

September 22, 2026

TO: Board Members: Chair Andrew Romano, Vice Chair Natalie Mello,
Clerk Pam Kuechler, Andrew Saunders, Rick Trapilo
Town Administrator Keith Hickey
FROM: Wendy Drumm, Private Citizen
RE: Guidance for selection of the new ConCom agent

As a volunteer group—ConCom has made a measurable difference throughout the years in environmental oversight. However; this oversight and enforcement has been most successful when the Commission is led by an experienced town/city Agent.

Firstly—the time this job requires—it is more than 32 hours a week. It is a full-time job. See quote from former Agent Kelly Camara:

Yes, I would say it was fairly frequent to go over 32 hours. Sometimes it was due to workload or late meetings. Oftentimes, residents would come in later in the afternoon after I had already put in my hours.

Downsizing the Agent role will have consequences. Each project demands the fair attention of the Agent and ConCom—the many steps from site visits to Certificates of Compliance take time. No taxpayer should have a delay due to absence of staff and time.

The Conservation bylaws (many are state driven) while seem a barrier, ultimately, they prolong the safe lifetime of a coastal or wetland adjacent project. Please consider hiring the Conservation Agent Fairhaven deserves, ideally full-time.