Topsham Conservation Commission (TCC)

Meeting Minutes Approved 10-07-24

Monday September 9, 2024 at 5:30 pm at the Topsham Town Office

Attendees: Audie Arbo, Angie Brewer, Shana Stewart Deeds, Chris Dwinal, Josh Franklin (Town Planner) and Victor Langelo

I. Approve June 3, 2024 minutes and August 5, 2024 minutes.

Victor made a motion to approve the June minutes as written, seconded by Audie, passed unanimously. Angie made a motion to approve the August minutes as written, seconded by Chris, passed unanimously.

II. Review progress on our 2024 Annual Plan.

TCC members reviewed the Annual Plan that we put forward for 2024. See the Annual Plan for notes. Victor will use this to update the Select Board. We informed Josh that Topsham Planning Dept. has gmail access to the TCC google drive and our files.

III. TCC Budget for 2025-26.

Tabled until the next meeting.

IV. Coordinate with Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust (BTLT) on Head of Tide and Rogers property monitoring.

These will take about an hour.

A. Rogers - Thursday Oct 17 at 9 am

This property stewardship walk had been changed to 8:30am on 10/17. Victor will confirm the location, likely it will be where the railroad tracks cross Beechwood Dr. Angie, Chris and Shana can likely attend.

B. Head of Tide - Monday Oct 21st at 10:30 am.

Audie and Victor can likely attend.

V. Misc. Updates

A. Preparation needed for pollinator park at the Topsham Solid Waste Facility (TSWAF)?

Josh will keep us posted. Shana will coordinate with Issie Gale to see about presenting at the Topsham Library in 2025 on pollinator friendly plantings and the potential pollinator park at TSWAF.

B. MEACC Annual Meeting Oct 12 9am - 12:30 pm

This will take place at the Curtis Library. Victor will attend. Let Victor know if you can attend so that he can RSVP for TCC members.

C. PFAS at BNAS

Apparently 98% of the releases from these old systems are accidental due to malfunctioning equipment. The PFAS/fire-fighting foam was supposed to be removed by the end of October. We discussed whether there would be any shut down of the Neptune Woods trails. The pond/picnic area has been closed for a while. We will link to Brunswick's PFAS info page to the TCC webpage if possible. https://www.brunswickme.gov/761/Brunswick-Executive-Airport-Firefighting

VI. Items for upcoming meetings – meetings are the first Monday at 5:30 unless otherwise noted

A. TCC Budget for 2025-26
B. Revisit NAP
C. Don't forget to check the action items list and mark items as 'done' when completed
D. Work with BTLT to identify potential Vernal Pools where the SAMP could be used
E. Joint meeting with Brunswick Tree Committee
F. Potential meeting with Brunswick Climate Action Plan Committee
G. Christine Cole tree watering schedule:
    - September – Jeanne Bamforth
    - October - Shana

Victor made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Angie, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm. Minutes respectfully submitted by Shana Stewart Deeds.