

**MANCHESTER COASTAL STREAM TEAM**  
**Minutes of January 13, 2020**  
**Seaside One 7:15 p.m.**

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

Members Absent: Michele Kulick

Also Present: Barbara Warren; Jim Elder; Geof Day

Chair Lamothe opened the meeting. The minutes of December 9, 2019 were approved.

**Current Business**

- Sawmill Brook Film: The script is in its final editing and Perry will be focused on finishing the film this month.
- Brook Trout/Project Voldemort: Chair Lamothe took Chris Bertoni, ConCom administrator, to show her the areas of concern that came out of our November site visit with members of Trout Unlimited. It is unclear who has removed beaver material and put in a pipe in the swamp on the south side of Atwater Avenue; there is an area where runoff can go right into the brook at the Mill Street culvert over Cat Brook; and it is unclear if beaver activity is ongoing in Sawmill behind Vine Street.
  - Ms. Bertoni will be looking into these things with the DPW and other parties and we will follow up.
  - Geof Day, representing T.U., spoke about the pros and cons of beaver dams in trout streams.
- T.U. and MCST will partner for “Project Voldemort” to move forward with assessments of the brook trout. Teams of students from Governor’s Academy, St. John’s Prep and (hopefully) Manchester Essex High School will conduct studies of insect life and water chemistry in the brook to better understand the system as brook trout habitat.
- Shellfish Bed Project: The possible dates for the next shellfish survey at Black Beach are the early mornings of 3/13 or 3/14, or 4/11 or 4/13, when there will be extreme low tides.
- Jim Elder told us of new shellfish initiatives in the state, supported by grants from the Nature Conservancy.
- We are considering doing some initial water quality studies in Chubb Creek this coming summer.
- Meeting with Board of Health: We are on the agenda for the next BOH meeting on January 23, 8 a.m. in Seaside One. Barbara Warren, J. Elder, Francie and Joan plan to be present. Items for discussion include a possible ordinance that would prohibit waterfowl feeding, especially in ponds that drain into Kettle Cove; presentation of bacterial test data from last summer; the results of our preliminary shellfish survey; and an update on septic system inspections in the Kettle Cove area.

**Salem Sound Coastwatch Updates**

The “Underwater in Salem Sound” lectures are resuming, on the last Wednesday of the month at Marblehead’s Abbot Public Library. There may also be a few presentations at the Beverly Public Library in the coming months. Go to [www.salemsound.org](http://www.salemsound.org) for details. B. Warren has applied for a Bruce J. Anderson grant as well as a state grant for local salt marsh studies.

**Next Meeting:** Monday, February 10, 2020 at 7:15 p.m. in Seaside One

Minutes submitted by Francie Caudill