

Minutes of November 14, 2016 MANCHESTER COASTAL STREAM TEAM

Members Present: Jessica Lamothe, Chair; Lynn Atkinson; Kate Culhane; Francie Caudill; Carolyn Kelly; Michele Kulick; Patti Mitchell; Joan Nesbit

Also Present: Barbara Warren, Director of Salem Sound Coastwatch; Michael Carvalho; Lolly Sturtevant

Chair Lamothe opened the meeting. The minutes of May 16, 2016 were approved.

Sawmill Brook Video

J. Lamothe gave an update of Perry Hallinan's application for a Cultural Council Grant, sponsored by the Stream Team, to create a video documentary of Sawmill Brook's history and present status. The film would be 5-10 minutes in length and shown in town in the spring. Grants beyond the money from the Cultural Council would be helpful to make the film more expansive in scope. Please forward other possible grant sources to Jessica or Barbara. M. Carvalho suggested that sponsor contributions be made to SSCW, earmarked for this video project.

Salem Sound Coastwatch Update

- " SSCW has produced a new tree brochure that will be distributed by Greenscapes.
- " SSCW is sponsoring a new 5th grade education project called "Keeping Water Clean". This is an interactive one-hour classroom program that will be presented at Memorial School during this school year. It is already being done in Essex.
- " The annual Winter Waterfowl Identification training will take place the morning of Sat., Dec. 3 at Winter Island in Salem.
- " It was announced that Salem is the 40th municipality to pass a ban on single-use plastic shopping bags; it will go into effect in January 2018.
- " The Stream Team's summer field work was reviewed. SSCW staff is investigating the continued high bacterial counts which are of concern in Kettle Cove marsh. More specific testing may be planned next year. The team investigating marine invasive species noted increasing numbers of European oysters at Black and White Beaches.
- " "King Tide" photos from successive extreme high tides are being contributed to SSCW for future sea level documentation.
- " A salt marsh survey/assessment was done at Kettle Cove Marsh; further photo documentation is planned. We discussed the advisability of a possible future survey of the Chubb Creek Marsh.

CRAG Update

Chair Lamothe reported no updates from the Coastal Resilience Advisory Group, other than the fact that the Town is still looking for funding for desired projects.

Future Project for Stream Team

Several Stream Team members had made observations of locations where a large number of cigarette butts are discarded along Manchester's coastal waters: near benches along the circle at the end of Masconomo Park; benches at Reed Park; and

the east end of White Beach. We reviewed information about recommended ~~butt~~ bins+ and their cost, and the problem of regular pick up if such bins are installed. F. Caudill will speak to DPW Director Murray about this project. We would need advice of the Selectmen, and a widespread awareness campaign in order for this project to go ahead.

Other Business

K. Culhane reported that the wetland area between the RR tracks and Tappan Street, where wading birds are frequently seen, is heavily trashed. We think this area is fresh-water rather than tidal, but no action was recommended at this time, as the area is hard to access.

SSCW will hold a spring lecture series, and we suggested some topics that would be of interest to the coastal communities.

Next meeting: Monday, January 9, 2017 at 7:15 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Francie Caudill