

# CAPE COD AND THE ISLANDS SELECTMEN AND COUNCILORS ASSOCIATION

REPRESENTING 106 ELECTED OFFICIALS AND 22 MUNICIPALITIES

Meeting Minutes, December 14, 2018  
Dan'l Webster Inn, Sandwich MA

President Paul Hebert called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM and asked for the roll call.

*Roll Call.* Barnstable, Bourne, Chatham, Dennis, Falmouth, Harwich, Mashpee, Orleans, Sandwich, Truro

With 10 Towns represented Clerk Ed McManus declared a quorum was present.

*Treasurer's Report.* Don Picard presented the finance report showing a balance of \$6981.88 after revenues and expenses. Motion to approve was made by Alan McClennen and was passed unanimously.

*Minutes.* Minutes were presented by the Clerk . A motion to approve was made by Andrew Gotlieb. Motion passed.

*Massachusetts Municipal Association Report.* John Robertson of MMA reminded the body that the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual MMA Meeting will be held in Boston January 18 and 19, 2019 at the Hynes Convention Center and Sheraton Boston. For more information see <https://www.mma.org/mma-annual-meeting-and-trade-show/>

The CCSCA will hold it's January meeting at this conference on Friday January 18 at 5:30 PM in the Gardner room on the 3rd floor of the Boston Sheraton.

Several items within the Legislature during the informal sessions, the Legislature will only be able to act on measures that have unanimous support of the members.

H. 4841, an Act regulating and insuring short-term rentals. Awaiting final consensus and signature by the Governor.

MMA is urging the Legislature to enact the Housing Choices bill now instead of starting all over in the 2019-2020. The Housing Choice bill would make it easier for communities to enact local zoning changes to encourage housing development. The bill would change the vote for many housing-related zoning updates and special permits to a simple majority from the current two-thirds supermajority. This would preserve decision-making authority for town meetings and city and town councils and make it easier to respond to community-based housing needs in a way that is appropriate for the city or town.

For additional information see <https://www.mma.org/advocacy/legislature-can-act-now-to-pass-housing-bill-that-protects-local-decision-making/>

The governor is scheduled to file his fiscal 2020 budget recommendation by Jan. 23, 2019.

State budget officials have heard cautious tax collection forecasts from economists and other fiscal experts concerned about the impact of a slowing economy on state revenues. Department of Revenue department revenue forecast for fiscal 2020 assumes slowing economic growth that is expected to reduce growth in some areas of the personal income tax.

For additional information see: <https://www.mma.org/state-budget-officials-hear-cautious-revenue-forecasts-for-fy20/>

On Nov. 13, the MMA Board of Directors approved a slate of 21 local government bills recommended by the MMA's five policy committees to be filed for the 2019-20 legislative session that starts in January.

Highlights include:

- The MMA bill would allow cities and towns to adopt a sales tax of up to 2 percent on the retail sale of alcoholic beverages, including sales in bars, restaurants, package stores.
- The MMA bill would allow cities and towns to adopt a local-option tax on sales of gasoline and diesel fuel of up to 5 cents per gallon
- The MMA bill would increase the local-option sales tax on meals from 0.75 percent to 1.5 percent.

For additional information, see: <https://www.mma.org/mma-board-oks-2019-20-legislative-package/>

John also mentioned that the MMA is looking for members of the Cape Cod membership to get involved within one of the MMA's five policy committees: Energy and the Environment, Fiscal Affairs, Personnel and Labor Relations, Public Works, Transportation and Public Utilities.

For more information, see: <https://www.mma.org/advocacy/policy-committees-of-the-mma/mma-policy-committee-application-form/>

*Main Discussion.*

Presentation by Jamie Binienda, from the Commonwealth's Department of the State Treasurer, ABCC on the Other Addiction, Alcohol on Cape Cod.

Jaime was instrumental in establishing the Cape Cod Alcohol Coalition (CCAC), bringing together approximately 15 members, including police, parents, public health specialists, package store and bar owners. The members aim to research, recommend and promote best practices that will decrease harmful drinking.

Statistics were presented throughout the presentation:

- Alcohol-related deaths accounted for 71 percent of substance use fatalities on Cape Cod in a single year, according to a 2015 study by Barnstable County Human Services.
- Eight percent of the Cape's population or about 17,000-18,000 people are addicted to alcohol.
- 40 percent of kids who begin drinking at age 15-16 will become alcoholics.

- Within Massachusetts, the counties average 17% of the residents as estimated to be classified as heavy drinkers. In Barnstable County it is 21%.
- There are 167 Package/Liquor stores on Cape Cod
- An informal review of 5 package stores found that 450,000 Nips were sold in the last 12 months at these 5 stores.

The Coalition is requesting that all Cape and Islands municipalities enact the following recommendations in their respective towns:

1. Require all servers, bartenders, clerks and security staff complete an alcohol server/ training program, aka TIPS.
2. Each municipality host an Annual License Seminar with all alcohol license holders in their town attend to review laws and regulations pertaining to alcoholic beverages.
3. Off-premise alcohol licensees will be required to hand posters in their establishments, in front of or next to the cash register, pertaining to the social host law. On-premise alcohol licensees will utilize drink coasters created by the CCAC to inform individuals of alcohol related facts in the form of trivia. Materials will be supplied at no cost by the CCAC.

Several towns are already undertaking some or all the above including Barnstable, Yarmouth, Harwich, Dennis and Sandwich. CCSCA Members could look at Yarmouth and Barnstable for some very well-done implementations, including municipal ordinances.

Additional information from the presentation including handouts at the December 14, 2018 meeting will be posted on the CCSCA website under Minutes and Documents.

Meeting adjourned 9:30.

Minutes approved as submitted March 8, 2019, unanimous vote.

Submitted by Stephen Mealy for Ed McManus, Clerk