



TOWN OF TRURO

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Thinking about joining a town board, committee or commission, but have questions?

All you need is an interest in the work, availability and a willingness to learn. In deciding whether to apply, educate yourself about the role of the board and its members. Some boards provide direct oversight of town business while others work in an advisory capacity to help guide the town toward particular goals.

Residents interested in serving are encouraged to speak with the chairperson and other members of the board. Find out:

- What matters typically come before the board, how is the agenda set?
- Does the board use specific procedures, such as Robert's Rules of Order? How does the board make its decisions and take votes?
- How often does the board meet, how much time is required on board business in between meetings?

Attend a few meetings. Meeting dates are on the front page of the Truro town website: <https://www.truro-ma.gov>. Read agendas and meeting minutes: <https://www.truro-ma.gov/minutes-and-agendas>.

Read the Select Board's charge for the committee. From the front page of the Truro town website, click on Boards and Committees on the top right, and then click on the committee.

The benefits

Truro's town boards and committees play a crucial role in government. Joining a board is a wonderful way to make a difference in how Truro operates now and in setting plans for the future.

There are many to choose from, each offering its own contribution to the successful functioning of our town. Diversity on town boards and committees encourages creative problem-solving, and new voices are always welcome.

You do not have to be an expert to join a board. New board members may be unsure of how to contribute. Over time, the group's goals become clearer and you will find yourself adding more to the discussion and participating in the decision process with greater ease. A new person, asking good questions, often provides a fresh perspective, which can lead to more creative and constructive work.

Through your participation, you will learn a vast amount, have some enjoyable interactions, make unexpected friendships and have a real impact. Most of all, you will know that you are performing an invaluable public service.

To apply: Fill out an application to serve, online or using the form provided on the website.

Applicants for almost all appointed boards will be interviewed at a public meeting.