

Ad Hoc Town Seal Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 8th, 2025
5:00 pm
Remote Meeting via Zoom (recorded)

Present: Holly Gardner, *Chair*
Peter Cook, *Vice-Chair*
Chris Nagle, *Clerk*
Sue Lichtenstein, *Member*
Isadora Medley, *Member*
Apryl Shenk, *Alternate Member*

Called to order at: 5:04 pm

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Cook moved to approve the minutes from 03/27/25, Ms. Lichtenstein seconded. All in favor, Minutes approved.

Public Comment

None

New Business

Work Plan

Ms. Medley moved to adopt the Work Plan reviewed on 03/27/25. Mr. Cook seconded. All in favor, the Work Plan was adopted.

Funding

Ms. Gardner announced that the Town Administration has placed on the upcoming Town Warrant a \$10,000 funding request for redesign of the Town Seal—for voter approval.

Stakeholder input

Committee discussed possible ways to gather community input. Committee members made suggestions for stakeholders from whom to gather input. Ms. Lichtenstein suggested 3 categories: Truro residents, Town employees, Civic and cultural assets. Other subcategories were suggested and recorded by Ms. Gardner and will be discussed at the next meeting so the Committee can create a communication action plan.

Designers and Artists

Committee members brought names of possible designers, artists, and firms to consider for design work. Ms. Gardner recorded the names to be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

Themes

Committee members reviewed the first draft of Truro's "Characteristics, Themes, and Ideas...", a document intended to categorize and organize the components of Truro most associated with the spirit of the town.

The following additions and revisions were proposed:

Ms. Medley suggested being thoughtful with the wording of the "Rural Character" category, opting for the concept of "conservation" or "protected" land versus an emphasis on low density housing or undeveloped land.

Ms. Medley suggested Pamet River, Bay/Ocean, tides, wildlife to the Natural Beauty category

Ms. Lichtenstein mentioned the Wampanoags, which were already included. It was suggested we frame them as "First inhabitants."

Ms. Medley and Ms. Gardner discussed that many cultural groups have settled here including Portuguese and Jamaicans, resulting in broad cultural diversity.

Ms. Gardner mentioned adding architecture within the Artistic Heritage, in particular the range from early colonial to important examples of mid-century modern.

Ms. Medley mentioned Truro's narrow land mass – 2 miles across – and the contrast between the Bay and Ocean sides, people living their lives between, sunrise and sunset, and based on the direction of the wind.

Thoreau's Cape Cod walk and the Outmost House were mentioned.

Ms. Medley mentioned animals: turkeys, coyotes, birds, oysters, puma, the school's mascot.

Mr. Nagle addressed difficulty in using dates as reference points, although Town seals do tend to include year of incorporation.

Next Steps

Members will bring suggestions for how to communicate with the various stakeholder groups.

Ms. Medley suggested we set up a timeline/schedule for input given the seasonal nature of our community so we can maximize opportunities to reach the most people.

Members will make contact with the artists/designers they suggested to gauge their interest in the project and gather information on skills and portfolio, perhaps bring a particular image that is representative of their skills, but not specific to this project.

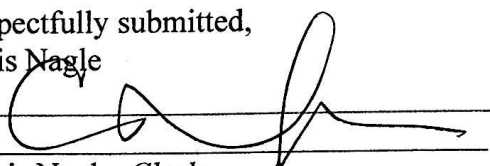
Include on next agenda the possibility of Ms. Medley sharing recording responsibilities with Mr. Nagle. This will need a vote.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and voted on. Meeting was adjourned at 5:47pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Nagle



Chris Nagle, Clerk