

MANCHESTER COASTAL STREAM TEAM
Minutes of February 3, 2025
Virtual, 7:00 pm

Members present: Jessica Lamothe, Chair; Lynn Atkinson; Francie Caudill; Deb Fraize

Absent: Chris Comb; Patti Mitchell

Also present: Barbara Warren, Salem Sound Coastwatch; Jim Elder, Town Shellfish Constable; Patrice Murphy, Exec. Director of Manchester Essex Conservation Trust

Jessica called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm

Current Business

Meeting with Board of Health: Lynn and Francie met with the BOH administrator E. Lufkin on January 24, to discuss Kettle Cove bacteria levels and septic system mapping updates. Ellen provided an updated map designating those residences that have been requested to have Title 5 inspection, and those which have recently been tested and passed. Future inspection results will be shared.

Fish discussion:

- We discussed those recommendations in the 2016 Coastal Zone Management Report completed for our Town, which analyzed the actions that would not only mitigate future flooding, but would provide water quality and habitat benefits as well as diadromous fish passage, in order to prioritize proposals for our grant application to the Gaslight Restoration project.
- Jessica will search for additional documents mentioned in that Tighe and Bond report that may give us additional information.
- Barbara Warren informed us that three water quality surveys performed in Sawmill Brook this fall have given us more data on pH and dissolved oxygen, etc. They found higher levels of bacterial contamination downstream than in past surveys, but this may have been a result of some accumulated decaying mater.

Updates on "Outstanding Resource Water: Patrice Murphy reported that she was recently informed that the Town's application for that designation is in the queue for the next state review.

Updates from other committees Stream Team members sit on

- Deb said that the Harbor Advisory Committee is currently drafting the new harbor plan.

Salem Sound Coastwatch Updates

- A reminder that the February 19 lecture in SSCW's "Underwater in Salem Sound" series will be on eDNA, a subject of interest to us. Register on the Abbott Library website for the Zoom link. For all SSCW events, see salemsound.org

The minutes of January 13, 2025 were approved.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 10, 2025 at 7 pm.

This meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Minutes submitted by Francie Caudill

