

Town of Monkton
Agricultural & Natural Areas Committee
MEETING MINUTES
5th February 2019, 7:00pm
Monkton Town Hall
(Approved 13th March 2019)

Attendance:

Present: Laura Farrell, Jaime Schulte, Susan Mahony, Sam Burr (joined at 7:37)

Absent: Nora Wolff, John Mejia

Guests: None

Minutes Taker: Jaime Schulte

- 1) Laura called the meeting to order (7:07)
- 2) Approve January minutes (7:07-7:38)
 - a. Approved unanimously as amended
- 3) Updates (7:38 – 7:44)
 - a. Potential OPAV project – nothing new.
 - b. Project 2019A – nothing new. Sam will reach out to the potential applicant.
- 4) Town Meeting planning (7:44 – 7:57)
 - a. Discussed talking points for Town Meeting
 - b. Table contents (VLT picture of Cota's Closing, Plant Guide & Report, brochures)
 - c. Map for wildlife sightings
- 5) Planning Comm. Town Plan and Town Forest – language and recommendation (Susan) (7:57-8:08)
 - a. Proposed language:
 - The Town of Monkton will form a Town Forest Committee to define the town's priorities and guidelines for town forest land. The Town Forest Committee would facilitate the process of establishing town forest land, working with landowners, agencies, and other town committees.
 - b. Sam moved to accept the amended language. Susan seconded. All were in favor.
 - c. Laura asked for a motion to recommend to the Conservation Commission that they make the same recommendation to the Planning Commission about a Town Forest Committee.
 - Jaime so moved. Sam seconded. All were in favor.
- 6) ANAC second alternate position and ANAC project spending verifications (8:08 – 8:55)
 - a. Do we want to keep a second alternate for ANAC?
 - b. Discussion:
 - ANAC will keep the existing second alternate position.
 - Discussed how to choose which alternate would vote when both alternates are present. Presumably the more senior alternate. To be decided at a later time.
 - ANAC will research expectations on when members and alternates should or should not recuse from votes.
- 7) ANAC Official Documents Review (8:55 – 9:05)
 - a. Committee members will review the documents prior to the February 20th meeting:
 - ANAC_Criteria and application.Rev1, and the site visit form

- The documents are posted on the town website.
 - b. Should add a clear explanation of Conservation Easements for the website and something we can leave at the Town Hall.
- 8) Other business (9:05-9:12)
- a. Sam noted that the federal farm bill includes funding for mediation of inter-generational transfer of farms. That could benefit Monkton landowners.
 - b. Talked about how up-to-date the town's conserved lands & Use Value Appraisal maps are (they appear dated by up to 10 years).
- 9) Confirmed ANAC meeting dates for February 20th and March 13th (9:12-9:15)
- 10) Adjourn (9:00)
- a. Susan moved to adjourn. Sam seconded. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Jaime Schulte