

Monkton ANAC Meeting Minutes for 27 April 2016

In Attendance

Members: Sam Burr, Peter Huber, Corine Farewell (7:40), Laura Farrell (remote), Deb Gaynor

Absent: Rachel Schattman

Guests: none

- 1) Laura called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.
- 2) Laura welcomed our new member Peter Huber to ANAC. We briefly discussed ANAC introductory materials, gave him a copy of Conserving the Family Farm, and Deb promised to send him all the ANAC electronic files.
- 3) Approval of minutes from 16 March 2016 meeting – Deb moved to approve the minutes, Sam seconded. Laura opened the floor for discussion and comments. We noted that they were not on the town website yet; Deb will investigate what happened. All were in favor of accepting the minutes as written (Peter abstained).
- 4) Laura will approach Addison County Regional Planning to see if they will host an on-line library that would be a resource library for all groups in the county working on conservation and related issues. We discussed that this should be just documents (at least to start) so as not to overwhelm the site capacity with big maps.
- 5) Laura updated the committee on the UVM Field Naturalist Program survey project – She got a phone call last week saying there was a funded student whose project site had fallen through, and if she sent in an application we'd have a good chance of getting the student. She did that, and got an immediate approval of our application to have a survey of the Pond Brook watershed from Bristol Road to States Prison Hollow Road, and both sides of both Hogback ridges. Sam will tell the Planning Commission about it. The committee generated a list of questions to pose to the student, and Laura informed the committee what our obligations will be (mostly helping identify and communicate with property owners. Sharon has agreed to be the first point of contact for that purpose.) Laura will be her main "supervisor" from the town, with Sam and Deb providing backup support as needed. We discussed the focus areas of her report, and our expectations, and Laura will relay those details to her. We agreed that she will point out where planning can be helpful, she'll identify special ecological areas, she will address issues that should be included in an updated management plan for the conserved Town parcels in the Meader swamp, and outside of those parcels, she will generate an ecological assessment, identify natural communities, and deliver a species list to the Conservation Commission. One of her deliverables for her UVM requirements is a GIS map, which will also be made available to us. Before she starts work in June, ANAC will write an introduction of her for the community to be published in the town website, Facebook page, and on Front Porch Forum.
- 6) The members discussed items should be within the Conservation Commission's purview. Items included the UVM Naturalist Program survey, the Pond Brook Management Plan, items related to the VGS pipeline, the wildlife inventory map, the Vermont Forest Fragmentation bill, and sharing responsibilities between ANAC and the Conservation Commission for the intertown Conservation Commission meetings.

- 7) Cota application – Sam plans to have the site visit report prepared for the next ANAC meeting.
- 8) Addison County CC Meeting – Laura provided the details of the meeting which will occur on March 23rd in Salisbury. There are no plans for any ANAC members to attend.
- 9) Intertown Meeting – This will be discussed further in upcoming meetings. In the future, Regional Planning Commissions may be involved in such intertown meeting efforts.
- 10) Other Business – Sam brought up status of ANAC members. Paul’s seat needs to be filled.
- 11) Next meeting will be April 27 at 7 pm.
- 12) Sam moved to adjourn the meeting, Corine seconded, all were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Gaynor, for Alison Lesure