

**Minutes of the  
Barnstable County Ad-Hoc Committee on  
Risk Analysis Vegetation Management**

The fourth meeting of the Barnstable County Ad-Hoc Committee on Risk Analysis Vegetation Management was held at the First District Court House in the Assembly of Delegates Chambers on the nineteenth day of November, 2010.

**Members Present:**

Gabrielle Sakolsky	Cape Cod Mosquito Control
Steve Spear	USDA-NRCS
Laura Kelley	Landscape Professionals
Leo Cakounes	Cape & Island Farm Bureau
Michael McClean	MA Department of Agriculture Resources
Lee Corte-Real	MA Department of Agriculture Resources
Mark Begley	Environmental Management Commission
Allison Rescigno	MA Department of Environmental Protection
Jared Collins	Cape Cod for a Truly Green NSTAR
Sue Phelan	Green Cape
Dennis Galvam	NSTAR
Kevin McCune	NSTAR
Sarah Peake	State Representative
Dottie Smith	Office of State Representative Sarah Peake
Bill Clark	Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
Sheila Lyons	Barnstable County Commissioner
Charles Passios	Golf Course of Cape Cod

**Members Absent:**

Andrew Gottlieb	Cape Cod Water Protection Collaborative
Patty Daley	Cape Cod Commission

**Others Present:**

Roberta Clark	Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
Hotze Wijnja	MA Department of Agricultural Resources
Frances Poirier	Yarmouth Port
Barb & Doug Heyman	Barnstable Village
Rich Eldred	The Cape Codder
Jane R. Chase	Green Cape
Alan Schwartz	Yarmouth Port
Stephen Seymour	West Barnstable
Bill Hayes	Senior Arborist, NSTAR-Transmission
Cheryl Osimo	Silent Spring Institute
Scott Michaud	Cape Cod Commission
Tom Cambareri	Cape Cod Commission

## **I. Approval of the November 5, 2010 Minutes**

Commissioner Lyons asked for any comments or changes to the draft minutes.

- Hotze Wijnja noted that comments from Tom Cambareri should be added regarding his suggestion that an estimate of the cape wide use of pesticides would help the committee and the Commission's ability to provide the land use assessment.

*Commissioner Lyons asked if all in favor of approving the Minutes of November 5, 2010 as amended. Approved 17-0-0.*

## **II. Presentation by GreenCape**

Pam Russell introduced guest speaker, Dr. Kumara Sidhartha of Emerald Physicians in Hyannis, giving a brief biography of his education and work experience.

Dr. Kumara Sidhartha gave a presentation regarding the effects of pesticides on the human body, followed by a period of questions and comments. There was a general discussion on the studies of pesticides and limited science as it pertains to studying biological changes.

Representative Peake brought the discussion back to the table regarding the need to gather data that people feel confident in. Tom Cambareri reviewed his suggestion made at the November 5<sup>th</sup> meeting on how getting an estimate of the cape wide use of pesticides might be helpful. The estimate would include residential, commercial, agricultural and ROW uses.

Mark Begley updated the Committee on scheduling a presentation with Denis LeBlanc from the U.S. Geological Survey. Mr. Begley said that he was unable to schedule a presentation with Mr. LeBlanc due to scheduling conflicts. However, Mr. Leblanc did suggest the committee ask Tom Cambareri of the Cape Cod Commission to give a presentation.

Sue Phelan of GreenCape gave a powerpoint presentation providing information on pesticides and their toxicity, as well as, their negative impact on the environment and the health of residents.

Jared Collins, Cape Cod for a Truly Green NSTAR, asked NSTAR and DAR committee members if they would provide their science to members of the committee. Hotze Wijnja of the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) responded that he would provide information on the sources of scientific information and assessments that are used by MDAR with the evaluation of herbicides for the ROW vegetation management. Kevin McCune of NSTAR responded that he would provide links to the fact sheets of the herbicides NSTAR uses in the IVMP.

There was a general discussion on different approaches to conduct scientific studies to site specific areas. Tom Cambareri noted that the Cape Cod Commission is limited to performing site specific studies that were suggested but advised that Cornell had the lab capabilities to conduct such studies.

Motion made by Leo Cakounes to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dennis Galvam, approved 17-0-0.

Adjourned 10:55 a.m.