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Kathleen Kolva
Michael Ciaranca
Emily Kelly
Joel Carlson
Rob Crevey
Jodi Lyn Cutler
Erin Hilley
Steven Simpson
Tom O'Shea
Senator Susan Moran
Dave Vieira
Matthew Neuman
Mark Forest
Kathy Fox Alfano
Andrew Gottlieb
Suzanne Wolk
Lauren Wolk
Cally Wolk
Denise Wolk
Richard Hall
Jeanie Yaroch

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MA ANG
Cape Cod Commission
MA ARNG
Bourne
UCWSC
Sandwich

EMC Environmental
Officer

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MA ARNG
MA ARNG
MA ARNG
MANG E&RC
MANG E&RC
MA ARNG
MA ARNG
IAGWSP
MA ARNG
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MA DFG
MA Senate
MA State Rep
Sen. Moran's Office
Barnstable County
State Rep. Candidate
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Handouts Distributed at Meeting:

1. Community Advisory Council Draft Meeting Minutes, October 11, 2023
2. Environmental Management Commission Environmental Officer Update, May 2024
3. State of the Reservation Report, 9 May 2024
4. Camp Edwards Update, 9 May 2024

Agenda Item #1. Welcome and Agenda – Ms. Heather McElroy, CAC Chair

Ms. McElroy welcomed everyone to the Community Advisory Council (CAC) meeting. Community Advisory Council members present at the meeting: Ms. McElroy, Cape Cod Commission, Mimi McConnell, At-Large; Brig Gen Virginia Gaglio, Military Representative; Shawn Cody, Military Representative; Andrew Campbell, Bourne; Robert Prophet, Upper Cape Regional Water Supply Cooperative; and Ralph Vitacco, Sandwich. Community Advisory Council members not present at the meeting: James Cummings, At-Large; James Dishner, At-Large; Mark Harding, Wampanoag Representative; John Phelan, Mashpee; and Ernest Virgilio, At-Large.

Ms. McElroy said that a ceremony will be held to honor Marion “Mimi” McConnell and turned the meeting over to Environmental Management Commissioner Tom O’Shea.

Agenda Item #2: Recognition Ceremony for Marion “Mimi” McConnell) – Commissioner Tom O’Shea, Department of Fish and Game, Environmental Management Commission Chair

A recognition ceremony was held to for Ms. McConnell to honor her service as an environmental steward and advocate for Cape Cod. Ms. McConnell was honored with citations from the Governor of Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Senate and House, and the Environmental Management Commission. From the Massachusetts National Guard, Ms. McConnell received a Minute Man Statue and Commendation Medal for Community Service. By the Impact Area Groundwater Study Program, she was given a core of bedrock from 300 feet under the Camp Edwards Training Area/Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve.

Agenda Item #3: Break: 10 Minutes

Ms. McElroy called for a 10-minute break.

Agenda Item #4: Camp Edwards Update and the State of the Reservation Report Training Year 2023 – Mr. Alex McDonough, Deputy Base Operations Manager

Mr. McDonough gave a presentation on the Annual State of the Reservation Report for Training Year 2023.

- Chapter 47 of the Acts of 2002 requires the Massachusetts National Guard to produce a yearly report that details the nature and extent of military training and other activities, resource management activities and status of compliance, and long-term trends in the training and resource areas on Camp Edwards.
- Military Training: discussed how Soldiers are counted and reported as they move through the training area and the noted the different civilian organizations using Camp Edwards training area including Civil Air Patrol, Sea Cadets and local and environmental police. Usage numbers for military and civilian personnel differs from year to year depending on training requirements. Of note, 24 out of 80 Massachusetts National Guard units training solely out of Camp Edwards, where units can build base readiness.
- Copper ammunition usage versus lead ammunition usage was discussed along with an analysis of the increasing use of copper ammunition and decreasing use of lead ammunition on ranges at Camp Edwards (including changes in training standards, a transition from lead ammunition to copper ammunition, and closure of two lead small arms ranges).

- Rare species reporting, including rare plants and birds, was discussed and illustrates the compatibility of soldier training with the rich pine barrens and big habitats that are managed at Camp Edwards. Over the last several years, a lot of long-term trend data has been built into the report. Prescribed fire implementation was also discussed; the prescriptions being using to manipulate the habitats, provide the restoration, and the results being seen and reported.
- The report is distributed online, copies or a notice of availability is sent to town managers and Select boards on Cape Cod and the Barnstable County Commissioners, a Notice of Availability is placed in the Environmental Monitor, a copy is distributed to the Jonathan Bourne Public Library, and it is made available at Camp Edwards outreach events.

Mr. McDonough asked what additional methods could the MAARNG utilize to ensure wider distribution of the report?

- Members suggested producing a two-to-three-page executive summary as a companion piece, which would help with making the report more accessible. The document could highlight those issues that may be of concern to the community and other areas of interest in the report.
- An executive summary could be distributed to local libraries. Notice of the report's availability could also be placed in the monthly Barnstable County newsletter.

Mr. McDonough presented an update on Camp Edwards.

- Staff changes were noted. Camp Edwards tours began May 17 and run through October.
- The Best Warrior Competition was held; Cyber Yankee training was held from May 6 to May 17, which consisted of more than 250 soldiers conducting an unclassified cyber defense exercise. Weekend and annual training is upcoming at Camp Edwards.
- 2024 Wildland Fire implementation: prescribed burns were conducted on 620 acres over 11 burn days. Prescribed burns will continue until the season ends on June 30. In Spring 2025, approximately 1,602 acres over 15 burn days are planned.
- The Range Operations Control Area (ROCA) are facilities needed to support range operations and improve safety on small arms ranges. Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act Certificate was issued on April 22, 2024.
- The MANG continues to move in a path to construct the Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range. The MANG believes it is a critical range for Soldiers to qualify on and be able to perform their federal mission. The MANG has engaged with EPA and added additional mitigation measures for them to consider. The Secretary of the Army has become involved along with the Chief of National Guard Bureau. The process is still ongoing.
- MassDevelopment provided an update at the Military-Civilian Community meeting about a parcel divestiture proposal. They are focused on two parcels on Joint Base Cape Cod; one of which is already divested to DCAMM. MassDevelopment is under new leadership, and the new CEO will meet with the MANG and look at what Barrett Planning Group had put together. TAG asked that the 2013 plan for the Cantonment area be updated; the MANG reached out to the Cape Cod Commission and MassDevelopment would be part of that as well.

A CAC member asked if the Americorps members are ever utilized for the prescribed burn program.

- Americorps members help support the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation with their fire training and vegetation management.

Agenda Item #5: Environmental Officer Update – Mr. Leonard Pinaud, EMC Environmental Officer

Mr. Pinaud, Environmental Management Commission (EMC) Environmental Officer (EO), summarized the activities related to the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve (the Reserve).

- Fourteen range inspections were completed during from October 23, 2023 to May 24, 2024. The goal is to increase the number of inspections by the fall.
- Twelve non-standard training requests/exceptions to policy were granted. The request is reviewed and evaluated against the Environmental Performance Standards for compliance.
- Prescribed burns were conducted over 620 acres on Camp Edwards over 13 days.
- The ISBC Range was reviewed again. The range is scheduled for modernization.
- The ROCA (Range Operations Control Area) filing and certificate signed by the Secretary of Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs was sent to the SAC and CAC
- Eversource and Enbridge have been very good at communicating with the EMC and MAARNG and are aware they have to comply with the EPSs for work in the Reserve.
- The Integrated Operations, Maintenance and Monitoring Plan is being reviewed.
- There are vacant seats on the SAC and the CAC. For the CAC vacancies, he has reached out to the Town of Falmouth for a nomination. The JBCC family member seat and an At-large seat are also vacant.

MG Gaglio said that earlier in the evening, Representative Vieira said that if there are several positions to be filled he would assist in that effort. MG Gaglio suggested Mr. Pinaud and Ms. McElroy work together with Representative Vieira; she would also be willing to assist to keep the momentum going. The second challenge is getting those people appointed. Mr. Pinaud noted an additional challenge is that three CAC members have not attended meetings in years. Ms. McElroy said that was discussed at the last meeting, and when new CAC representatives are identified, those CAC members will be removed.

Agenda Item #6: Public Comment – *Ms. Heather McElroy, CAC Chair*

There was no public comment.

Agenda Item #7: Review of CAC Minutes and Approval – *Ms. Heather McElroy, CAC Chair*

The draft minutes from the October 11, 2023, CAC meeting will be reviewed and approved at the next meeting where there is a quorum.

Agenda Item #9. Adjourn – *Ms. Heather McElroy, CAC Chair*

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.