Call to Order
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Good afternoon. This is the Cape Cod Regional Government, Assembly of Delegates. It’s Wednesday, November 7th, 2018 at 4 p.m. We’re in the Harborview Conference Center at the County Complex.

I’d like to start with a moment of silence to honor our troops who died in service to our country and all those serving our country in the Armed Forces.
(Moment of silence.)
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Thank you. Please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.
(Pledge of Allegiance.)

Roll Call Attendance
Present (63.60%): Ronald Bergstrom (2.84% - Chatham), Mary Chaffee (4.55% - Brewster), Lilli-Ann Green - (1.27% - Wellfleet), Christopher Kanaga (2.73% - Orleans), James Killion (9.58% - Sandwich), E. Suzanne McAuliffe (11.02% - Yarmouth), Susan Moran (14.61% - Falmouth), Thomas O’Hara (6.49% - Mashpee), Brian O’Malley (1.36% - Provincetown), Linda Zuern (9.15% - Bourne).
Arriving Late (20.92%): Patrick Princi (20.92% - Barnstable – arrived @ 4:30 p.m.).
Absent (15.48%): Peter Hughes (5.67% - Harwich), Deborah McCutcheon (0.93% Truro), John Ohman (6.58% - Dennis), VACANT (2.30 – Eastham).

Clerk O’CONNELL: Madam Speaker, you have a quorum with 63.60 percent of the Delegates present; 36.40 percent are absent.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Okay. Great. Thank you.

Approval of the Calendar of Business
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Is there a motion to approve the calendar of business?
Delegate BERGSTROM: So moved.
Delegate O’HARA: Second.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Any discussion? All those in favor? Aye.
Any opposed? It passes unanimously.

Approval of the Journal of Proceedings of 10/17/18
Speaker MCAULIFFE: An approval of the Journal of October 17th, 2018?
Yes, Delegate O’Malley.
Delegate O’MALLEY: Madam Speaker, I had constituent hour this morning and no one, absolutely no one, showed up, so I had a good chance to review the Journal, and I would move its acceptance.
Delegate MORAN: Second.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Before we get into communications and report on County issues, I just wanted to take a 30-second congratulations to Delegates who have won reelection. There was one who was unsuccessful in terms of winning election, but it’s essentially going to be a very similar delegation with the exception of also some -- two new faces or three new faces hopefully with Eastham. So congratulations to everyone. I know campaigns are hard.

And a special congratulations to our own Assembly member Ron Bergstrom who will be the new County Commission as of early January.
Delegate BERGSTROM: Thank you.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Hard-fought battles.

Summary of Communications from County Administrator Jack Yunits
- Administrator Yunits explained there is interest from the Clean Energy Corporation in expanding and renovating the Innovative Technology Center
- County received a $300,000 Seaport Grant for the placement of a maritime simulator at the Fire Training Academy
- County received a $57,000 grant for Buy Fresh Buy Local and represents a significant increase over previous years
- A $530,000 contract for dredging signed with the Town of Barnstable
- Proposed Ordinance 18-11 ($552,538) submitted for transfer of funds for Fire Training Academy Clean-Up, and minor transfers for Children’s Cove and the Health & Environment Department
- Proposed Ordinance 18-12 ($371,942.23) submitted for bond premium proceeds to be used for specific purposes such as IT Department Equipment, Building Renovations, Computer Software and Hardware and the Dredge
- Approved an RFP for the purchase of shellfish throughout the Cape

Speaker MCAULIFFE: So we don’t have any Commissioners here, that being said because, well, I think a pretty lengthy election season, but we do have County Administrator Jack Yunits. Are you prepared to give us a brief update on the Commissioners?

ADMINISTRATOR YUNITS: Sure and I’ll keep it very brief. This will not be the chairman’s report.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: This will not be a Leo brief?
ADMINISTRATOR YUNITS: I’ll go back two weeks but very briefly.

Last week, George Heufelder and Brian Baumgaertel came before us to talk about the Innovative Technology Center that they operate over at the Base in Bourne and Falmouth, and the fact that the Clean Energy Corporation of Massachusetts wants to grant them a significant amount of money to expand and improve the site, and they see it as a potential revenue generator for the Commonwealth and the County. It was a great report.

They also talked to us about a new grant they just received from the governor to do phosphorus on-site investigations throughout some of the towns,
particularly in Brewster where they’ve already had a partnership developed.

So it was a great report and probably something that you all pay very close attention to if they were to come before you, and George would be happy to do that, obviously.

We also received a $300,000 Seaport Grant to put a maritime simulator up at the Fire Training Academy. I should tell you that there’s a lot going on at the Fire Training Academy, and I’ll address that in just a minute.

And also a $57,000 grant from the Department of Agriculture for the Buy Fresh Buy Local program. That’s a significant increase. Historically, we have received 10 to 15,000 a year, so this is a big increase.

And, finally, we signed a contract and approved a contract with the Town of Barnstable out at Sampsons Island for dredging in the amount of $530,000. The dredge is actually leaving Chatham, hopefully, today to head to Barnstable. If not today, certainly tomorrow, and that work will be ongoing for about two months. It’s a significant -- biggest contract, I think, the dredge has ever had.

Today, we approved two ordinances. The first ordinance has to deal with the Fire Training Academy, and it’s requesting a transfer of a half-a-million dollars. There is a significant amount of ongoing work there including the descaling and flushing of all those old lines that Tom Cambareri put in over the years. They’re just not producing the way we want them to produce, so we’re going to improve that system dramatically. Desmond Drilling is actually out there as we speak with the LSP.

In addition to that, we received an order of conditions from the town of Barnstable to start the work to berm the site to better control the flow of water away from the pond and away from the hot spots and to cap the hotspots. So that significant amount of work will be ongoing over the course of the next year and that’s the request for the transfer.

In addition to that, there were some minor transfers requested on this particular ordinance, which I’ll give to Janice, my new roommate, by the way. I’m pleased to announce that Janice is now adjacent to me in the Commissioners’ office on a temporary basis until we solve her long-term solutions.

The other ordinance that we ask to pass today has to deal with the various towns take a significant amount of on the net premium from the bond sale where we had -- it wasn’t really a bonus payment, but it’s built into the cost of the bond and we didn’t have to use it. So we do have to use it to help defer some of the costs that have been approved under the IRS codes for bonding, anything to do with the facility here or the dredge primarily.

So that would include the purchase of the A/V equipment for the new room, the East wing which, hopefully, we’ll have your first meeting in January there. As you can see, they’re doing the roof now and the HVAC system’s just about in. So the A/V equipment and other work that might be necessary to complete that project and work that needs to be done with the dredge and the hooks that we’ll be purchasing. So those two ordinances will come before you today.

And, finally, we approved a grant -- not a grant but an RFP for the purchase of shellfish throughout the Cape in the various towns. And a lot of the towns take advantage of that bit and do significant purchases for shellfish seeds for the course of the year. And that’s your summary of the last two weeks.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Excellent. Thank you.
Delegate MORAN: Perfect timing.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: I just wanted to make a comment, too, about the renovations in the new room kind of were at the mercy of some permitting so that they took a little bit longer but, hopefully, you know, it will be done in January.
And we can have a discussion under “Old Business,” but not now, but I want to just say briefly that when they were ready to move the Clerk into the downstairs basement office, while the office, itself, has been very nicely done and is in decent shape, the basement is empty, and it was very, you know, kind of dirty and smelly.
And when I talked to Jack about it, he hadn’t even really seen it at that point. And I just thought that it was not only an appropriate face for the Assembly or a place for the Clerk to meet with the public, so we scrambled and looked around.
So, temporarily, they were able to put the Clerk in the conference room and made it into an office, which is right next to Jack’s office.
So they said a month; I think it’s probably realistically going to be two. But we are going to be working together to find appropriate space. You know for 30 years, the Clerk has been down in a decent office space, and I think we need -- the Assembly needs to maintain, you know, it’s a separate branch of government; it needs to maintain its face. So we’ll be working with the County on that one.
Janice said for the first time in eight years she has warm feet, so that’s been an upgrade from the other space. But I wanted to thank you for scrambling and, you know -- because, literally, I went over the day before the move was supposed to happen, and then I went over and spoke to Jack and I said, “This can’t be. It’s not a suitable place,” and he was able to coif the works and to accommodate things, so it worked out. It worked out temporarily as a good thing.
Did anybody have any questions on any administrative stuff? And do you know when the Farm Lease is going to come, the County Farm Lease is going to come before us?
ADMINISTRATOR YUNITS: It has to come next month.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Next month.
ADMINISTRATOR YUNITS: Or at the end of this month. Actually --
Speaker MCAULIFFE: No, we’re not meeting.
ADMINISTRATOR YUNITS: That’s right. So it will have to come next month.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Right.
ADMINISTRATOR YUNITS: We haven’t sat with Tim or the successor - - Tim Friary yet, but we have pretty much finished the lease, and it’s almost identical to the original lease that Tim had with us with some slight modifications because we’ve rearranged some of the parcels but that’s it.
So we’ll have that to you -- I’ll get it to the Clerk as soon as we meet with Tim and she can pass it on to you guys, so you’ll have it way in advance of the meeting, so you’ll have a chance to look at it.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Great. Thank you.
ADMINISTRATOR YUNITS: And the East wing, I suggested the goal is to have it done as close to Christmas as we can. You won’t have to fight over microphones anymore.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: And obstructed view and people fighting over
which seats they want.

ADMINISTRATOR YUNITS: I think you’ll be quite pleasantly impressed.

Speaker MCAULiffe: No, it’s a good space. It’s a big space. It’s a nicer space, and we’ll be sharing it with the Cape Cod Commission as well. So there’s been some thought that’s been put into it so.

ADMINISTRATOR YUNITS: Right.
Speaker MCAULiffe: Thank you.
ADMINISTRATOR YUNITS: Thank you.
Speaker MCAULiffe: All right. We have a number of presentations, and I’m not anticipating this is going to be a really long meeting. It might go a little longer than usual depending on the interest back-and-forth. But we’re not meeting again in November, so things got a little doubled-up today, but I really want to hear from these groups, and I don’t want to leave it to see what happens in December.

Summary Communications and Report on Children’s Cove

- Conducted the 17th year of Champions for Children Conference with over 300 attendees where a new awareness program was launched
- Program handouts provided to Delegates
- Working on a five-year accreditation from the National Children’s Alliance due in January
- Working on a Commercial Sexual Exploitation Initiative
- Working with a VISTA volunteer
- Working on a Teen Task Force
- Working on mental health capacity building

Speaker MCAULiffe: So, the first group on our agenda is the Children’s Cove and the Executive Director Stacy Gallagher is here, and she’s going to give us a brief overview and then updates on current issues. And this is particularly helpful to us, Stacy, going into budget season.

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: Yes.
Speaker MCAULiffe: So that we’re not just scrambling after the budget’s done.

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: Great.
Speaker MCAULiffe: So that this way at least we have an understanding while they’re working on the budget.

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: Okay. Good afternoon, everyone. Congratulations to everyone in election season. So, Janice had asked me to speak for a brief time about Children’s Cove. So I think for the most part I don’t want to go into a Children’s Cove 101 because I think people know who we are and what we do. So I figured I’d give you an update on what we’re currently working in the last year and where we’re at right now.

We had just finalized our 17th year of our Champions for Children Conference. We had about 300 attendees from the field. We had sold out pretty fast within the first month. It was a great event. You know, it’s one of the best conferences in our field honestly for people that have really restricted budgets in training to get the latest
and current best practices in our field. So it was a great event. We just wrapped that up.

We’re also frantically working on our accreditation, so we have our five-year annual -- a five-year accreditation from the National Children’s Alliance that’s due in January. I’ve been through two of those with our organization. We do pretty well in the end but its due in January and we have our site review in July. So our entire staff are working on that as well.

So some of the initiatives from this past year that we’ve been working on, and I had touched on some of it when I had spoken to you last, I think during budget season, are our CSEC initiative.

So we have our Commercial Sexual Exploitation Initiative that was initiated three years ago through a Mass. Children’s Child Welfare Grant through the state. The initiative really was to bring in best practices and protocols around child exploitation, and that was a three-year program to bring those protocols into every Child Advocacy Center, us being the only one for the Cape and Islands. We were third in line, so we currently are in our third year.

We have protocols around responding to these cases that we are seeing. I know I’ve discussed child trafficking with you all and exploitation, and as much as people don’t think that’s happening here, it is. Just to give you an example of increased cases and the training that we’re doing around that, Plymouth County alone cases have increased by a hundred cases just in child exploitation. And what I’d like to say is we all know that that doesn’t stop at the bridge. So that’s right in Plymouth County. We know that it’s happening here. It’s just a result here of, you know, responding and recognizing those cases.

So we’re doing a lot around training professionals in the field. Right now, we’re actively training patrol in the area around recognizing and responding to these cases because they look very different than our child sexual abuse cases, and we’ve trained about 700 professionals in the last couple of years around CSEC alone.

I have additional information with me if people are more interested in seeing what that’s about, but that’s our CSEC initiative.

We also have our AmeriCorps program. We’ve been fortunate to receive an AmeriCorps, so specifically our AmeriCorps is the VISTA program; it’s not the AmeriCorps County. We have one.

So she currently started in August, so she goes from August to August for the year, and it’s for our volunteer program. So when we say, “volunteer program,” those are she’s recruiting volunteers for community awareness and education. So any events in the community that you have in your towns that’s what she’s working on through the AmeriCorps. We hope to continue that program. It’s a free service for us, so we’re in our second year of our AmeriCorps as well, and we hope to continue that.

One of the biggest things that we’re working on right now which has been a great response in the last couple of years is our Teen Task Force. I don’t know if I’ve spoken to all of you about this, but we’re in our third year. We’ve gotten a bunch of press on it so the result -- our Teen Task Force came out of the fact that we, as an Advisory Board, had been recognizing that teens weren’t necessarily -- there was a gap there in reporting. So we looked at teens and said as older people, we can’t keep up with social media, and how are we supposed to get to these kids and have them report because the statistics show that we know they’re reporting to each other but they’re not telling an adult
and it’s not getting reported the way that it has to get reported.

So we started the Teen Task Force two years ago with the notion that we were going to have a program within the school and create ambassadors within those schools who are sophomores who can then continue that messaging and be a support within that school because the old days of educational assemblies in schools don’t really happen anymore. It’s really difficult to get to the kids, and we noticed that gap in teenagers. So we started with sophomores with the notion that we would sustain that program.

We were successful with our first year at D-Y, our second year at Monomoy, and we’re currently working with Mashpee. There’s a huge interest in this program and we hope with continued funding, grant funding that we can make it, so every school has this program and that it’s sustained for a long time because it has been effective; we’ve seen results. We’ve had kids call us. We’ve had kids say, “I know you’re within our school. We have 10 or 15 ambassadors within our school. We know that we can go to them and talk about this.” So we see that as being really effective and that’s what we’re working on right now. Our hope is to potentially use our AmeriCorps to help supplement our training and outreach program, which is one person to do all the education and awareness on the Cape.

So we were fortunate to have Mashpee get involved but they’re very involved, the administration’s very involved, and we’ve noticed that the schools really want this program and want to continue that program in the school. So we’re happy that we were able to get in that way into the schools.

We just launched a new awareness campaign. Some of you may have seen it. We launched it at our 17th Annual Conference, and I have examples of the letter as well. So, this was really based on the notion that -- we needed to know that our audience really for our awareness campaign have been kids, I mean, adults. So it really has been directed to how do you talk about body safety; how do you get to talk to your kids about that, and it really hasn’t been focused on kids.

So we had a girl approach us that had come through Children’s Cove and she wanted to give back. So she actually wrote us a letter, and I can show you the letter. It was meticulously done and colored and it was powerful, and she had talked about her experience coming through Children’s Cove, and she came to us and wanted to give back and prevent this from happening to other children.

We then, with her permission and her family’s permission, obviously kept it confidential, and then created our letter campaign. So our letter campaign addresses families and caregivers, so how do we -- we’re talking about body safety, but we actually have the letter in the poster. We also have a radio ad that she does herself talking about how she was abused, and I believe there was something in the Cape Cod Times as well that shows the letter as well.

We’ve already had results from that stating kids have heard that radio ad and it has empowered them to come forward and report. So this little girl’s amazing that she wanted to do this, that she wanted to give back, and it’s already coming forward with all of that so.

We’re also looking at in the last two years addressing sort of what we call our underserved population. And when we say that, it really, for us, is the Outer Cape because of the lack of resources from our professional perspective and then the islands as
well. We’ve been doing a ton of outreach through grants to Martha’s Vineyard and Nantucket creating resources out there as well as trainings and education and the Outer Cape as well. We have volunteers there that are helping us get the awareness out in the Outer Cape and Islands.

And one of the things that we’ve been doing for the last few years is our mental health capacity building. So for people that know the programs that we have, we don’t have mental health on site. We refer out for mental health services, but we also build that capacity through Children’s Cove. So when our kids come through, they need to see someone who has specialized trauma-informed training. So our TIPNET Program, our Trauma-Informed Provider Network, we’ve been building capacity with that, and we’ve trained 60 to 70 clinicians regionally because it’s an access issue as well. So we don’t want, necessarily, someone coming from P-Town to go to Barnstable to get mental health services. So we’re really building our capacity on both the mainland and the islands and we’re providing that training to these clinicians so then we can refer those same kids out into the community for resources.

If we look at gaps in services, it’s certainly mental health. I think certainly is one of the gaps in a lot of people’s services. We could always use more people in the community that we can train.

So looking forward, we hope to provide those mental health modalities to these clinicians. So because there’s wait-lists everywhere for these kids and we know that if we get them into care pretty quickly there’s, you know, good results moving forward for them.

So that’s a quick overview of what we’re working on right now. Like I said, we’re inundated with our accreditation right now, you know, so with our small staff of seven people, we’re doing a lot. We’re busy. Our numbers are pretty much the same.

And I think with more education in the community, we’re seeing more reporting, and I think with the exploitation and trafficking, you’re going to be seeing more of that as well that’s being reported in the community. So I think, you know, our numbers will only increase. So we know that it’s not stopping; I think it’s just getting the training out there to people that with education that, you know, there’s places that they can report and go to.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Excellent. Thank you. Is your funding, any of your grant funding tied to accreditation in any way?

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: No.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: I know some groups, you know, have to have a certain certification to qualify for funding.

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: Yes, so there are --

Speaker MCAULIFFE: So this is just something --

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: -- because we’re accredited, we have our -- for people that have approved my budget, there’s the National Children’s Alliance funding that we get, which is typically $7,000 from them.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes.

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: But in paying dues, they’re paying for accreditation, and we kind of breakeven on that. So that’s where we’re at.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Right. So it isn’t -- it’s just for your own accreditation.
Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: So, you know, the 800 child advocacy centers that are in the country are accredited through the National Children’s Alliance in Washington, DC, and we have certain standards that we have to meet.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: That’s very helpful.

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: It’s not tied to a lot of funding at all.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: One other, I think it’s wonderful that you are reaching out to first responders, whether it’s police or EMTs or whatever, because I know in the Town of Yarmouth we don’t have a Human Services department.

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: Yes.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Our police and our EMTs are our first responders to domestic situations or to whatever the situation is. So I think it’s great that you’re giving the smaller towns that we don’t have necessarily the skills or the people to help them with training and so that they can actually do their job’s a little bit better.

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: We just finished a round with Yarmouth EMTs as well around exploitation and where -- the only way -- it’s difficult to get into patrol as well because its shifts and its overtime for them.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Right.

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: So we try to minimize that, so they actually give us in their in-service at Yarmouth so we’re hitting most of the towns that go to that in service. They’re giving us about 20 minutes. So we have 20 minutes, that’s all we have but we’re getting the word out, and we’ve had to really be creative around that because there is no overtime for patrol that it’s happening right now so.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Well, hopefully, that there will be more funding for education coming down the road --

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: Yes.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: -- that was supposedly approved after the police officer shooting so.

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: Yes.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: So maybe that will change. Maybe they will pay - - be able to pay officers to get training.

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: Yes.

We’re hoping to talk to Chief Fredrickson about that.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: I just had two things I didn’t want to lose.

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: Yes.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Is there anyone else? Yes, Delegate Zuern.

MS. LINDA ZUERN: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I’ve done a lot of reading about the sex trafficking and some of the different groups, and it’s like billions of dollars worldwide. It’s a big business.

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: Yes.

MS. LINDA ZUERN: And I’ve heard that they’ve done a lot of stings. They did one that was quite big in California where a lot of people were arrested.

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: Yes.

MS. LINDA ZUERN: But they also talk about these groups where they don’t allow young children to leave, and sometimes when the young teens are pregnant, they actually take those babies and they’re part of that sex trafficking group. So nobody even knows about them.
Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: Yes.
MS. LINDA ZUERN: So could you just tell me a little bit more of what you’re finding here in our area? Are they large groups of girls or?
Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: They are, so, you know, when we had -- when group homes were -- they’re no longer here anymore except for the old RFK in Yarmouth, which is all boys now, the majority in Massachusetts of kids coming were in the system. So they were fleeing from the group homes and pimps were sort of, you know, camping out outside to recruit, and there was typically a recruiter within a group home; a girl/child within the group home that’s recruiting girls and they’d take off.

They also know the system; so they take off on the weekends and they’re back in time to get their bed, their DCF bed so it doesn’t get taken by another girl.

So most of the kids that we’re seeing are familiar, so when we have a case, we sort of can link it to another girl that we’ve had and another girl that we’ve had and typically a pimp in the end that’s out of Boston or New York.

But, yes, it’s a $30 billion industry, the sale of children for sex, and it’s -- these are difficult cases because it’s not necessarily the traditional child sexual abuse where they’re coming in and doing a forensic interview. These are girls coming off the street who are loyal to their pimps who aren’t going to talk and really just need clothing, shelter, and food. And what we can do is get them to a safe place and hope that they stay somewhere.

So that’s what we’re seeing, and most of the kids are coming back and forth from the Cape to Boston to New York and we’re really seeing that.

MS. LINDA ZUERN: Could I just ask how you get in touch with these -- do you go through the District Attorney? Does the District Attorney --
Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: How do the girls come to us?
MS. LINDA ZUERN: Yes, how do you --
Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: I say “girls” but its girls and boys.
MS. LINDA ZUERN: Yes, how do you know about them? Does the District Attorney refer, or do you find out through other means?
Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: No. That’s not --- that’s not the first point of contact for us. So, typically, it would be reported through law enforcement or the Department of Children and Families. Or we would get some kind of notification from a school or a pediatrician’s office or -- that’s why I say it’s really important for every professional in our field to recognize the signs of that.

And we say that, you know, school teachers, these kids are in their schools most of the time. I mean they’re spending time. There are trafficked and exploited kids who still go to school and then take off on the weekends and go to Boston and New York. So it’s a pretty silent epidemic. They’re difficult cases because these aren’t -- these aren’t prosecution cases. You’re not going to see pimps being prosecuted. They take a really long time. And, for us, it’s really providing services once that happens and getting them off the street and out of that situation.

So that’s what we’re seeing in our kids.
MS. LINDA ZUERN: Could I just ask one more?
Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: Yes.
MS. LINDA ZUERN: For the average person, is there something to like be aware of so that you know that this might be going on in your neighborhood or in your
school?

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: Yes, I think for the school piece especially, the kids are -- I can hand these out to you because this is our brochure on what to look for. But for the schools especially if they’re seeing truancy issues, if they’re seeing kids come back and they’ve, you know, somehow got all brand-new clothes on, and they’ve got a separate new cell phone, and maybe they have -- because some of the pimps brand the girls so they’ll have new tattoos. Or, you know, all of the sudden you’re seeing a change in things and recognizing that, you know, they’re away on the weekends or they’re running away on the weekends.

I think it’s just the red flags to things for people to be aware of. I don’t know if you’ll necessarily notice it in your neighborhood unless you’re seeing, you know, it does happen in your neighborhood but unless if you’re seeing girls going in and out or boys going in and out but, again, they’re difficult cases.

Exploitation, too, goes up to the age of 18 versus, you know, some of our other cases. But some of the stings that you’re seeing too, if you see them on the Cape happening, they’re typically coming out of those with adults that are being trafficked versus children, but we’re always in touch with like Yarmouth had done a sting probably last year or the last six months, and we were in communication with them to make sure that they weren’t children. And if not, we would refer them to Independence House for services.

MS. LINDA ZUERN: Thank you.
Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: You’re welcome.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Delegate Green.
Delegate GREEN: Thank you, Madam Speaker, and thank you for your report today and also for the great work that you do with so little.
Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: Thank you.
Delegate GREEN: In addition to the brochures that you’re handing out, you had mentioned other information.
Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: Yes.
Delegate GREEN: Any information that you have that you can share with the Delegates would be greatly appreciated and sending it to Janice would help us a lot.
Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: Great. Right. I didn’t provide our basic brochures because I figured they were our services, but this is our letter campaign, so they attached two of -- these are in bigger-size posters, obviously, but for you to be able to read the letter from the girl that we worked with on this project, it’s pretty powerful for you all to see.

And then I provided you with the exploitation brochure, so some of the red flags are on there.

Delegate GREEN: Thank you. I appreciate that. I did have a question for you. Your Teen Task Force sounds like it’s very effective. And coming from the Lower-Cape, I would be interested to know if you have any plans for Nauset and what the timeline might be for them?

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: That’s funny, it’s been asked a lot about Nauset. It’s our hope to. It’s a capacity issue right now. Our hope is that with some additional grant funding we’ll be able to do that. Right now, we only have a capacity to do one school a year with the hopes that we’ll be to get every school involved
potentially utilizing some of our volunteers to help us with that.

But our hope for Nauset is soon; there has to be -- it has to come from the administration that they’re interested and that they would be involved in the process because it is a commitment for them, but we would be more than happy to approach Nauset.

Delegate GREEN: So if I’m hearing you correctly, does that mean that if the school principal were to call you --

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: Yes.

Delegate GREEN: -- and say we’d be interested, that might expedite things?

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: It might and it’s interesting because I said at this point we’re three years in and we’re sort of picking the schools moving forward, but I think it’s going to end up being an application process for the schools because there’s been that much interest.

You know, a lot of this stuff -- the program’s been successful because it’s not the typical health class conversation and about sex ed and that sort of thing. We’re improving every year based on the feedback from the kids. And the reason we started this is to get information from them about what we can do better or what we’re doing well. And that’s been two-fold for us because we’re getting that information. You’d be shocked at what some of their responses are because not a single one of them would tell an adult if something had happened to them or their friends. So we’re working on that with them and utilizing those six months to do some really -- we meet once a month for six months. They have two hours and they -- they’re presented to by someone in the community. So around CSEC especially, we have a state police detective who comes in and talks about local cases that are happening so it’s real for them, versus lecturing to them about, hey, don’t sext with your friends and, you know, don’t go online. And it’s not like that, it’s very interactive. It’s confidential. They’re able to ask any of the questions they’ve wanted, and consent is a big issue as well. So having the conversation about consent and what that looks like and the laws around consent.

So it’s been successful, and we tweak it every year. But I have a feeling the schools will hopefully be coming to us for it.

Delegate GREEN: Thank you.

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: Thank you.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Is there another hand down there? Chris, no?

Okay. Over here? Thank you, so much.

Exec. Dir. STACY GALLAGHER: Thank you.

Summary Communications and Report from Human Services on Opioid Prevention and Continuum of Care

- Delegates briefed in memo from Director regarding Homelessness and Continuum of Care
- Handouts and PowerPoint Presentation provided to Delegates regarding Substance Use and Harm Reduction Activities
- Department assumed lead role this year with the Homeless Management Information System
- Department administers four Continuum of Care Grants
• Tenancy Preservation Program and the expansion of the Housing Court opening in Barnstable County sometime in the new year
• Department convened an Elder Task Force in response to they were seeing at the shelter
• Department became involved with the with the Statewide Data Warehouse Initiative
• Department operates the Regional Substance Use Council comprised of about 30 or 40 different individual stakeholders from all across the Cape
• Department is working on Opioid Overdose Analysis and Recommendations and youth-focused Substance Use Prevention Initiatives.
• A weekly report from the CBC cited the analysis prepared by county’s human service staff and cited this report as a Best Practice
• Department’s My Choice Matters Campaign, combined with a Good Samaritan grant around the Good Sam Law, created a video that receives over 80,000 to 100,000 views each month

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Next we have communications and report from Human Services Director Beth Albert and staff members Vaira Harik and Kim Slade regarding Opioid Prevention Programs, Continuum of Care grant, and Age Friendly and Dementia Planning. So it’s kind of a -- yes. It’s only a small fraction of what they do, but it’s still what we could fit into this agenda. Welcome.
Director BETH ALBERT: Welcome.
Thank you for having us. So we have three presentations, so I’m going to offer a suggestion. I’m not sure how long, you know, you want the meeting to be, but we have three different presentations.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Okay.
Director BETH ALBERT: So we’re going to try to run through them fairly quickly.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Okay.
Director BETH ALBERT: And then after each one, we can take some questions and answers.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Okay.
Director BETH ALBERT: But we’re going to do kind of an abbreviated presentation.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: That’s a good idea.
Director BETH ALBERT: We’ve brought two PowerPoint presentations, and then I actually prepared a memo which I gave to all of you -- left it in your --
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes.
Director BETH ALBERT: -- and then that’s the information that Kim left.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: On the Continuum of Care.
Director BETH ALBERT: Yes. So let me just do the Continuum of Care first because I don’t have a PowerPoint presentation. And I also presented to you to this body last year almost exactly a year ago on this exact issue, so I’m not going to go through the entire memo because I present it last year and it’s pretty -- nothing has really changed around the Continuum of Care.

But if you would just go to page 4 of the handout, I’ll just update you on
the current funding; there’s been some new initiatives because the program itself hasn’t changed.

So Barnstable County Department of Human Services plays three roles with the Continuum of Care. And for those of you that don’t know, that’s HUD McKinney-Vento money that comes to regions, our region is the Cape and Islands, and it’s for permanent supportive housing for people who are chronically homeless.

So the department plays a couple different roles. One, we convene a regional network on homelessness, which is a governing body for our Continuum of Care. We also are the collaborative applicant for the funding which means we coordinate a very large regional application, and we’re also, and this is a new role for us; we are also the Homeless Management Information System, also known as HMIS. We are the HMIS lead and that was effective July 1. Up until July, HAC was the HMIS lead for our continuum and for a variety of reasons, primarily efficiency and actually generating data that can be used. We have put that under -- in the Department of Human Services to build capacity to run more efficient programs and also to be able to generate some data. So that’s a new role for us.

So on page 4 of the memo that I had provided, the last year or the current year that we’re working on from this federal fiscal year ’17, there was a $1.6 million grant that we received for the region. The program supports about 145 permanent supportive housing, so PSH is Permanent Supportive Housing beds across the region from Bourne to Provincetown. We don’t have any funded beds on the islands. That money also goes to funding something called “Coordinated Entry” and then also the Homeless Management Information System.

I did attach a list of the current grantees. The other attachment was a list of our policy board members, but I realized I attached last year’s list, so I have an updated list, which you do not have.

So CoC funded beds are really part of a larger system on the Cape of resources, housing resources for people who are either homeless or formerly homeless. So one of the things we do is we collect that, all their information on an annual basis, and the Cape and Islands, primarily the Cape has 688 housing beds which are comprised of transitional housing beds, what they call rapid rehousing beds which people are being rapidly rehoused and also the permanent supportive housing.

So this particular federal funding with 145 beds, is one piece of that larger system of beds for people who were formerly homeless or chronic homeless.

The Department administers four CoC grants, and I listed them here; a planning grant and two-Coordinated Entry System grants and I’ll talk to you -- I’ll tell you what that is in a minute, and then this new grant for HMIS. So we run these programs with one FTE. She’s Martha Taylor; she’s our program manager. It’s a hundred percent grant funded, and we also hire some consultants to help with grant writing, and we actually hired a consult teacher on the HMIS program for this year. So because it was a new program for us and it’s a very complex system, we felt we needed some help to really get that off the ground. But I’m going to be, you know, kind of rethinking that over the next year. For HMIS, this is really a transition year for us, for the region really.

We also have a regional network coordinator and she is funded through the Department’s budget. So CoC-specific programs are all funded out of the federal grants
and also have the General Fund, the County General Fund through our Department funds a consultant who’s a regional network coordinator.

Any questions on that? I know I’m kind of whipping through it.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes.

Director BETH ALBERT: So it just kind of gives you a flavor of some of the, you know, our role in some of the funding that comes to us to do this work.

And I also spent a lot of my time on this. I’m hoping that that reduces over the next year, but no end in sight on that. I actually love it but there’s other things too.

So some of our current initiatives, as the collaborative applicant, we submitted a consolidated application in September for $1,755,000, and that includes 50 renewal projects which, again, support those permanent supportive housing beds and two new projects, which if we get funded, one’s targeted for families and one is targeted for victims of domestic violence.

We also run the Coordinated Entry System. And in a nutshell what that is is it’s a centralized intake for these resources. So we have kind of a hub. So if somebody is chronically homeless or very vulnerable and out in the streets, they’re assessed and put into the Coordinated Entry System and they are then matched with an available bed if there is one. So, again, it’s a coordinated way that we have implemented in the region to serve the most vulnerable population.

With that, comes some challenges, right? You’re serving the people who are the most vulnerable. They’re probably the most difficult to house but that’s what we’re supposed to be doing with this money. It’s really for people who -- chronic homeless using a housing first model really just to get them into housing and then wrap some supports around them.

Let’s see. We’re working on data quality assistant performance measures. As I mentioned earlier, the expansion of HMIS and improved administration of that program to really make it work for us and get some data out of it that can form some decision-making.

We’re also -- we’ve been meeting for several months doing emergency planning. Last winter, it was very apparent to us that the response for homeless during winter emergencies needed to be looked at and better coordinated. We have brought in Sean O’Brien from our own, you know, from the Barnstable County Regional Emergency Planning Committee, the shelter, all of the providers, all of the outreach people, and we also the region just received an earmark through this last budget for an emergency pop-up shelter. And so money didn’t come to us, it came to the Barnstable Police Department and they’re working with NAMI to structure a seasonal winter response that is not -- St. Joseph’s House, the shelter which is not a motel, and which is not the regional shelter. And so more on that but we’re definitely going to be better coordinated this year. I’m not sure how the new funding is going to fit into that system. The good thing is we’re bringing people together and we’re going to maximize the resources that we have.

Also, the Tenancy Preservation Program and the expansion of the Housing Court; we actually met. So the Housing Court is new for our region. They’re looking for space and, hopefully, we’ll be opening the court sometime in the new year. Right now people from our region can access the Housing Court in Plymouth.

But there is a resource, a really important resource that comes with tenants -- with the Housing Court and that’s called “Tenancy Preservation” to work with people
with disabilities to preserve their tenancy. And we just had a meeting last week with some statewide folks and the contractor for this region because we want to make sure that whoever we hire to fill that position, I think it’s a one FTE, it’s going to be someone that knows the resources on the Cape. So we’re in conversations with the state and the provider on that which is good.

And then finally, we did convene an Elder Task Force, and this was in response to some -- what we were seeing at the shelter, St. Joseph’s Shelter, and also what’s being seen across the state and that is the age of folks in shelter is rising just like our population is rising. Not surprisingly, the people being seen in emergency shelter, the average age is -- they’re getting older. And so as a region we wanted to bring together all the players, come up with -- really look at the issue, come up with some recommendations, and we’ll be releasing that in the next month or two.

And I also put on there the data warehouse. We’re involved with the Statewide Data Warehouse initiative, which is really far in the future, I think, but it’s a way that we can share our homeless data across the state, which would really be a nice thing. So we’re on a statewide committee that’s looking at that.

And that’s my update. Any questions?

Delegate O’HARA: Thank you. How do the homeless find the services, the beds that you have available?

Director BETH ALBERT: Sure. So we have -- as part of Coordinated Entry and as part of some of the work that’s already going on, all of the groups that you would -- that are the access points or -- the organizations that are out serving this population: Vinfen, which is a homeless -- a four-person homeless outreach team contracted through the Department of Mental Health; they’re part of our system. The HAC Outreach Homeless Outreach person, part of our system; the folks at Duffy who are doing street outreach part of our system, council churches. So we routinely meet with these folks and make --

Delegate O’HARA: So you, basically, are the services finding the homeless and make them aware of the services available?

Director BETH ALBERT: Yes, a lot of engagement.

Delegate O’HARA: Right.

Director BETH ALBERT: Engagement, engagement, engagement.

Delegate O’HARA: So my other couple of questions here, with the booming economy, the economy that we seem to have here and everybody looking for help whether it be, you know, a simple job, laborer, landscaper, any of these jobs, are these people just unemployable? Is it drugs, alcohol? Is it, you know, just mentally incapable? I just -- I don’t know. Maybe you can --

Director BETH ALBERT: Sure. What the data shows is that people who are chronically homeless, so it’s not just, you know, you lose your apartment and you’re homeless for a short period of time. People who are chronically homeless, there’s a lot of co-occurring disorders they call them, so substance use/mental health issues, and they’re very difficult to engage and house, and even if that happens, they need -- it’s a continuous thing. So when I say “engagement, engagement, engagement” that’s what it is. I mean
you engage someone who’s chronically homeless, and they’re preference may be to be on
the street because there’s no rules, you know, there’s no sobriety requirements, et cetera.
But, yeah, actually the definition of chronic -- the federal definition of chronic homeless is
a disability plus and then there’s a lot more to that definition.

Delegate O’HARA: I thought that.
Director BETH ALBERT: Yes, absolutely.
Delegate O’HARA: Thank you.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Okay. Thank you.
Ms. KIM SLADE: Good afternoon.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Good afternoon.
Ms. KIM SLADE: My name is Kim; I am the Substance Use Prevention
Specialist for the Department of Human Services, and I also staff the Regional Substance
Use Council, known as the RSAC.
In 2014, our department convened the Regional Substance Use Council.
We’re comprised of about, I’d say, about 30 or 40 different individuals from across
different organizations with a diverse group of stakeholders from all across the Cape.
Our department also administers two different grants that we receive from
the Bureau of Substance Addiction Services including the Mass. Opioid Abuse Prevention
Collaborative, or MOAPC, grant and the Substance Use Prevention Collaborative or
SAPC grant.
So, today, I’m just going to briefly touch on a couple of different selected
activities for each of those grants including our Opioid Overdose Analysis and
Recommendations and our youth-focused Substance Use Prevention initiatives.
In October of 2017, my colleagues completed and published an analysis of
opioid-related deaths in Barnstable County using the data that they compiled from 2004 to
2014 and then extended that analysis to further describe the subpopulations that were
found to be a disproportionate risk of opioid overdose death. And they looked at the age,
gender, race, education level, and employment of the decedents and found that 69 percent
of the decedents had a high school education or less and that’s compared to only 31
percent of the population of Barnstable County that has a high school education or less.
They also found that 65 percent of the decedents were employed in the
trades and service industry such as construction, the fishing industry, land development
versus only 46 percent of the County’s population that works in these trades and
industries.
Along with these findings, they looked at the likely interaction of
occupational injury, opioid prescription, and self-medication as well as what the needs of
these populations are and then what other further research and inquiries we needed to look
at to expand upon this information.
And then I developed some preliminary recommendations. And when I
said “they,” I’m talking about Vaira right here so, everybody, kind of pat her on the back.
I was just in the room. And some of these preliminary recommendations, one of the first
ones was to engage employers and employees to disseminate substance use prevention and
education strategies. And then that led into the development of our employer toolkit,
which you’ll find a copy of with my sheet in your packets. And this information, this
toolkit and all of the documents to support it can be found at MyChoiceMatters.net.
Within this toolkit, you’ll find general information on substance use, some
of the injury-prevention workplace policy recommendations, benefits in the EAP recommendations for policy, the law, and substance use in the workplace as well as some additional resources and information around substance use in general.

  Director BETH ALBERT: So you should mention the CBC grant.

  Ms. KIM SLADE: Okay. And just to kind of toot your horn, this morning we came across a weekly report that was put out by the CBC that specifically cited Vaira’s analysis. In addition, the state has cited this report as a Best Practice. So kudos to Vaira for all of her hard work.

  Ms. VAIRA HARIK: Thank you.

  Ms. KIM SLADE: As part of the SAPC work, all of our work with SAPC is youth focused and around prevention and that’s primarily my role within the Department is focusing more on prevention aspects.

  And so what we have done over the last several years since we’ve had the SAPC grant is provide support for some of our school prevention programs, like the Botvin LifeSkills Program. It’s an evidenced-based curriculum that’s used for substance use prevention in the schools and then providing supports for our community coalitions. Most of your towns do have community coalitions, and they are at the heart of doing a lot of the work at the local level that needs to be done.

  We also provide a lot of community parent and youth education around underage substance use, whether that’s marijuana, vaping, drinking, whatever that substance may be because we do know about the development of the teen brain and how any substance use can impact the brain development in a negative way.

  So last year I came and spoke to you guys with Vaira regarding the implications of marijuana legalization on youth substance use. And after that, we went back and did some work around marijuana and parenting. We know that there are going to be parents that are going to use marijuana legally, you know, what information do they need to know to be successful parents.

  So we made this infographic and it includes information or facts on youth marijuana use, how to respond if your child is using, as well as how to talk to your child if you’re a parent that is legally using marijuana.

  And this infographic is also in your packets and there’s also a copy of that on MyChoiceMatters.net.

  So you heard me mention My Choice Matters. For those of you that haven’t heard the radio ad, seen the posters, the social media, it’s our public education campaign. We use a Positive Community Norms framework for that, framing the data that we have in a positive way. We have different methods of delivery, whether that’s through the radio, through social media, our print ads, and our website, which is MyChoiceMatters.net that has all the local facts regarding drug use on Cape Cod. We describe some of the different substances of concern, tips, and resources for parents as well as where you can go if you need help.

  This campaign has been one that’s been near and dear to my heart since I came on to this position. It’s really been, I don’t know how to describe it, exciting just to be a part of this. And one of the things that we have done with this also is combined it with a Good Samaritan grant that we received around the Good Sam Law and created a video that I’m very excited to say receives over 80 to a hundred thousand views each month, not a year, every month. And that has been consistent over the last, what, about
Ms. VAIRA HARIK: Yes.
Ms. KIM SLADE: It’s about a 30 second clip.
Ms. VAIRA HARIK: We can send the link out.
Ms. KIM SLADE: Yes, we’ll send the link out to you guys. It’s about a 30 second video and it features one of -- a Cape Cod resident who lost her son to an overdose and it’s very, very touching. I highly recommend checking it out.
And those of you that know Deputy Cahill, we used him as one of our models for our My Choice Matters campaign around marijuana. And we plan on expanding this over the next year to include more details and more of a focus on marijuana and vaping, specifically, towards youth. And then also looking at how we can expand and create more of a recovery-friendly community on Cape Cod.
So, yes, that’s just a couple of the things that we’re doing when it comes to substance use within the County. We’ve developed several other resources that are available including rack cards to recognize and respond to an overdose, bathroom hanger or wall hangers that are wonderful fathead material; you can’t mess them up to explain the same process.
We’ve got our resource guides that go out and are updated regularly, and we just were really happy to be putting this information out there and collaborating with all of the local organizations in our different towns that have a vested interest in this.
So, that’s it. Any questions?
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Thank you. Any questions? Yes, Delegate Bergstrom.
Delegate BERGSTROM: Yes, you know, you’ve been following this for a while now. Are there any trends that we can look at, I mean, as far as the increase in drug use -- I’m thinking about large -- I’m thinking like things like fentanyl and heroin; is there any idea? Is it getting worse? Is it getting better? Is it stable, do you know?
Ms. KIM SLADE: So as far as an increase in actual use, we’re not really sure -- what we’re seeing is that you may have heard that there’s actually been a slight decrease in the number of opioid-overdose deaths and specifically in Mass. But what we don’t know is whether that’s due to fewer people using or if it’s due more to the wide availability of Narcan. Most likely it’s due to the availability of Narcan and the number of people that are receiving that kind of training and are actually carrying it. But as far as the actual use rates, we don’t have any concrete numbers on that.
Delegate BERGSTROM: Okay. And the other question I have which maybe goes outside of the scope of what you’re looking at is have we in dealing with -- first of all, I was shocked that in 10 years there were 281 overdoses, so that’s 28 a year and that’s a limited population. I mean we’re talking about young people between a certain age. So that’s a morbid statistic.
But is there any -- looking back, do we know what works? I’m talking about people in say the end stage of drug addiction; do we know a regimen that say, well, if we put them in, you know, if they wind up in the hospital and then we put them in short-term rehab and then we so on, do we have any idea looking at different ways of dealing with what’s more effective than not?
I’ll tell you why I ask that because at one of the conventions I was at a year or two ago, it was someone from one of the towns in Massachusetts, the police chief, and
they described how they could get contact with drug users and so on. And I asked him, I said, “Well, what is the statistics on successful rehabbing? I was shocked at how many -- how few people really go through successful rehab. So do you guys have any idea that what works and what doesn’t?”

Ms. KIM SLADE: So there is an evidence-base as far as what works within any kind of a Public Health bill that you’re looking at. What we find when it comes to substance us is that there is no one right way. You have to meet them where they’re at. Each person has their own pathway to recovery and there are multiple pathways to recovery. What that looks like for each individual is going to be different.

We’ve got MAT, there’s outpatient, there’s inpatient. We do have follow-up programs that are done where -- I can’t comment on where, if someone overdoses or the police respond to a call, where there may be some kind of substance use involved that there is a follow-up from that where they’ll receive information on how to get into treatment.

One of the things to keep in mind though is that when it comes to substance use, the rates of relapse are no different -- are actually very comparable to any kind of relapse with any other disease, whether it’s diabetes, hypertension, obesity. The relapse rates are the same.

Ms. VAIRA HARIK: Smoking.
Ms. KIM SLADE: Yes, smoking is actually worse.
Ms. VAIRA HARIK: Alcohol.
Ms. KIM SLADE: And the adverse number of times it takes to successfully sustain long-term recovery is the rates are actually higher than with other substances like tobacco.

Delegate BERGSTROM: Okay. And just one last comment on this is that I discussed this with the Attorney General in Massachusetts; I saw her the other day and said does building up a rehab industry, you know, if you look on the TV, people advertise, you know, send your kid to us and pay us whatever, something like that. There are also places that advertise sober houses and so like that.

Ms. KIM SLADE: Yes.
Delegate BERGSTROM: There seems to be very little regulation and oversight with those things. So, you know, if I have a house with four bedrooms and I put out a shingle --

Ms. KIM SLADE: Right.
Delegate BERGSTROM: -- next thing you know I’m a sober house. So I’m hoping, not that it’s in your purview, but I’m hoping at some point we can make sure that the money, which is never enough, that’s coming down the pike for substance abuse is used and going to be effective. So that’s my only speech.

Director BETH ALBERT: Absolutely.
Ms. KIM SLADE: So to kind of address the sober housing aspect of it, we do have the Mass. Alliance of Sober Housing which has a list of requirements that a sober house has to meet in order to be accredited. There are different levels of accreditation if you receive any funding through the Bureau of Substance Addiction Services. You had to refer your clients out to a matched certified sober home. However, not all matched certified sober homes are the greatest.

We’re looking at right now a recovery home scan of all of the sober homes
on Cape Cod and what that entails. We’re talking to people who are in recovery as to what would be a successful sober home to them, what makes that up.

And there’s a lot of different components to it but, you know, that is kind of a hard one to tackle.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Delegate Killion.

Delegate KILLION: Thank you, Madam Speaker. You spoke to us a year or so ago, and the numbers jumped out at me in terms of the number of people in the trades that are affected by this.

One of the other hats I wear outside here is developing real estate. And in the trades, there’s licensing involved and continuing education. And I noticed that beyond simple code requirements, they do add other things for education in there.

Have you considered approaching the Board of Licensure to try to add some of this into their continuing education because, obviously, prevention in terms of safety and other effects would have a great impact?

Ms. VAIIRA HARIK: That’s a great comment. One of the first things that occurred to me when having found the information that we did was ways in which we could compel or maybe the word “compel” isn’t the right word but encourage in a structured fashion adherence to OSHA requirements maybe furtherance of injury prevention. So I looked carefully at the licensing and bonding requirements for contractors and for others for the like and there aren’t. There aren’t requirements that I could find that we could attach substance use-related information educational components for both employees and employers. There are -- there’s -- it’s an area that I wished there were.

Aside from the OSHA requirements, there are Employee Assistance Plans that are available for relatively inexpensively to employers that if they want to offer those to their employees.

And to your comment, Mr. Bergstrom, it is a bit of the Wild West on some of it, the front end of these treatment and recovery for-profit entities, and I think that that will generally come under some more, some more restriction and some regulation as time goes on.

But to both of your points, we are looking for innovative ways within existing structures to try and encourage employers and others to do the right thing with regard to injury prevention and then onward treatment and support of people coming out of recovery back into the workforce.

Delegate KILLION: So is that a program that you folks could develop? You know, I can follow up with people I know at the state because I do believe that all these licensed people, they have to go through this continuing education every couple of years.

Ms. VAIIRA HARIK: Yes.

Delegate KILLION: So if they could be exposed to some of the risks that are involved in not only the safety but not -- the result of it, I think it would be worthwhile.

Ms. VAIIRA HARIK: I agree with you. I’m happy to follow up with you and mine as thoroughly as possible any of the contacts you have in this and so you can be assured that I’ll do that.

I’m also working with Massachusetts Coalition of -- MassCOSH,
Massachusetts Coalition of Occupational Safety and Health, and I have a conference call with them this Thursday on developing curriculum for employers and for onward use to their employees for the exact purpose that we’re talking about. And that’s a direct outgrowth of this work that we’ve done on looking at the occupational risks in the trades and services industry. So I will follow-up with you certainly.

Delegate KILLION: Thank you.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Delegate O’Malley
Delegate O’MALLEY: Thank you. Thank you for the work you’ve been doing. I recognize that today’s presentation is largely focused -- and I want to come back to a concern I’ve had before. You know from your own data that the issue of alcohol abuse is far greater in terms of numbers.

And, clearly, on the Cape with our elderly population, there are very or largely invisible epidemic and losses that are going on. I don’t assume that this is not being dealt with. I don’t assume ignorance of it just because it's not on today’s agenda.

Ms. VAIRA HARIK: Right.
Delegate O’MALLEY: But if you could briefly explain where we are with that issue. It’s a tougher one because it’s a substance that is socially acceptable.

Ms. VAIRA HARIK: Exactly.
Delegate O’MALLEY: And the problem comes that it’s where the line is drawn is very hard to see and very, very individual.

Ms. KIM SLADE: Yes.
Delegate O’MALLEY: What are we developing, what is available that is on a community level that may be able to address these people who are sitting in their homes and thinking I don’t have any problem. I mean, that’s one of the other elements in the alcohol problem is tremendous denial, obviously. It’s not so easy with narcotics.

Ms. KIM SLADE: Yes.
Delegate O’MALLEY: Tell me where we’re at with that issue. Thank you.

Ms. KIM SLADE: Okay. So one of the things that we’ve really kind of looked at when it comes to the RSAC is is not just the opioid issue. You know, we saw such a dramatic increase in the number of opioid overdose deaths over several years, but what we did see also is that the alcohol-related deaths maintained about the same but they’re still significantly higher than the opioid-related deaths.

Delegate O’MALLEY: Right.
Ms. KIM SLADE: We see about 138 deaths due to alcohol on Cape every year. Now as far as how we address this, my position, specifically, deals with prevention when it comes to youth. So we do have a lot of outreach and information that goes into prevention activities with youth specifically. There are prevention programs that are mandated to be used in the schools that address alcohol use as well.

As you were saying, it really is a cultural norm when it comes to alcohol and because it does take so long to see the effects of it on the body and the mind, it isn’t typically at the forefront like some other substances would be where you see more immediate effects.

Delegate O’MALLEY: We’re not seeing 30-year-olds dead.
Ms. KIM SLADE: Right, exactly.
Delegate O’MALLEY: Right.
Ms. KIM SLADE: Exactly. And it is that older population.
Delegate O’MALLEY: Right.
Ms. KIM SLADE: One of the groups that we do some work with is the Cape Cod Alcohol Coalition, and that has been convened by Jamie Binienda, who is a special investigator for the Alcohol Beverage Control Commission. He’s also a resident of Sandwich and has a vested interest in the health of Cape Cod.

Within that, we’re looking at some of the different policy recommendations that can be made to individual towns as far as alcohol use and responsible beverage service training and things like that, evidence-based methods that are shown to not only prevent under age use but also to reduce the number of people that are over indulging, and then also reduce the number of people that are driving under the influence.

So that’s just one of the aspects that we’re looking at. There’re also educational and awareness campaigns that are being developed around alcoholic use and maintaining or drinking within your limits.

Director BETH ALBERT: But we haven’t done too much focus --
Ms. KIM SLADE: Yes.
Director BETH ALBERT: -- because Kim’s grant is really youth focused, and so a lot of it is that prevention and harm reduction.
Delegate O’MALLEY: Yes.
Director BETH ALBERT: But I know you raised this the last time we were here too and that really is, you know, what can we -- where can we be more active with the older population and alcohol. So, thank you for bringing that up again. It’s always good to be reminded what we’re not doing.
Delegate O’MALLEY: I mean, clearly, I mean I’m --
Director BETH ALBERT: I don’t say that in a bad way.
Delegate O’MALLEY: No, no.
Director BETH ALBERT: It’s like, you know, you’re right. We talked about this last time. It’s like we’ve been (Inaudible).
Delegate O’MALLEY: I mean I can suggest clearly what, to me, would make sense is, I mean, I’m now a recently retired health professional, right, and I think that it’s one of those areas that, for me, was always extremely difficult to get into with people, very time-consuming, and I feel like I could have used help, and I’m sure all the other people who are still at it in the trenches could use some help.

I mean I think professional education. We don’t quite know how to get at it. It’s hard to score. It’s hard to code. It takes up a ton of time and, ultimately, it’s extremely frustrating.

Director BETH ALBERT: Yes.
Delegate O’MALLEY: But that would be a place.
Ms. VAIRA HARIK: Alcohol is it’s an endemic substance use problem on Cape Cod and nationally.
Delegate O’MALLEY: Sure. Oh yes.
Ms. VAIRA HARIK: The Regional Substance Use counsel, we’ve almost taken the opportunity of -- the catalyzing effect of the opioid epidemic to bring on the coattails of that system improvements to all approaches and reactions to substance use, albeit, opioids, alcohol, or the next thing that comes down. Because, basically, what we’re really doing is, yes, we’re trying to respond to the immediate proximal concern of opioids
right now.

But we’re also trying to prepare our system for the next thing, and there’s always a next thing. It’s just a matter of what it is.

In the meantime, we expect, not we, I expect that the opioid issue is going to become another endemic issue. It’s going to flatten in terms of its death rate and deaths will have gone up. I don’t think they’re going to go back down again, but I think they’re going to stabilize at that higher rate where they are now in the 60s and 70s here on Cape Cod.

Delegate O’MALLEY: Yes.

Ms. VAIRA HARIK: Alcohol deaths are almost doubled that still and have been forever, alcohol-related deaths. So we’re going to have two endemic problems moving along, and the next epidemic will come along.

Well, if we keep cycling through this in the public health system and don’t learn by building out system responses to this, and what I mean by system responses is that sounds a little abstruse. With regard to substance uses, the system response that’s so completely necessary is stigma reduction. So that’s the hard -- that’s the really hard game. All the low hanging fruit of getting Nar -- getting Narcan out there. Narcan people given - - that’s the easy part in this kind of work. The hard part is turning around and ameliorating a stigma, a stigmatized health issue in such a way that it can actually be addressed in a healthy fashion. And people who go into treatment maintain their recovery and go on to live productive lives. There’s that speech on that.

So alcohol, yes, is a part of that, but it’s part of a stigma-reduction aspect of it. But I think we, as a country, need to be -- are not willing to really attack alcohol issue as the sociological issue that it is. And so until that happens, and I’m not holding my breath, we’re going to continue to have these conversations on an annual basis and the what about alcohol comment, you know, subject. This is where we find ourselves in this ubiquity of this substance.

Delegate O’MALLEY: Sorry to be a one-track rhetoric.

Ms. VAIRA HARIK: So don’t get us started.

Director BETH ALBERT: That’s a great piece.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Delegate Zuern.

MS. LINDA ZUERN: Thank you. You may know that we brought an article to the town meeting warrant to ban legal marijuana in Bourne, and we formed a couple of groups. One is Bourne Cares and the other one is Bourne Opt-Out, and we’ve been working together, and we’re still trying to keep retail marijuana out of our town.

We did have a forum as part of that process, and Tom Hostetter from the Barnstable County jail did a wonderful presentation, and he swears by the Vivitrol. I guess that works really well in the jail but its cold turkey. You stop all drugs immediately and then you go through that whole process of, I guess, withdrawal.

And the people that have gone through it, I guess it works, and they don’t have that same percentage of going back to the drugs, if you want to comment on that, and then I have a couple of other things as well.

Ms. VAIRA HARIK: People being discharged from incarceration who were prior substance users, I think the research shows there are somewhere in the neighborhood of 80 times more likely to die from opioid overdose, from drug overdose upon their release because they’ve been completely desaturated of the drug in their
system. And then they go back out, they use at the prior level perhaps that they did before, and they’re no longer habituated, and they overdose.

So Tom’s work and the work of Joe in my Services Department with whom we are in close collaboration is very important and they’re doing an excellent job. Not only that, I’ll toot his horn for him; they are -- they’ve extended their treatment services to people who are not -- who are just there in jail, they’re held on a pre-sentence basis in jail, which is really a wonderful thing.

So it’s not only the people who are in the House of Correction side that have been sentenced and they’re there for a period of time. No. They were also working in the jail on the presentence with the presentence people which is excellent.

I’ve lost the train of your question.

MS. LINDA ZUERN: Well I think Vivitrol --

Ms. VAIRA HARIK: Yes, I mean by virtue of being in jail, yes, you are, theoretically, all of their contraband enters the jail, that is the perfect opportunity for people who want to go in -- who want to recover and upon release from jail maintain sobriety to start that process, and they have -- it’s a very well recognized Vivitrol program.

MS. LINDA ZUERN: He also said that vaping is the latest fad and that’s becoming more prominent.

Ms. VAIRA HARIK: Yes.

MS. LINDA ZUERN: And I’ve talked to some of the teachers and parents, and they said it’s just really hard to control because you have this little device and, you know, people don’t really see and the kids started out just vaping something that’s, you know, not drug related but then it’s a scent and then all of a sudden it becomes marijuana or something else. And what I’ve heard is that that’s pretty common in our schools.

Ms. KIM SLADE: It is. We’ve actually seen a significant increase in the number of youths that are vaping or using some kind of electronic nicotine delivery device. The JUUL, which is, I’m sure, the one that you’re referencing is very common. It looks like a USB stick, like a flash drive. That’s how it charges too. You plug it into your computer and it charges that way. So it looks like they’re not -- they don’t have anything. It’s black. It’s very conspicuous. You would never know it.

As a parent, you know, one of the things people -- the parents could look for would be, you know, the smell of something fruity. A lot of them do have fruit flavors. Those appeal more to the kids than they do to the adults, which is why they’re looking at current regulations on banning the flavored products.

Additionally, you’ll see kids taking, specifically with the JUULs, they’ll take the JUUL pods and they’ll use them to put concentrated THC oil in there, so they are using them to deliver THC or marijuana.

There’s a lot of different ways that they vape but, really, the JUUL is the biggest one and they are definitely using that. The numbers, I want to say, have like tripled over the last couple of years, on the number of youths that are vaping. Even as we’re still seeing the numbers go down for traditional cigarettes, we’re seeing the vaping going up.

And, unfortunately, what we found is that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Medicine had found that for adults that are using vaping to quit traditional cigarettes, you can’t actually see that help if they only use one method specifically if they’re not mixing the two.
However, when it comes to our youth, if they are vaping, they are much more likely to actually turn to traditional cigarettes and tobacco as they get older. So there really is a strong correlation there, and we really do (Indiscernible) then what -- and we’re doing a lot of awareness around vaping. We provide a lot of information to our schools, and we’ve got several school nurses and other employees that give wonderful presentations on vaping.

So we are trying to stay ahead of it, but as Vaira was saying, you know, it’s just the next substance. It’s one thing after another.

Ms. VAIRA HARIK: Right.

Ms. KIM SLADE: So it’s really about kind of learning to address the underlying behaviors rather than the specific substance.

MS. LINDA ZUERN: And we also had an emergency doctor, you know, talk about the edibles, eating marijuana edibles and how that is more of a problem than the smoking because people just eat it and eat it. They’re not affected by it and then all of a sudden they have all this THC in their system and that’s when they had the seizures.

And I also just wanted to ask you when parents are smoking or using drugs at home and they allow their children to do it as well, you’re saying if you use it don’t -- smoking this if it’s safe than going out and buying it.

Ms. VAIRA HARIK: They’re wrong. They’re wrong. It’s not -- it’s not okay.

Ms. KIM SLADE: Yes. First and foremost, that’s wrong. But to be honest, you know, I hear a lot of anecdotal things from people saying, oh well, you know, so-and-so’s mom says that, you know, it’s better if they smoke rather than drink or if they do this or whatever it may be when the reality is, you know, we hear these stories and it almost kind of blows it up in our minds of how many people are actually doing that.

When the reality is there’s not as many people -- not as many parents are allowing their teens to do it as we think that there are, and it’s all about the perception.

When you look at the research, it shows that even of the parents who do use drugs or marijuana specifically, 80 percent of those parents do not want their kids using. The important thing for them to remember is to tell their kids that. And parents who don’t tell their kids not to use marijuana, those kids are three times more likely to use marijuana.

So the important part of that is regardless of whether or not you use, talk to your kids. I mean it’s a conversation. You know, get them in a room, get them in a car, look them down, you know, talk to them.

Director BETH ALBERT: It’s a conversation.

Ms. KIM SLADE: Lock them down. I mean I’ve got two teenagers, so I know how hard --

Ms. VAIRA HARIK: She locks them down.

Ms. KIM SLADE: And I lock them down. But I understand how frustrating it can be trying to get a point across to a teenager but, yes, lock them in a car and have at it.

MS. LINDA ZUERN: Thank you.

Ms. KIM SLADE: Thank you.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: All right. Thank you. Now we had a third item on here; I’m going to make two comments. One is I’m sort of free-flowing in that people get
as much information, ask if there’s any questions, and even engage a dialogue, a debate which Robert’s Rules is technically not, but I like the feel of the Assembly on that.

It leads us to longer discussions and more in-depth discussions, which unless I hear from people, it is sort of the way we’ve been. Going into the budget season if we decide to do a lot of work on the budgets, it may require a different leadership strategy.

That being said, we have a third topic, which is Age Friendly and Dementia Planning. I do not want to give that short shrift, but I am reading a room that is starting to lose concentration especially after an election.

Is it a problem for you to come back on that one topic?
Ms. VAIRA HARIK: Not at all.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: I’m so sorry.
Director BETH ALBERT: No. It actually is a topic -- it’s a new initiative for us so it really does deserve --
Speaker MCAULIFFE: So it deserves the time.
Director BETH ALBERT: I think --
Speaker MCAULIFFE: It’s, you know, this is such dense material.
Director BETH ALBERT: Yes.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: And it’s always -- we just never know when we schedule --
Director BETH ALBERT: Yes.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: -- is it going to be a 15-minute presentation or a half-hour?
Director BETH ALBERT: Right. We did abbreviate it too.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: I know.
Ms. VAIRA HARIK: This is the Cliff Notes version.
Director BETH ALBERT: I would totally support that.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes, and I think that just in the interest of trying to keep people on track and engaged so that they can also hear what you’re saying.
Director BETH ALBERT: Sure. Absolutely.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: I do see some --
Director BETH ALBERT: Tired people.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: So --
Ms. VAIRA HARIK: Thank you.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: I want to thank you and every time I see people from the County, you’re just so impressive. So thank you, so much, for all that you do.
And we will be rescheduling in probably December so that we can keep your work current and hot off the press, so you don’t have to re-do anything.
Director BETH ALBERT: That’s right.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Thank you, so much.
Director BETH ALBERT: Thank you, very much.
Delegate MORAN: Thank you.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Next is communications from public officials?
And then communications from members of the public?
We do have our next Delegate from Chatham in the audience. Welcome.
Assembly Convenes

Resolution 18-02: Budget Reviews by Assembly for FY20
Whereas, the members of the Assembly of Delegates have been reviewing the structure and efficiency of its internal operations; and
Whereas, members of the Assembly of Delegates are considering efforts to schedule department budget reviews with the full Assembly.

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that we, the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates agree to and recommend to the Speaker, the scheduling of the FY20 proposed department budgets for discussion, review and consideration with the Assembly Committee of the Whole, to include operating budgets, capital budgets and enterprise funds.

The Assembly will suspend the meeting of its Standing Committee Chairs for the FY20 proposed budget cycle and will conduct a public hearing prior to a budget vote by the full Assembly of Delegates.

Upon its passage this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: And then I will now convene the Assembly. So we have a little bit of work, not a lot, but a little bit that I did want to not go too late.

The Resolution 18-02, which is the Budget Reviews by the Assembly, and this was submitted by Delegate Princi, Delegate Moran, Delegate Hughes, and Delegate Green. And would one of you like to move the resolution, put it on the floor? Anyone?

Delegate MORAN: So moved.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Okay. Is there a second?

Delegate O’HARA: Second.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Second, okay. Who would like to give a little discussion on this? Yes, Delegate Princi.

Delegate PRINCI: I’ll be very brief because we more or less discussed this in length at a previous meeting, but the long and short of it is that all members put a passage of this resolution. The Speaker would then schedule all the budget hearings before the full Assembly. All members will get the opportunity to listen to all department head budget presentations. The general public will get the opportunity to view all of those budget presentations. And I think it would just give us a lot more knowledge on our primary responsibility which is the budget when we go back and discuss with our constituents in our towns actually what all the departments are doing.

So that’s it from me. If there’s any questions, I’m available.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Any questions or any more comments? Delegate Princi’s right. We have -- okay. I’ll start over here. Delegate Killion and we’ll go around.

Delegate KILLION: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I know we’ve had this discussion and it seems fairly practical. However, my only concern will be as we saw today you get one subject in here and 15 people asking questions, it can go on for a long period of time.

Do you anticipate this would preclude the having a subcommittee meeting? Say we had a large meeting like this and some details were ferreted out that it would
take/require more detail, would it be prudent then to still say, okay, why don’t we
schedule a smaller meeting for this to get these details out rather than bring them back;
does that make sense? Do we need to adjust the resolution, or do you feel that this
resolution allows us to make those decisions?

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Delegate Princi.

Delegate PRINCI: Based on the way I wrote the resolution, it puts that into
play. If we have one department that comes before us and the Speaker -- you did a great
job today, by the way, by gauging the members’ interest and moved things on.

But if our Speaker, whether it be Speaker McAuliffe or another Speaker,
feels that it’s necessary for the committee to meet and get some answers to some of those
questions then that would certainly be -- it would likely have to be a special-type meeting
set up during working hours, and we’d have to get members there.

I think with the new structured committee group by consolidating a lot of
the departments will make it a lot easier to get a quorum there, but I see that being a great
possibility for the Assembly to if we have to stop and send it to a committee to further
review it, we can do that.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Is that -- are you all set?

Delegate KILLION: Yes. My only concern with that being is we’re going
to now fill our schedule up with these meetings and we still usually conduct other
business. So it is going to be an issue of time because, obviously, the time that we spend
reviewing the budget we did at subcommittee, now we’re going to do in a regular session,
we still have business in regular session.

So I think it’s going to be sort of learn as we go to see how this will all
work, but I think in theory it’s a good idea.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes, Delegate Princi.

Delegate PRINCI: Yes, just to add to that. There was another reason why
I didn’t put the resolution to pigeonhole us into something for the entire Assembly
convening. I did try and put it in as a one-year type process to give members a feel for
how it works out, and if it works out, great, then that would be fine to continue that. But if
it doesn’t, we can then look back.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Great. Delegate Bergstrom, yes.

Delegate BERGSTROM: Yes, I have vast experience with this process,
and just it sounds good in practice and I’m not against it, although I’ll probably abstain
when it comes up to a vote for obvious because it won’t affect me.

But the issue I have is to make sure that the process, and same thing with
Delegate Killion, is to make sure the process moves along. Normally speaking, if a
committee met with let’s say the Human Services Committee and they had some
exception to the budget, let’s say they wanted to cut it by ten thousand-something, they
would make that recommendation to the full committee when we hear it.

The question is what’s the process now? Are we just going to listen to the
budget? Are we going to have votes taken to reduce it because, you know, a
recommendation from let’s say the Finance Committee or a recommendation from one of
the other committees comes to the full board when we hear the budget and then vote it up
or down, now we’ve got a process in which the full Assembly is hearing a department
budget or do we just wait and see, or how do we -- and, of course, the worst case scenario
is, and this happens in the committee process, is they don’t make a decision. In other
words, they say, well, I haven’t got the information for you right now, but we’re going to have to wait until next week to make it.

So, it’s up to how the process runs to make sure that it moves along. And then that -- because you presume that the Assembly budget is not going to mirror the Commissioners’ budget, so how is that process made to amend the budget and at what point does it amend the budget? And if the Assembly takes a vote, let’s say, when a budget comes before them to amend it, well, eventually, they’re going to have to vote on the entire ordinance. So they’re going to vote on the amended ordinance? I mean, I’m just saying these are some questions that have to be answered.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Delegate Princi, let me just --

Delegate PRINCI: It pretty much works the same way. I mean that’s -- the process that I’m looking to replace is the same as before. I mean any amendments to the budget have to take place during the budget -- the final budget hearings. So whether it be coming from a committee, whether it be coming from -- it’s normally coming from an individual Delegate that sponsors that.

So I don’t really foresee any particular problems with that. However, if there is a department that comes before the full Assembly requesting more money than what the Commissioners had proposed, perhaps it might be a good idea for the committee to get together and hash out some of that and decide whether or not they’re going to recommend that increase or not.

But, generally, from what I’ve seen in my years on the Assembly, it’s been more or less the committees looking at it. They might suggest it but the amendments to the budget don’t come from the committee as a whole, the subcommittees as a whole. It generally comes from individual members that may be part of that subcommittee.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: I think we should be very well aware of not -- if it’s the full Assembly not taking votes before the final budget hearing.

Delegate PRINCI: That’s correct.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Because then it’s an act of the Assembly.

Delegate PRINCI: Right.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: So, the way I’m reading the resolution is it would follow, as you said, a similar -- it just wouldn’t be in subcommittee, and then there would be a meeting or two at the end to hash out the list of things that came up that might be different from the Commissioners’ budget and go from there with subcommittee input.

And, hopefully, whoever is Speaker at that point, too, if it requires a tighter rein or requires, you know, more structure to the discussion so that if you have four departments that you have to fit in and you don’t want to spend four hours, that the Speaker will then, you know, run a tighter structure at that point.

Over here; Delegate O’Malley.

Delegate O’MALLEY: Yes, I would certainly support this. I have been known to make the observation that oftentimes I think that what our committee hearings result in is kind of rubberstamp approval, and that that feels like it’s kind of a pro forma process.

With a more -- with the Speaker more willing to allow the chamber to have kind of a free-flowing discussion, I think this would actually encourage more conversation. That’s the direction I would like to see this thing go for us is to actually have a more engaged conversation and debate.
And I certainly think in response to the question about, well, what happens if we get into a sticky situation? Clearly, there could be a place for an individual department for us to say or for the Speaker to say this one probably should go to the committee, hash it out, let’s see what you guys can come with -- you people can come up with and bring it back.

But I certainly think it’s worth a try to discuss the whole thing, and it has the advantage then that all of us are exposed to what’s going on in every department. And I think it increases our knowledge base for what’s actually happening all across the County, so I’d go for it.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes, Delegate Moran.
Delegate MORAN: Just one last thing that has’t been mentioned. I think that this process will allow the constituents that are interested to see more of the process and to hear it from the beginning and really inform the Delegates in terms of questions or areas of interest. And I think that’s really the biggest impact that this might have.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Anyone else? Okay. We’re ready for a vote on Resolution 18-02, FY20 budget review by full Assembly.

Roll Call Vote on Proposed Resolution 18-02: Budget Reviews by Assembly for FY20
Voting “YES” (81.68%): Mary Chaffee (4.55% - Brewster), Lilli-Ann Green - (1.27% - Wellfleet), Christopher Kanaga (2.73% - Orleans), James Killion (9.58% - Sandwich), E. Suzanne McAuliffe (11.02% - Yarmouth), Susan Moran (14.61% - Falmouth), Thomas O’Hara (6.49% - Mashpee), Brian O’Malley (1.36% - Provincetown), Patrick Princi (20.92% - Barnstable), Linda Zuern (9.15% - Bourne).
Voting “PRESENT” (2.84%): Ronald Bergstrom (2.84% - Chatham).
Absent (15.48%): Peter Hughes (5.67% - Harwich), Deborah McCutcheon (0.93% Truro), John Ohman (6.58% - Dennis), VACANT (2.30 – Eastham).

Clerk O’CONNELL: Madam Speaker, Proposed Resolution 18–02 passes with 81.68 percent of the Delegates voting yes; 2.84 percent voting present; 15.48 percent are absent, now known as Resolution 18-02.

Resolution 18-02:
Whereas, the members of the Assembly of Delegates have been reviewing the structure and efficiency of its internal operations; and
Whereas, members of the Assembly of Delegates are considering efforts to schedule department budget reviews with the full Assembly.
NOW THEREFORE,
BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that we, the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates agree to and recommend to the Speaker, the scheduling of the FY20 proposed department budgets for discussion, review and consideration with the Assembly Committee of the Whole, to include operating budgets, capital budgets and enterprise funds.
The Assembly will suspend the meeting of its Standing Committee Chairs for the FY20 proposed budget cycle and will conduct a public hearing prior to a budget vote by the full Assembly of Delegates.
Upon its passage this resolution shall take effect immediately.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Our next item is committee reports. I believe that Delegate Killion had a committee meeting on the water -- are you prepared to give a summary of that or did you want to hold on that?

Delegate KILLION: I can give you a more detailed summary at the next meeting.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Fine. I know it just happened. But just so the Assembly knows, you were elected chair of that committee.

Delegate KILLION: Yes.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: So more work, not less. Any other committee reports? I don’t believe.

Summary Report from the Clerk

- Holiday Gathering to take place at the Dolphin Restaurant on 12/19/18 following the meeting. Cost is $27.00 per person
- MMA registrations can be submitted to the Clerk anytime now through December
- Assembly Office temporarily relocated to conference room at the Commissioners Office over at the Superior Court Building
- Two Proposed ordinances waiting for scheduling or other action by the Assembly: P.O. 17-14 County Restructuring of Commissioners from 3 to 5 and P.O. 17-16 Charter Recall Provision

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Okay. Report from the Clerk.

Clerk O’CONNELL: Yes, just briefly. I think in the packet I sent out information related to the holiday gathering that we will have on December 19th, same place and you can deal with that appropriately. Maybe starting in December I will start to collect money for that. Same price, same great menu.

Next item, MMA registration. I did put a copy of the registration form in your packet. If it’s something that you wish to attend, and you can get that back to me or at least let me know what your selections are on that form, that would be great. I’d like to try to make that request for prepayment for all registrations all at once. So I’ll be looking to do that sometime towards the end of December or at your second meeting in December. Again, the hotel registrations, you’re on your own. Contact them and then once that’s been paid for, give me the slip and I’ll process that.

Also, I guess the Speaker spoke to you a little bit about the office move from First District over to the Commissioners’ conference space. That was pretty much accomplished on Monday and, you know, it was a little bit emotional. Not only have I spent eight years over at the First District location, the Assembly’s been there for 30 years. So it was a process that I have been taking care of, if you will, over the past several years. The news that we were going to relocate was delivered to us in December of 2015, and we actually physically moved, the Clerk moved -- yes, you can look back and see that -- actually moved this past Monday.

So when I was apprised of the fact that that was in the cards, I started the process of going through everything, getting everything out of the vault and consolidating and doing all of that because you don’t move a 30-year office in one day or one week.
You just -- you don’t do it that way. So that’s done.

And just as a reminder, we still have two Proposed Ordinances technically hanging out there. And if you don’t take any action on them by the end of this session, which will be December, they sunset. They die just like Bills do up at the State House, and that would be Proposed Ordinance 17–14, which was the Barnstable County restructuring, and the other is Proposed Ordinance 17–16, which was for a recall process in the Charter.

So just to let you know that those are still out there. They certainly can be removed at the request of the people who submitted them. And if not, they’re just going to -- they’re going to sunset. So I just wanted to let you know that.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Delegate Kanaga, did you have your hand up?
Delegate KANAGA: Yes, I just wanted to know --
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Or are you just waving goodbye?
Delegate KANAGA: No. In the course of your organizational activities if you found any incriminating photos or at least embarrassing photos or anything of that nature that I could review?

Clerk O'CONNELL: I wouldn’t say embarrassing or incriminating but --
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Interesting.

CLERK O'CONNELL: -- you’d be surprised.
Delegate KANAGA: We were younger then.
CLERK O'CONNELL: Yes, I found some --
Delegate KANAGA: Yes.
CLERK O'CONNELL: Yes, I found some interesting stuff.
Delegate KANAGA: We’ll talk about that later.
CLERK O'CONNELL: And all the artwork that was at the Assembly hall has been -- I established a chain of custody for that and a list and had them sign that they were receiving it, because some of those catalogs and -- have a little bit of value to the County, so I didn’t want that to get lost in transition because I guess there have been some instances in the past where artwork has gone missing. And where did it go and who has it?

So, I didn’t want anybody going like this saying, “What did you do with it and where did it go?” So, I established that, cataloged it, had them sign for it, and it’s off because we have no place to put it right now, and I didn’t have the ability to take it over to my temporary-temporary space. So that’s pretty much it.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: And so you know, too, because the current office is smaller than the other office, files are stored up here so it’s -- and even though the Clerk has lived out of boxes that have been packed for six months since we moved up here, things are still very much in flux. But in spite of that, no one would know. Everything runs smoothly, everything gets done on time, everything happens even though it requires kind of yeoman effort.

And to be fair, I think in many ways employees of the County do try to go above and beyond, but I just think our Clerk makes the Assembly function in ways that most people aren’t aware of.

As the Clerk moved into the office, some of the stuff she needed was up here, so it meant coming up here and going back, but it’s all fine. It’s all getting done. And this -- and that was -- that would cover my other topic.
Summary of Other Business

- Assembly supports and approved request from Town of Wellfleet for letter of support for federal funding for Wellfleet Harbor dredging
- Notice to delegates that Assembly Clerk’s Office was relocated

Speaker MCAULIFFE: But I wanted to go to the “Other business,” which is the request from the Town of Wellfleet for a letter of support for federal funds related to dredging. Did you want to address this, Delegate Green?

Delegate GREEN: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Briefly, I think everyone has seen the letter of request from our town, and the great work that Janice has done to draft a letter from the Assembly. This would help only in the request for funding, federal funding. And as we all know, the County dredge cannot help Wellfleet. Wellfleet has an unusual situation.

So I ask that everyone endorse the letter so that it may help with federal funding.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Delegate Bergstrom.
Delegate BERGSTROM: I move that we have the Speaker send this letter to Dear Secretary James.
Delegate KANAGA: Second.

Speaker MCAULIFFE: Any further discussion? Delegate O’Malley.
Delegate O’MALLEY: I would just comment that the letter is quite clear. It indicates several real economic impacts, those on the shellfishing and those on the marine safety.

But, in fact, there is another impact that’s not even touched on and that is on the recreational boating in Wellfleet Harbor. I mean as a sailor who’s kept -- I kept a boat there for many years, it’s becoming impossible, and it’s becoming a much less favorable harbor to moor your boat because you can’t move around any time around low tide.

So I wholeheartedly support this push to get the harbor dredged.
Delegate BERGSTROM: Yep.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Yes, Delegate Bergstrom.
Delegate BERGSTROM: Yes, excuse me, I’ll support this with the --
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Addition.
Delegate BERGSTROM: -- addition that I stand at the end of the dredge pipe and collect whatever oysters and quahogs come out when they dredge the harbor, okay?
Delegate O’MALLEY: The black muck coming out of there?
Delegate BERGSTROM: I’ll be there.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Especially

It’s Wellfleet.
Delegate MORAN: That’s right.
Delegate GREEN: It’s called mayonnaise.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: All right. So for a vote, all those in favor of directing the Speaker --

The DELEGATES: Aye.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: Okay. Any opposed? It passes unanimously. And, hopefully, that will help.
Delegate GREEN: Thank you, very much.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: And then the last item that we had listed was the temporary relocation of the Assembly office. As I said, this is temporary. Office space is at a premium. The County is kind of in limbo because of the failure of the retirement -- early retirement package to go through so they don’t even know realistically what staff they have.

So we’re all just kind of waiting and holding our breath to see how things shake out. But I am struck when the Clerk mentioned that this first came about in 2015 at the glacial pace of government. And I know that; I’ve been involved in government for years, and I know things tend to move slowly. But we’re making the best of it. The County’s being very helpful and, hopefully, we’ll have a permanent solution that everybody can work with.

Is there any other “Other business”? Yes.
Delegate BERGSTROM: Move to adjourn.
Speaker MCAULIFFE: We are adjourned. Thank you.
Whereupon, it was moved to adjourn the Assembly of Delegates at 5:45 p.m.

Submitted by:

Janice O’Connell, Clerk
Assembly of Delegates

List of materials used at the meeting:
• Business Calendar of 11/7/18
• Unapproved Journal of Proceedings of 10/17/18
• Proposed Ordinance 18-11 submitted by Commissioners Office
• Proposed Ordinance 18-12 submitted by Commissioners Office
• Handout materials from Children’s Cove
• Director of Human Services memo dated 11/7/18 regarding Network on Homelessness and Continuum of Care
• Handout materials (3) from Human Services Department regarding substance use
• PowerPoint presentation from Human Services Department regarding Substance Use and Harm Reduction Activities
• Proposed Resolution 18-02
• Memo from Clerk dated 11/2/18 regarding FY20 budget review cycle
• Copy of email request and draft letter from Town of Wellfleet for letter of support for harbor dredging
• Draft of Delegates Letter of Support regarding Wellfleet Harbor dredging
• MMA Conference registration form
• Holiday Gathering menu