

Truro Non Resident Taxpayers' Association
Minutes of Eighth Annual Meeting
Truro Central School -Truro, MA
July 3, 2004

- ❖ Citing a quorum, President Alan Frankel opened the meeting and introduced Board members to the more than 50 attendees.
- ❖ Alan Frankel cited TNRTA's continued commitment to keeping membership informed on issues which could affect the quality of the experience of property ownership in Truro. Frankel described some of Truro's near term issues. These include the evolution of the new Board of Selectmen, and new Chair Fred Geachter. Fred's qualifications include service as Mayor in his former town in NJ. In addition this Board has to hire a new Town Administrator and deal with key programs such as resolution of water management issues with Provincetown, the development of the new community center, and the passage of a Local Comprehensive plan. In comments about the community center Frankel noted that projected cost which exceeds the original Town plan would almost certainly have to go before Town Meeting. Frankel added that Truro's Capital costs and the cost of servicing Town debt are issues to watch closely because of the recent years' major capital programs including the Town Hall, The Safety Facility, School Renovation and new Library.
- ❖ Frankel reported that TNRTA's character has evolved to one of crisis management - focusing on issues that its membership deems important. We reach out to members and seasonal residents in general through two yearly newsletters, email "blasts" when situations dictate and the ongoing management of the TNRTA web site.
- ❖ Minutes of July 2 2003 meeting were approved.
- ❖ The Treasurer's financial report as of 6/30/04, prepared by Regan McCarthy, shows the Association's assets continue to grow and that the organization is on sound financial footing. Following the recent membership enrollment period assets exceed \$50,000. For TNRTA it is important to have funds on hand which could serve as the basis for a "war chest" in the event future issues require professional expertise. As always the organization seeks to maintain its financial and political strength on the basis of sustaining and growing membership.
- ❖ Membership for 2003 closed at 446. This number is consistent with recent membership enrollments but lower than the approximate 500 members enrolled during the Stop Stop &Shop campaign.
- ❖ A new issue involving seasonal homeowners insurance has arisen. The Cape towns have been deemed to be high risk communities for hurricane and storm damage. As a result insurers are refusing to serve the Cape and those that do have raised premium rates very significantly. Board member Larry Parcell reported on the issue and suggested that members review their homeowner insurance plans. He recommend approaches such as raising deductibles to manage cost.
- ❖ Curtis Hartman, member of the group developing Truro's next Local Comprehensive Plan presented information to the group on the Local Comprehensive plan which is nearing completion to be followed by presentation to the Town for its approval. The LCP is a significant document as it is intended to

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represent the collective view of the Town and can act as a guide in future decision making. When approved a LCP includes Cape Cod Commission blessing and is a guide for the Commission and its ruling vis a vis issues affecting the Town. Truro last approved an LCP in 1994 and there appears to be a consensus that a new one is needed. The overriding principles of the new LCP are to maintain the rural nature of the Town and recognize that although development cannot be stopped it can be managed. The Plan would provide provisions for the consideration of numerous elements in future development efforts.

According to Hartman the Plan has points of view on things such as Preservation of Town historical and scenic assets; Water Resource Management; the concentration of economic development in village centers; Land use and preservation; wetland management; coastal resource management; beach management and access; traffic management; the role of the National Seashore; affordable housing and affordability of life overall in Town.

At this point there is a draft document which is being vetted to gauge its receptivity. The group developing the LCP is hoping to reach out to a large part of the community to get consensus. TNRTA hopes to get a copy on the website or at least provide a link to the document.

- ❖ Those in attendance elected new board member Ronald Probststein, a long-term seasonal resident. In addition three Board members terms expired- Larry Pisapio, Wendy Levine and Larry Parcell. Wendy and Larry Parcell are leaving the Board after many years of valuable service. Their wisdom and energy will be missed. Their contributions and accomplishments were applauded by the group on hand. Larry Pisapio was approved for another term as Board member.
- ❖ Alan Frankel invited members to join the Board or serve TNRTA in some manner. The Board represents many backgrounds and talents and could benefit from new members with fresh perspectives.
- ❖ The members were informed of and urged to attend the coming TNRTA membership meeting with the Town Selectmen and Assistant Administrator, to be held on Wednesday 8/18 at 7PM.
- ❖ The business of the meeting was concluded and the meeting adjourned at Noon.