

Town of Monkton
Agricultural & Natural Areas Committee
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, November 6th, 2019, at 6:30pm
Monkton Town Hall
(Approved December 3rd, 2019)

Members Attending: Laura Farrell (Chair), Sam Burr (Vice Chair), Jaime Schulte (Clerk – arrived 6:40), Susan Mahony, John Mejia

Members Absent: Nora Woolf (Alternate)

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 6:35.

1) Approve Minutes

- a. **Sam moved that we approve the minutes for August 7th, 2019.** Susan seconded. No edits were made after review. All were in favor (4-0-0) with Jaime absent.
- b. **Sam moved that we approve the minutes for September 25th, 2019.** Susan seconded. No edits were made after review. All were in favor (4-0-0) with Jaime joining the meeting just after the vote.

2) Updates, Part 1

- a. Burr-Doyle OPAV project (Sam recused and attended as a guest for this section 2a)
 - Update: the question on housing is being resolved with VLT and the appraiser is considering how that might change the in-progress appraisal. Formal application to ANAC can follow once there is an appraisal and budget for the project.

3) Preparation for the yearly 2019 ANAC report in the Town Annual Report

- a. In June we hosted a celebration of Full Belly Farm's conservation.
- b. The Selectboard approved ANAC's recommendation to support the purchase of a conservation easement on Charlie and Jane Huizenga's farm. We are partnering with VLT and VHCB on this project.
- c. As a result of a potential forest project we proposed language for the Town Plan that supported establishment of a Town Forest and Town Forest Committee. That language was included by the Planning Commission in the draft Town Plan and the Selectboard has now established a Town Forest Committee.
- d. ANAC has assisted and supported the Conservation Commission as it was reestablished in 2019.

We will complete our report at the December meeting.

4) 2020 Budget for submission to Selectboard

- a. We discussed our operating budget and timeline of past and projected needs for the ANA Fund.
- b. **Susan moved that we ask the town for a \$400 operating budget for the Committee in 2020.** Seconded by Sam. All were in favor (5-0-0).
- c. We will postpone a vote on our request for the ANA Fund until our December meeting.

5) Updates, Part 2

- a. Huizenga project
 - Conservation easement closing is projected to occur in spring 2020.
- b. Project 2019A status update (Laura) – still in the exploratory phase.
- c. Update on working space for committee files (Jaime):
 - Mark Boltz-Robinson is assisting the Selectboard (on a volunteer basis) to review the town's overall IT & security plans and infrastructure. The approach to document management will be included in that process. Should have a plan in place by January.

6) Burr-Doyle OPAV site visit report

- a. Laura will assemble our site visit notes into a consolidated form and send to Susan, who will create a draft. Jaime will assist as requested.

7) Confirm next meeting dates

- a. Tuesday, December 3rd @ 6:30pm
- b. Tuesday, January 7th @ 6:30pm

8) Review minutes

- a. Draft minutes were reviewed.

Adjournment

Jaime moved to adjourn. John seconded. All were in favor (5-0-0). Adjourned at 9:06pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaime Schulte
Clerk