater going forward. Freshwater ponds and lakes are now moving into a higher priority. Workforce and affordable housing continue to be a priority.

Orleans.

Lack of workers resulted in and continues with inflicting difficulties, with many help wanted signs continuing to be seen. A 14-unit affordable project is moving forward. The "underground mall" may come into redevelopment for housing. Orleans TA retiring in March, the town is already preparing to fill this position, assistance on methodology appreciated. Home Rule petition to restrict the use of fertilizers in town is being brought forward. Phase 1 of the wastewater project is coming; supply issues are impacting the project. Infrastructure, construction, difficult on this climate.

Wellfleet.

Targeted Watershed Plan submitted in June; DEP is starting to review. The plan includes a variety of approaches including decentralized cluster systems. Summer brought challenges with use of beaches by large groups, requiring half the available police force at times. Party buses, Ubers, etc. overwhelming at times. Campground purchase is on a ballot this weekend, for use for housing. One of the last large parcels left in town. Noncompliant septic system and DEP filings are challenges. Articles also include affordable housing articles for undersize lots; and a by-law change to allow cottage communities use year-round a change from 3-season use. New TA working well.

Chatham.

Following Orleans in short-term rental. Drought has been a challenge, how to approach restrictions in water usage, including private wells. Started a long-term study for a year-round resident tax exemption.

Barnstable.

Town election challenges will probably result in review of processes. Barnstable like others facing labor shortages already mentioned. Wind energy is impacting infrastructure but becoming hub for cable landings. Two projects and possible third. Ground mounted solar building controls resulting in changes in by laws and how the town can control, like preventing the use of batteries may be challenged.

Brewster.

LCP coming up in fall town meeting. Approved strategic Plan by the Select Board. First summer of the first light beach, very popular as first residents only beach. Addressing misinformation on social media. Reviewing noise by laws. Reference Harwich's previous experience with noise by laws.

Membership and Communications.

Possibly prepare a letter from the Association, an outreach letter to non-participating members.

Ask current Select Board members to provide an update of the Association's activities at their meetings to urge the inclusion of other Board members at CIMLA meetings.

Facebook page of unknown developer. Will review.

Suggest the use of a mentor system to newly elected members to participate in CIMLA. Development of a welcome package for all newly elected members.

The breakfast time can be difficult for some; could we consider having occasional meetings at alternative times, later afternoon, etc.

Next meeting. October 14, 2022.

Possible hybrid meeting, at the Cape Tech. Ed McManus to inquire.

Breakfast meetings, in-person meetings have an appeal.

Invitation to Town Managers, Town Administrators. Suggestion to invite Town Managers to discuss regional opportunities:

ARPA funds, programs, grant writers

Employee hiring/retention challenges – initiatives

Housing

Potential shared services opportunities

Project management/execution in the wake of supply chain issues, labor shortages, significant cost increases, public expectations/demands

Short-term rental regulations? Approaches? Issues?

Water supply/infrastructure – 15-town/county-wide action/approach to enhance drinking water infrastructure investment and conservation/education efforts

Next Meeting Dates.

Board of Director's Meeting possibly within week of September 19.

November 11, 2022

Possibly at Upper Cape Tech, Stephen Mealy to inquire.

Adjourn 8:50 AM