

**Town of Monkton
Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
23rd May 2019, 6:30pm
Monkton Town Hall**

Attendance:

Present: Laura Farrell, Chelsea Smiley (6:22-7:00), Ian Smiley, Jaime Schulte, Ann Johnston
Miller

On Leave: Joe Roman

Guests: None

Minutes Taker: Jaime Schulte

- 1) Laura called the meeting to order (6:22)
- 1) Appoint minutes taker
 - a. Will be Jaime for this meeting.
- 2) Approve minutes from 2 April 2019
 - a. Chelsea moved that we accept the minutes as written. Ann seconded. Approved unanimously.
- 3) Updates on Raven Ridge (Chelsea and Ian)
 - a. Green Up Day coordination could be handled next year by MCC?
 - b. Could coordinate cleanup/green-up activities next year with TNC.
 - c. TNC planted elm trees this spring as a sort of hedgerow connectivity corridor to help wildlife transit open land. TNC plans to let them grow for 10 years and then infect with Dutch Elm Disease to see what the survival rate looks like. MCC may have concerns about that (we have many elms in town that could potentially be affected? Needs follow-up.
- 4) Recent Comments emails and new Applications (Chelsea and Ian)
 - a. Permit relating to water rights and selling water outside the state. We will seek to learn more.
 - b. Discussed a permit relating to a project on Mountain Rd.
- 5) Community volunteer "opportunities" to help remove wild parsnip from Morse Park and the vicinity of MCS.
 - a. Chelsea moved that we set up some MCC-sponsored invasive removal events for parsnip and post information on removing garlic mustard. Ann seconded. All were in favor. (6:50pm)
 - Parsnip
 - c) Jaime to post events on the Monkton Facebook group for the community to remove parsnip at Morse Park and MCS, building on the successful events from last summer. Best in the second half of June and early July. Ian will re-post the events on Front Porch Forum.
 - d) We'll use the Monkton owned parsnip shovels and some privately-owned shovels.
 - e) Jaime to approach Jane Lindholm with a reminder (her request) to re-run the segment she aired on the parsnip removal efforts last summer. Early June would be a good time to re-run that on VPR.

- Garlic Mustard
 - c) Jaime to post information on the Monkton Facebook group on how to identify and remove Garlic Mustard. Now is the right time to pull it! Ian will repost to FPF.
- 6) Approval to print 3-4 copies of Field Guide “Key Species of Monkton” from budget, if under a certain amount.
 - a. We do not have a budget for 2019, so would need to fundraise to produce a few bound copies to be donated to the library.
 - b. Maybe a collection could be taken at the strawberry festival (sponsored by the library) for that amount, because the library would receive the copies.
 - Jaime moved that Laura approach Jane Low about taking up a collection at the Strawberry Festival to have some copies of “Key Species of Monkton” bound for inclusion in the library’s collection. Ian seconded. All were in favor (Chelsea was no longer present at 7:19 when we voted).
- 7) Discussed temporary storage of working documents for the MCC. Need a place, such as Google Drive, to store files on projects, etc. Need a town approach for the various committees.
 - a. Ian moved that Jaime approach Steve Pilcher to discuss what is OK from a town perspective. Ann seconded. All were in favor.
- 8) Dates for June and July
 - a. June 13th, 6:30pm
 - b. July 11th, 6:00pm
- 9) Review minutes (7:55-8:00)
- 10) Adjourned at 8:00
 - a. Jaime moved to adjourn. Ann seconded. All were in favor.