

Minutes of May 16, 2016

MANCHESTER COASTAL STREAM TEAM

Members Present: Lynn Atkinson; Francie Caudill; Carolyn Kelly; Joan Nesbit
Also Present: Barbara Warren; Lolly Sturtevant

As Chair Lamothe was absent, F. Caudill opened the meeting. The minutes of April 11, 2016 were approved.

Salem Sound Coastwatch Update

B. Warren reminded us of the "5K Run/Walk for the Beach" on June 12, 2016 at 10 a.m. This year the course starts at Dane St. Beach in Beverly. Tell friends and neighbors who like to run or walk, and get info and sign up at www.salemsound.org

We got the dates and times for water collections for the "Clean Beaches, Clean Streams" program. Francie will send the info to all former team members, and schedule the teams of two people for each of the 6 collection dates this summer (all Thurs. mornings). Let Francie know if you want to learn the technique and join the team.

We also scheduled the 3 summer dates for monitoring marine invasives at White Beach: 6/27, 7/29, and 8/23. Let Francie know if you want more information about this.

There is info about these ongoing programs at www.salemsound.org

Carolyn Kelly expressed interest in a follow-up to an earlier salt marsh study in Kettle Cove marsh, where she has noted changes, possibly due to rising water levels. B. Warren will look into this.

B. Warren told us of a grant proposal for a new coastal ocean acidification study, using advanced techniques to establish and track pH levels. SSCW may team up with the Green Team at the high school on this long-term project.

Future Project for Stream Team

We discussed the possibility of placing cigarette butt disposal receptacles at locations where cars park and many butts are found, which may wash into coastal waters: possibly White Beach and Masconomo Park. We have information about companies which make such "butt bins", and have learned of advantages and pitfalls from such a project in Salem, where many receptacles were placed. Several suggestions were put forth, and we decided to follow up on this idea in the fall. Meanwhile, any observations that members can make over the summer, as to the best locations for receptacles, will be most helpful. We will need to discuss this project with the Selectman when we collect more information, and when we can articulate a specific proposal.

Date

Our annual purple loosestrife control project at the Dexter Pond conservation area is scheduled for Saturday, July 30 at 9 a.m. Put it on your calendar.

Minutes submitted by Francie Caudill