

## Monkton Agricultural and Natural Area Committee Meeting — Draft Minutes for 7/2/2014

### In Attendance

Members: Laura Farrell, Deb Gaynor, Corine Farewell

Absent: Rachel Schattman, Sam Burr

Guests: none

Laura calls the meeting to order at 7:12 pm.

1. Jon Binhammer told Laura he will have the application completed before our next meeting (in August). The Waterfowl Stamp meeting is July 31. We should contact the listers when Jon turns in an application.
2. Deb moved that we accept the June minutes; Corine seconded. Some corrections were made for spelling of names, etc. All in favor. Minutes approved as amended.
3. Intertown Conservation Meetings
  - a. Laura would like to set up individual meetings with each town, and then perhaps have a summit meeting.
  - b. Purpose: look at regional maps, determine if each town is planning for connectivity issues in its conservation planning. Explore whether it is possible to create a common strategy to conserve habitat connectivity.
  - c. Corine: start with a request for information from each group (town) regarding what their current strategies are, what their materials are (any maps?), and then start setting up individual meetings.
  - d. Laura will reach out to the surrounding seven towns, including Lincoln, and bring information back to the committee for discussion and setting up the next steps. She will provide our materials when they are ready.
  - e. If Jon's project goes through, we could use the celebration of the conservation as an educational opportunity, and invite interested groups from adjacent towns.
4. Application process:
  - a. In March of 2012, we discussed and voted on a small policy addition. Following is an excerpt from the minutes of that meeting:

**8)** We discussed using the ANA Fund for non-easement purchases again. John: we should probably have a cap to protect the fund for easement uses. Sam: important to stay flexible in our policies.

Proposed policy: Generally, support money from the ANA Fund is provided at the closing of a conservation project. However, in some circumstances, ANAC may recommend to the Select Board approving limited support for conservation transaction costs incurred prior to closing on the project. Determination will be made on a case-by-case basis.

**9)** John moved that we adopt the new conservation transaction policy as written above. Sam seconded. All in favor.
  - b. We will create an addition to our Application materials incorporating this policy, and then move forward with making further refinements if needed.
5. Laura spoke with Deb Chamberlin, and the Russell Library would be happy to have a small section of materials from ANAC that would be maintained by the library. Laura will move the necessary materials

from the box in Town Hall to the library, and get more copies of both the state book and the VNRC book.

6. Next meeting scheduled: August 20, 7 pm-9 pm. Following meeting will be off-schedule in late September, when Laura will be in town.
7. Corine moves to adjourn, Deb seconds. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:12 pm.

DRAFT