

BARNSTABLE COUNTY

In the Year Two Thousand and Twenty

Resolution 20-03

The Assembly of Delegates supports and endorses the May 4, 2020 communication from the Barnstable County Human Rights Advisory Commission to the US Department of the Interior.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates supports and endorses the communication stated below, from the Barnstable County Human Rights Advisory Commission to the US Department of Interior, concerning the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe and recent the federal determination to revoke the status of Tribal Land held in trust.

“(Barnstable, MA – May 4, 2020) – The Barnstable County Human Rights Advisory Commission (HRAC) supports Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe in action against Department of Interior.

The Human Rights Advisory Commission of Barnstable County, out of respect for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe and the long, traumatic history they endured, express our extreme displeasure with the Department of Interior’s recent decision denying the Tribe’s right to hold land in trust.

At a time when we are collectively sharing significant challenges and together experiencing a period of tremendous hardship, the HRAC hopes that the Department focuses on the immense value of the Tribe and work to ensure a path of cooperation and respect.

2020 is the year that we commemorate the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower voyage and the founding of Plymouth Colony. This history cannot be told without honoring the immense contribution of the Wampanoag people that are still among us. Thus, we urge the Department to initiate a complete review of the denial and engage in the process of reconsideration that accounts for the full history of this great Tribe. Fairness dictates no other course of action.”

The foregoing Resolution 20-03 was adopted by the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates, by a roll call vote of 87.19 % voting “YES” and 9.15 % voting “NO” and 3.66 % “ABSENT” at the regular meeting held on May 20, 2020.

Attested by:



**Janice O’Connell, Clerk
Assembly of Delegates**