

**Town of Monkton
Agricultural & Natural Areas Committee
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, June 10th, 2020, at 7:00pm
Zoom & Phone Meeting**

Members Attending: Laura Farrell (Chair), Jaime Schulte (Clerk), Nora Woolf (Alternate), Whitney Leighton (Alternate), Susan Mahony

Members Absent: Sam Burr, John Mejia

Guests: None

Laura called the meeting to order at 7:06.

1) Approve Minutes

- a. **Nora moved that we approve the minutes for May 11th, 2020. Jaime seconded.** Minor edits were made in discussion. **Nora moved that we approve the minutes for May 11th, 2020 as amended. Jaime seconded.** No additional discussion. **All were in favor (5-0-0).**
- b. **Jaime moved that we approve the minutes for May 21st, 2020. Nora seconded.** No edits were made in discussion. **All were in favor (5-0-0).**

2) Updates

- a. Our request to the Selectboard and new farm assistance programs available
 - Laura, Sam, & Jaime attended the Selectboard meeting on May 25th regarding our recommendation to assist Monkton dairy farms. The Selectboard had concerns about this use of the ANA Fund vs. what it was set up to do. Since that meeting state and federal programs have become more available, although the timeline for any benefit to actually reach a farm remains a concern.
 - ANAC should determine if we will monitor the situation or pursue next steps. Laura will reach out to see how things are going for the farms we were most concerned about. Based on the response we will continue looking at options to help. ANAC did assemble a list of resources and shared those with them.
- b. Doyle-Burr OPAV
 - No updates.
- c. Huizenga project 2019C
 - Looking like August for the conclusion of the project. Possibility to include Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) funds in the project (riparian/erosion improvements).
- d. Potential project 2019A
 - No updates.
- e. Town Forest progress
 - The Town Forest Committee is interested in the Values Mapping exercise being led by the Conservation Commission. Also is interested in doing some site visits this summer to get a sense of different forest lands in Monkton. The committee has done some reading/research on funding and other town forests but has much more to do there.
- f. Document storage space
 - Mark Boltz-Robinson is assessing next steps for document storage. Jaime to follow-up.

3) Request from The Planning Commission

- a. The PC is starting work on revisions to their Unified Planning Document and is looking for input from other Boards and Committees: what would we like to see, relevant to their work, that could be reflected in Monkton's zoning and subdivision regulations?
 - Should there be protections or considerations for certain classes of soils?
 - Planned Unit Developments. Can there be an incentive to preserve ideal agricultural/tillable land?
 - Susan to find out the Planning Commission's timeline for UPD updates.

4) COVID ideas

- a. We'll have a better sense by the next meeting on whether the impact of Covid-19 is resolving in Vermont or increasing again.

5) Confirm Next Meeting Dates

- a. Wednesday, July 8th @ 7:00pm
- b. Wednesday, August 12th @ 7:00pm

Adjournment

Nora moved to adjourn. Jaime seconded. All were in favor (5-0-0). Adjourned at 8:34pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaime Schulte
Clerk