

Topsham Conservation Commission

Minutes Approved 05-10-2022

April 12, 2022 at 5:30 pm

Meet at CMP Corridor next to 23 Somerset Pl. (on the Arbor Ave side of Somerset)

In attendance: Shana Stewart Deeds (Secretary), Victor Langelo (Chair), Steve Pelletier, and Raija Suomela. Meetings open to all, please contact the Topsham Planning Office if you'd like to join us.

I. Site walk of trail easement between Homeplace and CMP corridor, Tax Map R08 Lot 026-G-OS

TCC walked the trail that Topsham holds an easement on from the Somerset Place CMP power line corridor to the junction of Somerset Place and Homeplace. Victor took notes for the site visit form; Also reviewed were ATV (rogue trail bike) impacts to a streamside trail crossing and the adjacent, steep riparian slopes within the CMP corridor. Potential mitigation measures, including use of water bars, installation of filter fabric/ riprap, as well as means and options for carrying out the necessary work to implement any mitigation efforts, were generally discussed but with no immediate resolution or course of action. This will be an item for future consideration. representative photos of current trail site conditions e.g., adjacent tree growth, riparian stream areas) were also taken, to be put in the site file. No negative impacts to the easement were noted. Of note: The developer, Bathay (spelling?), retains ownership of the path on the opposite side of the road and runs along Homeplace toward Foreside Road.

II. Approval of March 8, 2022 minutes.

Tabled until the April meeting.

III. Final approval of TSWF management plan addendum.

The data on funds has been updated in the draft addendum. We are still needing to know how these funds are to be used, and into which account they are stored.

IV. Finalize 2022 Annual Plan.

TCC chatted about the annual plan activities, and should finalize our roles at the next meeting.

V. Updates

The Vernal Pool CREA talk is coming up in April.

VI. Agenda items for future meetings.

- SAMP update, perhaps invite Aram and Liz after CREA presentation in April. Discuss CREA VP SAMP presentation.
- Finalize March and April minutes.
- Is the TSWAF management plan addendum finalized? Do we need to officially submit it to the Town?
- Visit to Town Forest off Merrill Road.
- Planting seedlings at Head of Tide if they are available.
- 2022 Annual Plan
 - Decide on scope of work and outline of RFP for NAP update.
- Visit vernal pool to learn better how to identify each species' egg masses.
 - Shana created a VP excel file in the TCC Google Drive, perhaps a good place to add ideas for pools to explore and notes about those we check out