

TOWN OF MEDWAY'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' COMMITTEE

A. MEMBERSHIP

The Select Board shall establish an Indigenous Peoples' Committee (hereinafter referred to as Committee) to be comprised of nine (9) individuals residing in and being registered voters of the Town of Medway. The composition of the Committee shall be:

- 1) Representative of Select Board
- 2) Representative of School Committee
- 3) Representative of Medway Historical Commission
- 4) Representative of Medway Public Library Trustees
- 5) Representative of Cultural Council
- 6) Four (4) Citizens At-Large

The representatives need not be members of the committees/boards listed above but shall be chosen by a majority vote of said committee/board and forwarded to the Select Board for appointment consideration.

The Members of the Committee shall serve an initial term of two (2) years to develop the program and present same to the Select Board. The Committee shall meet at designated dates, times, and locations that are convenient to its members as well as promoting public participation.

B. CHARGE

The Town's Indigenous Peoples' Committee is established to celebrate, educate, and promote awareness of the historical and current presence of Indigenous People and culture within the town, emphasizing their role in shaping our community. Established to acknowledge and pay respect to the indigenous peoples' as the traditional custodians of the land on which the town is situated the Committee is committed to promoting an understanding of the history, culture, and contributions of indigenous peoples' to the community. The Committee will facilitate collaboration between the Town and indigenous communities for mutual benefit and shared cultural enrichment. The committee will organize events and initiatives that celebrate indigenous heritage and foster a sense of unity within the community.

The Committee is charged with identifying and preserving indigenous cultural sites, historical belongings, and practices within the Town. The Committee will collaborate with local institutions and the Medway Historical Society to develop educational programs that highlight indigenous history and culture by organizing public events, workshops, and awareness campaigns to promote understanding and appreciation of indigenous heritage. The Committee will encourage the inclusion of indigenous perspectives in educational curricula in community events. The Committee will facilitate open dialogues between the town and indigenous communities to foster mutual understanding and cooperation. The Committee will support initiatives that empower indigenous voices within the community. The Committee shall meet with the Town Select Board, summarizing its activities, achievements, and recommendations for the continued promotion of indigenous culture and history within the community on an annual basis. The Committee will be responsible for regular assessments to evaluate the effectiveness of the Committee's initiatives in achieving its objectives, with adjustments made as needed.

C. MEETINGS PROTOCOL

All meetings are to be held in a public location, properly posted and open to the public in accordance with the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law. Minutes of each meeting shall be prepared and approved by the Committee within thirty (30) days of any meeting and distributed to the Select Board.

Select Board Approved Amended Name and Charge: April 1, 2024