

Monkton Agricultural and Natural Areas Committee Meeting – Draft Minutes for 9/24/14

In Attendance

Members: Deb Gaynor, Laura Farrell, Rachel Schattman, & Corine Farewell

Absent: Sam Burr

Guests: Wendy Sue Harper, Robin Hobbs

1. Laura called the meeting to order at 7:36pm
2. Meeting minutes from 8/19/14: Corrine moves to approve, Deb seconds, all in favor. Minutes approved.
3. Wendy Sue Harper arrives at 7:45pm to discuss a vision for a Monkton Town Forest.
 - a. This is a timely discussion because Monkton is one of the few towns in Addison Co. with an East/West corridor.
 - b. There is federal financial assistance available through grants (\$400,000). Grant application is due in January.
 - c. Regional Planning Commission will be looking at the topic of town forests. A Monkton resident to champion the effort in town is needed.
 - d. 9/27 UVM Extension is hosting a workshop in Barre on town forests.
4. Meeting minutes from 7/2/14: Corrine moves to approve, Deb seconds, all in favor. Minutes approved.
5. Inter-town conservation meetings:
 - a. Laura updates the committee on her work to contact neighboring conservation groups. At the meetings, ANAC will hold a short presentation and show maps. Visiting groups will be asked to share their goals related to wildlife connectivity and to discuss the impact of conservation projects that cross town borders.
 - b. ANAC's intention is to share the Monkton town map and invite visiting groups to bring any similar maps that exist for their towns.
6. Updates:
 - a. The Nature Conservancy project in Monkton: Land acquisition has been fully funded, but funding for ongoing monitoring is not secured. ANAC declined holding the easement due to lack of permanent administrative capacity.
 - b. Chittenden County Regional Planning funded Huntington, Richmond, Jericho and Bolton to do a natural areas assessment. It's a goal stated in Monkton's town plan to do this type of mapping.
7. The next ANAC meeting is scheduled for October 22nd, 2014, 7pm.

8. Deb moves for the meeting to adjourn at 9:07pm, Corrine seconds. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Schattman,

ANAC Secretary