



Minutes
Cape Cod Commission Meeting
April 22, 2021

Harold Mitchell, Chair called the Cape Cod Commission (CCC) meeting to order on Thursday, April 22, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. He announced that the meeting was being held virtually with all members participating remotely, using the Zoom meeting platform as allowed by Governor Baker's Executive Order Suspending certain provisions of the open meeting law dated March 12, 2020. The Chair announced that all votes and actions at the meeting would be taken by roll call and that the members would be announced as the roll call vote or action is taken. The Clerk called the roll for attendance and a quorum of members was established as follows:

Harold Mitchell	Present
Elizabeth Taylor, (Chair)	Present (entered the meeting after roll call was taken)
Richard Roy (Vice Chair)	Present
Jack McCormack, Jr.	Present
Fred Chirigotis	Present (left meeting prior to adjournment)
Stephen Mealy	Present
Tom Wilson	Present
Richard Roy	Present
Joy Brookshire	Present (entered the meeting after roll call was taken)
Charles McCaffrey	Present
Jacqueline Etsten	Present
Ernest Virgilio	Absent
Douglas Fromm	Present
Cheryl Andrews	Present
Kevin Grunwald	Present
Richard Elkin	Present (entered the meeting after roll call was taken)
Mark Forest	Present (left meeting prior to adjournment)
John Harris	Present
David Weeden	Absent
Michael Maxim	Absent

Summary of actions/votes taken

- Cape Cod Commission ("CCC" or "Commission") voted to approve the minutes of the 3/11/21 meeting

Public Comment

There was no public comment for items not on the agenda

Minutes of the CCC Meeting 3/11/21

Upon a motion to approve the minutes of 3/11/21 made by Cheryl Andrews, seconded by Joy Brookshire, the motion carried. Roll call vote was taken as follows: Fred Chirigotis, Yes; Stephen Mealy, Yes; Tom Wilson, Yes; Richard Roy, Yes; Joy Brookshire, Yes; Charles McCaffrey, Yes; Jacqueline Etsen, Abstain; Douglas Fromm, Yes; Cheryl Andrews, Yes; Harold Mitchell, Yes; Kevin Grunwald, Abstain; Richard Elkin, Yes; John McCormack, Jr, Yes; Mark Forest, Abstain; John Harris, Yes;

Executive Directors Report

Ms. Senatori gave the following updates:

COVID

- Continuing to participate in weekly Cape Cod COVID-19 Response Task Force
- With the Commission's consultant, Revby, hosting series of industry specific Covid-19 Recovery and Resiliency Workshops to assist business owners.
- Working with Revby to develop industry specific toolkits for local businesses.

Climate

- On 4/7, the Assembly of Delegates held a public hearing on the Cape Cod Commission's denied Regional Policy Plan Amendments presented in the citizen's petition. This was not taken up at the time the Commission's climate amendments were approved; the Assembly of Delegates did not take further action on those amendments.
- The Climate Action subcommittee met on April 15th to review the draft Climate Action Plan - detail of the plan is being presented today.

Cape Cod and Island Water Protection Fund

- The Management Board approved the first subsidy awards for funding water quality and wastewater projects consistent with the Area Wide Water Quality Management Plan (208 Plan) on 4/14 and approximately \$71 million investment in grants was awarded to several Cape communities.

Budget

- 4/7/21 – presented Year in Review to Assembly of Delegates and FY22 budget
- 4/21/21 – Assembly hearing on FY22 budget. Budget was approved.
- Board of Selectmen Tour- Have been to 9 towns. She thanked Members that have participated in those meetings.

Upcoming Boards of Selectmen meetings she will be attending:

- Mashpee: 4/26
- Chatham: 5/4
- Provincetown: 5/10
- Eastham: 5/24
- Yarmouth: 6/8

Staff News

Jon Idman's last day is tomorrow, 4/23. He accepted a position as Director of Planning and Community Development in Harwich. Advertising for new Chief Regulatory Officer.

Also advertising for a Water Resources Analyst and Transportation Planner.

Climate Action Plan:

The Chair stated that the staff will review the draft Climate Action Plan for Cape Cod and the process and timeline for public comment and feedback. He stated that members will have an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback. He stated that we are not voting on the Plan today.

Ms. Senatori stated that this document has been released to the Stakeholders. The purpose is to release the document for a 30-day public comment period, incorporate changes and bring the revised document back to the Commission for a vote.

Using a PowerPoint, Ms. Senatori began the brief overview of the 10 chapters of the Climate Action Plan. She reviewed Chapters 1 – 3 which included the contents of the Plan, the purpose statement, and planning principles and recommendations. She explained the need for Climate Action, the cost of doing nothing, the policy context and the Act Creating a Next Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy.

Erin Perry, Deputy Director of the Commission, reviewed Chapters 4 - 7 of the Climate Action Plan. Using a PowerPoint presentation, she reviewed the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory on Cape Cod and the different emissions scenarios, planning for Climate Change on Cape Cod, the community engagement that took place from the fall of 2020 through the winter of 2021, and identified priority strategies to focus the region's climate action efforts including adaptation and mitigation.

Ms. Senatori completed the presentation by reviewing the final Chapters 8 – 10 of the Climate Action Plan. Using a PowerPoint presentation, she described the implementation process for the plan, identified the partnerships that will be critical for success of the implementation as well as the recommendations that will support the implementation of the Plan, and the Performance Measures that will help to meet the goals of the Climate Action Plan.

Ms. Senatori added that there is a Communications Framework document which will be an addendum to the Plan that will serve as a guidance document for municipal and regional government. The guiding principles of the Communications Plan are to spread awareness, inspire behavioral change and promote inclusivity and Equity. She explained that the Communications Framework Strategy is to set goals and objectives, identify key audiences and collaborators, develop key messages, select outreach strategies, determine milestones and timelines, and to define and measure success.

The Chair thanked staff for their presentation. He asked if a vote was required today and Ms. Senatori stated that no vote was required. The Plan will be put out for a 30- day public comment period. She said we will do a press release on the Plan. She noted the Plan has been distributed to Stakeholders. She said staff will review comments as they come in and make changes before we bring the plan back to the CCC for a vote.

The Chair then asked for initial comments and questions from members.

Dr. Andrews thanked the Executive Director for the work that has been done. She takes a great deal of pride looking at the plan adding that this is the most difficult issue we will deal with in our lifetime and she is grateful for the work that has been done. Dr. Andrews stated that the issue that she is

most interested in is the flooding and evacuation route. She said she will be in touch with Ms. Senatori.

Mr. Elkin stated that he had something different in mind when coming up with the Plan. He feels that the document doesn't have a commitment to specific action. He said it discusses an array of potential actions by others, not the CCC. He would like to see a planning process where the CCC is directly involved such as through a DRI, through transportation or through Town zoning bylaws. He added that the plan was written before Senate bill S9 was passed. He said that because that bill re-emphasizes that the state is focusing on six areas, he feels that the plan should follow those areas because the tools provided by the state will focus on them as well as the reporting. He commented that there is repetition in the document and a need to tighten up the writing. He said some of the overview is not followed through in the detail. Mr. Elkin stated that he submitted detailed comments in writing.

Ms. Brookshire stated that she is impressed by the document, and it has been produced in such a short amount of time. She feels that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts would be very interested in seeing this document. She would like to see the CCC go to Boston to present the Climate Action Plan in person. She feels that running an event where the plan is discussed and the towns are invited would be beneficial. She feels that the plan is amazing and congratulated staff on the work done.

Mr. Fromm echoed comments made about the plan and the way that it has been presented. As a new member of the Commission, he asked what the role and expectation is of the members of the board to take action within the town they represent.

Ms. Senatori stated that implementation of the plan is multi-faceted. There are some actions that are appropriate at the local level. We are not expecting members to make sure that their towns are implementing anything, but the CCC is happy to work with members for an appropriate course of action at the local level.

The Chair stated that a comment from Dick Roy from a previous meeting, that we are still working on our own Regional Policy Plan and have been doing so for 30 years, resonated with him. He said this is the first step of a document that will continue to grow and evolve and it's an excellent start. In the next 30 days, we will accept public comment and get a grasp on how others feel about the plan and incorporate changes into the document.

Ms. Taylor expressed her appreciation to the staff in putting together this document. She is looking forward to seeing a revised document incorporating changes based on public comments. She would also like to see an Executive Summary.

Mr. Wilson stated that as he read the document, it helped him to understand how vast the crisis is and the different aspects. He stated that we will have to work as a region to effect changes that will improve our quality of life. He feels that the CCC did a good job early in the document defining what the climate crisis is and the different aspects. Reading through the document made him feel that there was a way out of this. He was impressed by the outreach and the stakeholders brought into the process along with the Climate Ambassador program. The Commission puts a lot of detail in their work. He is happy to see the document being released for public comment.

Mr. Roy commented that the RPP to date is 30 years in the making and changed every 5 years. The point is that it takes a while to get to that. He pointed out that 30 years from now is 2050 so there is a sense of urgency, so we can't take 30 years, we must get there quicker.

New Business:

Charles McCaffrey stated that this was his last meeting. The Chair added that Mr. McCaffrey has been on the board for 6 years and we appreciate his effort and commitment to the board, and it's been a pleasure working together. Mr. McCaffrey stated that it's been a privilege to work with members, and staff at the Cape Cod Commission. He will continue his work on the Coastal Resiliency Action Committee where we may meet again.

Meeting Adjourned:

The Chair asked for a motion to adjourn.

Upon a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:02 p.m. made by Charles McCaffrey, seconded by Joy Brookshire, the motion carried. Roll Call vote was as follows: Fred Chirigotis, Absent; Stephen Mealy, Yes; Elizabeth Taylor, Yes; Tom Wilson, Yes; Richard Roy, Yes; Joy Brookshire, Yes; Charles McCaffrey, Yes; Jacqueline Etsten, Yes; Douglas Fromm, Yes; Cheryl Andrews, Yes; Harold Mitchell, Yes; Kevin Grunwald, Yes; Richard Elkin, Yes; John McCormack, Jr., Yes; Mark Forest, Absent; John Harris, Yes;

Documents used/submitted at the April 22, 2021 Cape Cod Commission Meeting

Cape Cod Commission Meeting Agenda 4/22/21

Draft Minutes of the 3/11/21 Cape Cod Commission Meeting

Power Point Presentation prepared by Cape Cod Commission staff

Draft Climate Action Plan

Written comments on Climate Action Plan by Dick Elkin