

**Town of Monkton
Agricultural and Natural Areas Committee
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, August 7th, 2019, at 7:00pm
Monkton Town Hall
(Approved November 6th, 2019)**

Members Attending: Laura Farrell (Chair), Sam Burr (Vice-Chair), Jaime Schulte (Clerk), Susan Mahony, John Mejia

Members Absent: Nora Woolf

Guests: Sam Burr (for the portion of the meeting relevant to his own project at Last Resort Farm)

Laura called the meeting to order at 7:01.

1) Approve Feb 20th and June 6th minutes

- a. Susan moved to approve the February 20th minutes. Jaime seconded. Minor edits were made in discussion. February 20th, 2019 minutes were approved as amended (5-0-0).
- b. Sam moved to approve the June 6th minutes. John seconded. Minor edits were made in discussion. June 6th, 2019 minutes were approved as amended (5-0-0).

2) Updates

- a. Burr/Doyle project - formerly referred to as Project 2019B - Option to Purchase at Agricultural Value (OPAV)
 - Sam recused himself at this point from any current or future deliberations and decisions regarding this project (Last Resort Farm OPAV project) and is attending this portion of this meeting as an applicant.
 - ANAC does not yet have a formal application and Sam is meeting with us for awareness. Sam presented the status of the project and plan to amend the existing conservation easement on the farm to convert a portion of the property into an OPAV and to establish a Riparian Buffer Zone and a Wetland Protection Zone.
 - There are some zoning questions to resolve as part of the project.
 - Appraisal is projected to be done in mid-September along with a formal application.
 - As part of the project an 80-acre conserved parcel, in the Pond Brook area, would be donated to the town and presumably become part of Monkton's existing Pond Brook Management Area. The Selectboard is already aware of the owners' intention to donate the parcel.
 - We will plan a site visit to Last Resort Farm for Thursday, September 26th, following receipt of the application and a more formal presentation of the project at our next meeting. Sam anticipates a modest request to ANAC as part of the funding mix for the OPAV project but does not have final figures yet.
 - Sam rejoined the meeting as a committee member at the conclusion of this topic.

3) Fall 2018 Project Site Visit Report

- a. The site visit report was approved at our last meeting and should be shared with the preliminary applicants. Briefly, ANAC does not recommend proceeding with a project for this parcel at this point due to lack of suitable access to the parcel and pending a formal application from the landowner. The potential project has, however, been referred to the Town Forest Committee as a parcel of interest.

4) Next meeting dates

- a. Confirmed September 25th (6:30pm) and October 16th (6:30pm).

Adjournment

John moved to adjourn. Jaime seconded. All were in favor (5-0-0). Adjourned at 9:04pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaime Schulte
Clerk