

**MANCHESTER COASTAL STREAM TEAM**  
**Minutes of March 28, 2022**  
**Virtual, 7:00 p.m.**

Members Present: Jessica Lamothe, Chair; Lynn Atkinson; Francie Caudill; Deb Fraize; Carolyn Kelly; Patti Mitchell

Members Absent: Joan Nesbit

Also Present: Steve Gang

Chair Lamothe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Current Business**

**Stream Survey Action Plan**

- Steve Gang spoke to concerns that Francie Caudill had addressed in a letter written recently to the Conservation Commission and said that her letter would be introduced and discussed at their upcoming meeting on March 29.
  - The ConCom will ask the DPW to move the issue of stream bank erosion at the Mill St. bridge over Cat Brook, to the top of their agenda.
  - He suggested that the lack of vegetated buffers along the streams and the pond at the Essex County Club golf course might be addressed by way of a joint letter from the ConCom and Stream Team. He noted that the golf course superintendent voluntarily reports on their practices each year to ConCom.
- Jessica Lamothe brought up the issue of a pump and fire hose that was reported in Sawmill Brook between Mill St. and the confluence with Cat Brook. Jessica will send Steve the photos taken by Lynn Atkinson. Steve will try to ascertain its ownership and function.
- Deb Fraize reported on her research into the ownership of parcels in the upper part of the Cat Brook watershed, most of which are in Gloucester. She learned from Chris LaPointe of Essex Cty Greenbelt (ECGA) that some parcels belong to the City of Gloucester, some are privately owned, and some have Conservation Restrictions (CR) through MECT or ECGA. ECGA is trying to acquire more of the small parcels to protect the watershed. Deb will follow up with C. LaPointe on the large parcel near Loading Place Rd owned by the DeNormandie Family to assess the possibility of putting the land near the brook under a CR.

**Brook Trout**

Barbara Warren of Salem Sound Coastwatch is working with Geof Day to set up a training so that volunteers can learn to monitor temperature, test for eDNA and other factors that affect the fish in the Sawmill Brook system.

**Water Resources Protection Task Force**

Jessica reported on progress at recent meetings to educate the Task Force about the Town's water supply and learn about relevant parts of the 1990 Horsely-Witten study. More information can be found here: <http://manchester.ma.us/767/Water-Resources-Protection-Task-Force>

There will be a field trip to the water treatment facilities at the Lincoln St. Well and Gravelly Pond on March 30.

The minutes of our last meeting on February 28 was reviewed and approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** Monday, May 9, 2022, venue TBD

Minutes submitted by Francie Caudill