

Hanover OSC April 5, 2021

Hybrid Meeting- Zoom & Town Hall, 6pm

Members Present: Hal Thomas, Mary Dunn, Judy Grecco, John Ferraro, Bob Meader, Julia Traggorth

Guests: Samantha Wood (NSRWA) , Caitlin Melone (resident)

March Minutes Unanimously Approved

Presentation by Samantha Woods, Executive Director, North South River Watershed Association (NSRWA)

- Goal-protect through river restoration projects
- Two Dams in Hanover- Luddams Ford (50% Hanover/Pembroke) and remnants at Cross Street/State Street
- Impacts of Dams on Rivers
 - block fish, warm temperatures, trap sediment/nutrients, degrade water quality
 - River Herring (Blueback herring and Alewife) populations in trouble (
 - over 3000 dams in MA, many no longer serve a purpose (only about 200 serve a purpose- hydropower or flood control)
- On South Shore - 22 removed, 122 remaining, 16 miles of newly opened river
- Benefits: eliminate liability for owner (private/public-poorly maintained, more and more vulnerable to problems), restore habitats, helps with climate change resilience
- Dam removal versus repair
 - Luddams Ford- 200K repair estimate (minimum/not to code)
 - Removal can be 300K up to 1mil (one time), can be funding/grant resources available which NSWRA can help navigate
- Process (3-5+ years)
 - Feasibility (mapping, assessment, community) - initial report done by end of June
 - Desktop analysis- minimal scope - 30K from DER
 - Design, engineering, permitting
 - Construction
- Examples: Town Brook Plymouth & Jones River, Kingston, Third Herring Brook, Hanover/Norwell, Bound Brook, Cohasset/Scituate
- Luddams Ford (Curtis Crossing). Built 1908
 - Owned by both
 - 2016 inspection report = poor
 - Fish ladder - unclear how effective it is (impossible to access or repair)
 - Water is 10 degree difference (fish can't survive with less oxygen)
- Future Partnerships
 - Division of Ecological Restoration (DER)
 - Natural Resource Damages Trust Fund

- Hanover/Pembroke as owners would be applicants, NSWRA/MassBays would assist in the application process and throughout the process as it moves forward
- Samantha Woods will be reaching out to towns to see if they would like to get move forward with getting \$/additional research with Natural Resources Damages Trust Fund
- samantha@nswra.org for questions

Trail between Old Farm Road and Cedar Street

- 3 years had some discussion
- Developer left a piece of land to town in between houses on Cedar Street for trail to HS
- New trail would take off about ¾ mile from current system
- General neighborhood support- Caitlin has talked to most people on Old Farm, but not the cape on Cedar Street (Caitlin will reach out to neighbor)
- Would need crosswalk on Cedar
- Process: Needs to be walked again (wet and likely needs boardwalking),

Sylvester Field

- How to present at Town Meeting?
- Hal can represent OSC
- Peter Johnson on behalf of HC
- Bob Oliver's Chronicle Video **
- Explain the Conservation Restriction

Trail Maintenance

- **Denham-** some wet spots needing bog bridges

Conservation Restrictions

- No news

Indian Head River Coalition Clean up Day- April 24

- Online sign up w/ limitations
- <https://www.nswra.org/event/indian-head-river-trail-clean-up/?fbclid=IwAR1ZNz4F4kWMaLzmCLcQE9Ur9vhnBcoqVI0qvTCuoK1FkMoPw3bGBY0xedA>

Submitted by Julia Traggorth