

*COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS*

Barnstable, ss.

At the regular meeting of the County Commissioners held in the Superior Courthouse in Barnstable, on the first day of November, A.D. 2017.

**Board of the Barnstable County Commissioners:**

Ronald R. Beaty                      Present

Leo G. Cakounes                      Present

Mary Pat Flynn                      Present

**Staff Present:**

Jack Yunits                      County Administrator

Steve Tebo                      Interim Assistant County Administrator

Owen Fletcher                      Executive Assistant, Administration

Beth Albert                      Director, Department of Human Services

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Cakounes called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

**3. Moment of Silence**

**4. Public Comment**

Commissioner Cakounes detailed the procedures and policies of public comment.

Ms. Meaghan Mort of Marstons Mills spoke regarding her experiences with sexual assault and expressed her extreme objections to a tweet by Commissioner Beaty regarding sexual harassment and the “MeToo” hashtag on Twitter. She also asked about County sexual harassment policies for County employees.

Ms. Paige Riley of Brewster spoke regarding Commissioner Beaty’s tweet regarding the “MeToo” hashtag. She stated that she is a survivor of sexual assault and harassment. Commissioner Cakounes stated that the Board had no control over a public official’s private statements on the internet. He explained that the County has a Human Resource Officer and Policies governing such behavior, but they do not apply to elected officials. He promised that if anyone sent something in writing, he would include that in the minutes and answer any written question.

Mr. Thomas Ryan of Cape Cod Council of Churches, spoke regarding its refugee and immigrant committee. He asked questions regarding Barnstable Sherriff’s Office policies, and informed the Board regarding an upcoming Sherriff’s Office application regarding immigration.

Ms. Sheila Mulcahy, of Barnstable spoke regarding Commissioner Beaty’s tweet. She explained her displeasure with public officials identifying themselves as such while expressing private opinions.

Commissioner Cakounes spoke regarding the issue. He stated that he had created a draft of a pledge on professional conduct for elected and appointed County officials independent of this meeting’s public comment. He stated that his intention is to put it on the next agenda.

## **5. Approval of Minutes**

### **a. Regular Meeting of October 25, 2017**

*Motion by Commissioner Beaty to approve the Regular Session Meeting minutes of October 25, 2017 as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Flynn, approved 3-0-0.*

## **6. General Business**

### **a. Discussion on establishing the Mercy Otis Warren Cape Cod Freedom of Expression Award**

*Motion by Commissioner Beaty to establish the Barnstable County’s Mercy Otis Warren Cape Cod Freedom of Expression Award”  
The Barnstable County Mercy Otis Warren Cape Cod Freedom of Expression award*

*“Without education, expression is meaningless. Without expression, education is wasted.”*

*The story of Barnstable County’s own Mercy Otis Warren- poet, playwright, polemicist, and historian - serves as illustration. Born in 1727 in pre-Revolutionary West Barnstable, she enjoyed the same opportunities to learn as her brother, a gift denied to many girls of that era. As an adult, she spoke out for freedom when such assertiveness was unexpected and somewhat shocking for a woman.*

*Every year the Barnstable County Mercy Otis Warren Cape Cod Woman of the Year award is bestowed on someone who exemplifies the traits of leadership in the community and has made significant contributions in the arts, education, business, community involvement and/or volunteerism. In the spirit of its namesake, the award also recognizes patriotism.*

*Beginning in the 2017-18 school year, and each consecutive year to follow, the County will honor a young person who best uses the themes of Mercy Otis Warren's life - education, community leadership, and artistic expression - in an essay of 150 words.*

*Girls and boys in fifth grades across the Cape are eligible for the Barnstable County Mercy Otis Warren Cape Cod Freedom of Expression award, which includes an invitation to read the essay at the annual Barnstable County Mercy Otis Warren Cape Cod Woman of the Year ceremony in June.*

*Entries, which must be titled and typed, can be submitted to the committee's website at Barnstable County ([barnstablecounty.org](http://barnstablecounty.org)) and/or mailed to Barnstable County Mercy Otis Warren Cape Cod Freedom of Expression Award, c/o John Yunits, County Administrator, Barnstable County, PO Box 427, Barnstable MA 02630) through March 1, 2018.*

*Submissions should include the date, student’s name, teacher’s name, and the name and address of the school. Please include an e-mail address or a phone number. Entries will not be returned.*

*The County Administrator shall serve as the selection and review committee for the purpose of bringing a nominee forward for the Commissioners to approve. The Charge to the County Administrator shall coincide with the duties defined in the original motion establishing the Barnstable County Mercy Otis Warren Cape Cod Woman of the Year Award, voted March 8, 2017 by the County Commissioners.*

*No additional County Funds shall be allocated for this Award.*

*2nd by Commissioner Flynn, approved 3-0-0.*

Commissioner Cakounes spoke regarding the establishment of the Mercy Otis Warren Woman of the Year Award as a Barnstable County award with the support of the Commissioners. He explained that members of that Committee requested the creation of an award for children. He outlined the proposed procedure for such an award. He stated that it is a great idea but needed to be done properly. Mr. Yunits spoke regarding the benefits of the award and detailed the outreach required. He assured the Board that the Committee would work on this outreach and fundraise for necessary expenses. There would be no additional funds, nor work on the award by County employees outside of the Office of the County Administrator.

Mr. Cakounes read his motion into the record. He also answered questions from Commissioner Beaty and expressed his support with some reservation.

**b. Proposed Ordinance 17-\_\_ Establishing the Barnstable County Economic Development Council (BCEDC)**

*Motion by Commissioner Beaty to approve Draft Ordinance 17- Draft #1 which abolishes the current EDC and replaces it with Barnstable County Economic Development Counsel and release to public for input. Amendments shall be reviewed and voted to be incorporated in the Final Ordinance at a future Commissioners meeting, then forwarded to the Assembly for official action. Furthermore; begin the process on developing a new Policy and Procedure handbook for the new BCEDC and requiring of nominations for members from the designated associations defined within the Draft, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Flynn, approved 3-0-0.*

Commissioner Cakounes detailed the history of the creation of the proposed ordinance. He spoke regarding the three previous Working Group Meetings, which the Board participated in. He discussed how he canceled a proposed fourth meeting because no one had any major changes to make to the draft or had requested the meeting. He also spoke regarding changes he incorporated from Assembly Delegate Sue Moran. Commissioner Cakounes asked to approve the proposed as a draft, and place it on a Board Agenda in two weeks with input by the Assembly of Delegates.

**7. New Business – Other business not reasonably anticipated by the Chair**

## 8. Commissioners' Actions

- a. **Authorizing the Creation of a New Fund for a Memorandum of Agreement, by and through the Cape Cod Commission, with the Town of Eastham, for Cape Cod Commission staff to provide technical assistance to develop a Complete Streets Prioritization Plan, for an amount of \$25,027.70, for a period through June 30, 2018**

*Motion by Commissioner Beaty to authorize the creation of a New Fund for a Memorandum of Agreement by and through the Cape Cod Commission with the Town of Eastham for the Cape Cod Commission staff to provide Technical Assistance to develop a Complete Streets Prioritization Plan, in the amount of \$25,027.00 and for a period through June 30, 2018, as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Flynn, approved 3-0-0.*

- b. **Authorizing the execution of an agreement with the Department of Housing and Urban Development for HOME Investment Partnership funding in the amount of \$379,833.00, for the County's Fiscal Year 2017 Consolidated Action Plan**

*Motion by Commissioner Beaty to authorize the execution of an agreement with the Department of Housing and Urban Development for HOME Investment Partnership funding in the amount of \$379,833.00 for the County's Fiscal Year 2017 Consolidated Action Plan, as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Flynn, approved 3-0-0.*

Ms. Albert answered questions from the Board regarding the plan. The funds are to be used by the HOME program for down payment and mortgage loan assistance as part of a five-year plan. Commissioner Cakounes asked that an item regarding the program be placed on an upcoming Board agenda.

- c. **Authorizing the Execution of Certificates for Dissolving Septic Betterments**

*Motion by Commissioner Beaty to authorize the Chair to execute Certificates for Dissolving Septic Betterments as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Flynn, approved 3-0-0.*

## 9. Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Cakounes spoke regarding his intention to place on the Board agenda for next week's meeting a Cape Cod Fisherman's Alliance request to support limiting offshore fishing. He also spoke regarding his work on a draft of a professional pledge of ethics, to be placed on a Board agenda in future. He further spoke regarding a Barnstable Village Association event that he attended and a very successful Halloween Event at the County

Complex over the weekend. Finally, he spoke regarding a presentation given by Silent Spring he attended, and a meeting with State Senator Julian Cyr, as well as State Representatives Tim Whelan and William Crocker.

#### **10. County Administrator's Report**

Mr. Yunits spoke regarding the critical nature of the County's Early Retirement Incentive Program. He expressed that without a successful program, County employee reductions may be necessary. Commissioner Flynn asked if we are still a member of the municipal health insurance group. Commissioner Beaty asked questions regarding the possibility of the County insuring itself, as some other governmental entities do.

#### **11. Adjournment**

*Barnstable, ss. at 12:25 p.m. on this first day of November, A.D. 2017, Commissioner Beaty made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Commissioner Flynn, approved 3-0-0*

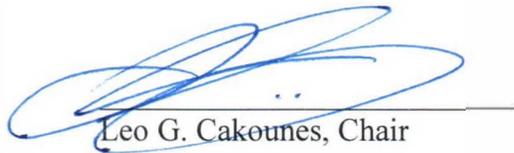
Attest:



Janice O'Connell, County Clerk

11/01/17  
Date

The foregoing records have been read and approved.



Leo G. Cakounes, Chair



Mary Pat Flynn, Vice-Chair



Ronald R. Beaty, Commissioner

11/08/17  
Date