



Special Meeting of the Conservation Commission - Minutes
Town Hall 1:00 PM, March 1, 2024

In attendance: Lisa Wahle, Sandy Prisloe, Ted Taigen

1. Open Space Map and Inventory. We corrected several mis-entries on the map and figured out how to remove inappropriate parcels from the open space layer (e.g., cul-de-sac roads, public works building and property, the meeting house). The easement owned by Chester LT (and other easements) can be added with the geo-reference function if we get a hard copy of the parcel map with the easement indicated.
2. Review of working Natural Resource Inventory map. Lisa was able to edit the map Sandy created with some of the layers we need (e.g., parcels, soils, surficial materials, basins), but was only able to save it to her "Content" in the free version of ArcGIS.

We decided that the following existing layers should be added.

1. NDDDB
2. Critical Habitats
3. Core Forest
4. Cold water streams and any other fisheries resources
5. Water quality and impaired waters
6. Contours (to get at steep ledge habitats)
7. Farm soils & Wetland soils - Sandy will send to Lisa

The following layers will need to be created:

1. Vernal pools – We looked at various aerial coverages (leaf on – leaf off) in Google Earth and discussed some potential areas to search for pools. Now is when amphibians are beginning to be active.
 2. Pollinator pathways
 3. Invasive plant distributions
3. Sandy suggested (in the future) creating a layer where wildlife sightings by residents could be recorded.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Wahle