

Truro Non Resident Taxpayers' Association
Minutes of Ninth Annual Meeting
Truro Central School-Truro, MA
July 2, 2005

- ❖ Citing a quorum, President Alan Frankel opened the meeting; approved the 2004 Meeting Minutes; and introduced existing and 8 new board members to approximately 30 attendees.
- ❖ Treasurer, Regan McCarthy, summarized the financial statements of the organization and stated that the TNRTA has a current balance of \$65,391.54 of which a majority of the funds are for the legal defense fund (\$57,730). The TNRTA also contributed funds to local groups including the Central School class trip, Rescue Squad, and Friends of the Community Center for Council on Aging.
- ❖ President Frankel proceeded with the following announcements:

Email addresses are needed from all members to be able to receive important email alerts.

Flyers with information from the Friends of the Truro Library regarding the social event on July 13, 2005 are on the back table.

The Annual Meeting with the Truro Board of Selectmen is to be held on Tuesday, August 2, 2005. The meeting is an opportunity to interact with the Selectmen, to ask questions and raise questions.

- ❖ The President's Report then included the following:

The **current membership** is 446 households, which is approximately 27% to 30% of non-resident households. The membership number peaked at 550 households during the Stop & Shop issue. The association seems to be becoming a "crisis management" group.

The TNRTA is developing a **brochure** that summarizes the purpose of the organization to distribute to local businesses and realtors.

Mr. Frankel stated that it is his opinion that local businesses would not have been improved if Stop & Shop proceeded with development.

The **Local Comprehensive Plan** is being updated by the Town (has not been updated since 1994). The Plan is to recognize Truro's rural and scenic nature and focus development in The Town's Centers rather than along Route 6.

The **Community Center** is back to the drawing board. The \$860,000 override requested during the Spring Town Meeting was not passed. The TNRTA took no position on the Community Center when the first plan was introduced, but did support the original Council on Aging plan (which had been fully funded). The TNRTA is now able to speak out at Town Meeting and did voice an objection to the override alternative and asked the Town to re-evaluate the plan. The Board of Selectmen asked to have a representative on the Advisory Committee for the Community Center.

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The Town has a comprehensive **water plan** to provide for the increases water needs and to mitigate shortfall issues. There is a current need for an additional 850,000-gallon capacity. The town is exploring two well locations in North Truro and an additional site off of Higgins Hollow.

A major issue, which may be looming on the horizon, is the possibility of a **Tax on Rental Income** that is to be paid by homeowners who rent homes and is initially to apply only to seasonal residents (not full-time residents). Proposed rate would be 9-1/2% (State portion + 5% and Town portion + 4-1/2%). TNRTA objects to this tax based that the tax is only on a segment of the population and should be unconstitutional. Many problems are involved on the implementation of this bill including the need for the Board of Health to inspect the property prior to being approved for rental. The TNRTA suggests that Massachusetts's residents may want to contact their local legislatures and voice their opinion regarding this potential legislation.

- ❖ Mr. Frankel then opened the floor to a question and answer period.

- ❖ The business of the meeting was concluded and the meeting adjourned at Noon.