



**Minutes
Cape Cod Commission Meeting
July 22, 2021**

Harold Mitchell, Chair called the Cape Cod Commission (CCC) meeting to order on Thursday, July 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 pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, An Act Relative to Extending Certain Covid-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency, signed into law on June 16, 2021. 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 roll call is taken. The Clerk called the roll for attendance and a quorum of members was established as follows:

Harold Mitchell	Present
Elizabeth Taylor, (Secretary)	Present
Stephen Mealy (Vice Chair)	Present
Jack McCormack, Jr.	Present
Fred Chirigotis	Present (joined the meeting at 3:11pm)
Tom Wilson	Present
Richard Roy	Present
Joy Brookshire	Present
Jacqueline Etsten	Absent
Ernest Virgilio	Absent
Douglas Fromm	Present
Cheryl Andrews	Present
Kevin Grunwald	Present
Richard Elkin	Present
Mark Forest	Absent
John Harris	Absent
David Weeden	Present
Michael Maxim	Absent

Summary of actions/votes taken

- Cape Cod Commission (CCC) voted to approve the minutes of the 6/14/21 CCC Special meeting
- Cape Cod Commission (CCC) voted to approve the Climate Action Plan for Cape Cod

Public Comment

There was no public comment for items not on the agenda.

Minutes of the CCC Meeting 6/14/21

Upon a motion to approve the minutes of the 6/14/21 CCC meeting made by Richard Elkin, seconded by Elizabeth Taylor, the motion carried. Roll call vote was taken as follows: Fred Chirigotis, arrived late; Stephen Mealy, Yes; Elizabeth Taylor, Yes; Tom Wilson, Yes; Richard Roy, Yes; Joy Brookshire, Yes; Douglas Fromm, Yes; Cheryl Andrews, Yes; Harold Mitchell, Yes; Kevin Grunwald, Yes; Richard Elkin, Yes; John McCormack, Jr, Yes; David Weeden, Abstain

Executive Directors Report

The Chair announced that Ms. Senatori had another meeting to attend and may enter this meeting to provide the report.

Climate Action Plan – Staff will review the updated Climate Action Plan for Cape Cod. Staff will also review the response to public comments received on the draft plan and discuss how feedback was incorporated into the final plan. Commission members will have an opportunity to ask questions and may vote to approve the Climate Action Plan for Cape Cod.

Using a Power Point, Erin Perry began her review of the public comments received on the draft plan and explained how that feedback was incorporated into the plan being presented today. She reviewed the public process and how the changes made to plan are consistent with the revised Purpose Statement and Planning Principles. She explained the 2030 updates which reflected the implementation of electric air-source heat pumps and how they can lead to substantial health benefits and assist in reaching 2030 and 2030 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction goals. The Executive Summary that has been added to the plan, at the request of members, highlights the sense of urgency and the need for action. She stated that although the plan is based on regional action, additional language has been added where appropriate to incorporate the global nature of the climate emergency. More language has been added to the individual responsibility section in the implementation chapter as well as incorporated changes into the equity section. Additional language was added to clarify the intent of the GHG emissions scenarios to achieve the GHG reduction goals and what is included in the GHG Inventory. Town level data will be provided as it becomes available through websites and online tools associated with the plan. We plan to have an online database that will be available to the public which will give us the available date to define actions by sector and by actor. She added that the Climate Action Plan serves as a companion to the Regional Policy Plan which will continue to evolve as our other plans have.

The Chair thanked Ms. Perry for her presentation. He stated that there were 65 letters and 500 comments, and those changes were reviewed and incorporated where appropriate as well as the legislative changes. He appreciates the work done by staff and the subcommittee.

The Chair asked for questions/comments from members.

Elizabeth Taylor extended her appreciation to staff for the work put into the plan. She said that she read all the comment letters and she learned a lot from them. As we move forward, she asked what was set up to incorporate new methodology, specifically to salt marsh restoration or eel grass restoration and correcting changes to PH and salinity in our bays.

Ms. Perry stated that there are plans which are articulated in the document to make updates to the GHG Inventory and other analysis associated with the plan. Performance evaluation will be tracked as new data becomes available and we can look at an appropriate time frame for amending or

considering updates to the plan. Heather McElroy stated that as we identify new techniques or actions we can incorporate that information into our database.

Ms. Taylor added that ponds on Cape Cod are being closed because of cyanobacteria and those attractions are locked into our tourist industry, as well as our oceans and beaches. Results of the heat will affect our shell fishing and whale watches and feels that we need to add more to that area of the plan.

Mr. Elkin stated that this an improved plan from the draft and that comments have been incorporated. He feels that the document outlines actions that can be done throughout Cape Cod but would like to know what we as the CCC can do to assist if we are not the primary actor. We should understand the good work that the CCC is doing relative to Climate Action that isn't reflected in the plan. He is confused by the scenarios and feels that they are not coherent as they relate to our goals. He needs more time to go through the plan. It reflects a lot of good work and is moving in the right direction.

Mr. Wilson stated that as he reviewed the letters that came in, a comment came in about existing structures and how to address GHG. Another stated that they are ready to follow guidelines and volunteer. As a Commissioner, he asked as we perform our Development of Regional Impact reviews and Development Agreements, how do we incorporate what is contained in the Climate Action Plan supplement with the Regional Policy Plan (RPP) to help us make decisions.

Ms. Perry responded that several months ago when amendments to the RPP were considered, that action was followed by the drafting of the Climate Action Plan. As we look at how our other plans work with the RPP, we have a Natural Resiliency Goal and Climate Action Mitigation Goals and Strategies. The Board adopted a new goal to Climate Mitigation which is aligned and included in the Climate Action Plan.

Mr. McCormack feels that this is a wonderful document and appreciates that time and effort that has gone into creating it. Something that shakes his faith in his fellow citizens is the thought that the Cape Cod Commission is infinite we are limited in what we can do and wish more people would realize that.

The Chair thanked members for their comments.

The Chair asked for comments from the public.

There were no public comments.

The Chair asked for a motion.

Upon a motion to approve the draft Climate Action Plan for Cape Cod as presented by staff by Elizabeth Taylor, seconded by John McCormack, Jr. the motion carried. Roll call vote was as follows: Fred Chirigotis, Yes; Stephen Mealy, Yes; Elizabeth Taylor, Yes; Tom Wilson, Yes; Richard Roy, Yes; Joy Brookshire, Yes; Douglas Fromm, Yes; Cheryl Andrews, Yes; Harold Mitchell, Yes; Kevin Grunwald, Yes; Richard Elkin, Abstain; John McCormack, Jr, Yes; David Weeden, Abstain.

The Chair stated that Ms. Senatori is later than expected and will not be giving the Executive Directors Report.

New Business:

There was no new business.

Meeting Adjourned:

The Chair asked for a motion to adjourn.

Upon a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:44 p.m. made by Richard Roy, seconded by Joy Brookshire, the motion carried. Roll Call vote was as follows: Fred Chirigotis, Yes; Stephen Mealy, Yes; Elizabeth Taylor, Yes; Tom Wilson, Yes; Richard Roy, Yes; Joy Brookshire, Yes; Douglas Fromm, Yes; Cheryl Andrews, Yes; Harold Mitchell, Yes; Kevin Grunwald, Yes; Richard Elkin, Yes; John McCormack, Jr, Yes; David Weeden, Yes.

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

Cape Cod Commission Meeting Agenda 7/22/21

Draft Minutes of the 6/14/21 CCC Special Meeting

Power Point Presentation prepared by Cape Cod Commission staff

Draft Cape Cod Climate Action Plan, July 2021

Staff Memo – Draft Climate Action Plan Response to Comments