

**Town of Monkton  
Conservation Commission  
MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 6:00pm  
Zoom and Phone Meeting**

**Members Present:** Chelsea Smiley (Chair), Jaime Schulte (Clerk), Kevin Lambert (Treasurer), Ann Johnston Miller

**Members Absent:** None

**Guests Present:** Peter Dufault, Mark Boltz-Robinson

Chelsea called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

**Regular Business**

- Set Time/Date of Next Meetings
  - Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6:00pm
  - Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6:00pm
- Approve Minutes
  - **Ann moved to approve the minutes for August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 as written. Jaime seconded. No edits were made in discussion. All were in favor (4-0-0).**

**Community Engagement**

- Values Mapping
  - Jens Hilke looking to have some help testing an online tool to facilitate the mapping exercise.
  - Set date of the Values Mapping event in early November
    - Zoom event (~90 minutes):
      - Initial explanation of values mapping
      - Training on the online tool
      - Breakout to Zoom rooms to work on copies of the town map
      - **Jaime moved to hold the online Zoom Values Mapping event on Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 from 6:00-7:30pm with a backup date of November 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00-7:30pm. Kevin seconded. All were in favor (4-0-0).** Chelsea will check availability with Jens Hilke from VT Fish & Wildlife.
      - **Jaime moved to have the online mapping site available for a couple of weeks starting the day after the online event. Ann seconded. All were in favor (4-0-0).**
        - We'll post a recording of the Zoom meeting for folks who were unable to attend and would like to watch it before using the online mapping tool.
    - Physical maps:
      - Finalize dates and times the physical map will be available at the Pavilion in Morse Park. Possibly at the church on the Ridge as well.
      - Having a physical map at the Fire Station was not approved (at least not coinciding with Election Day).
      - **Physical map availability – Kevin moved that the physical map availability correspond to the online map availability (couple of weeks). Ann seconded. All were in favor (4-0-0).**
        - Would have basic instructions for marking up the map and contact information if there are questions.
  - Approve a budget for the Values Mapping event
    - Quotes are in for signs, sandwich boards, markers, etc. Total \$344.

- **Ann moved to approve a budget of \$344 for materials and advertising relating to the Values Mapping exercise. Kevin seconded.** No additional discussion. **All were in favor (4-0-0).**
- We won't directly advertise in the Addison Independent, but will inform them in case it is a community interest item the staff would like to include.
- Report from Kevin on the website:
  - Kevin to acquire the domain and work on the site.
- Reviewed the proposed content for the sandwich boards (which would be set up along roadsides)
  - **Jaime moved to approve the content for the sandwich boards. Kevin seconded.** No edits after review. **All were in favor (4-0-0).**
- We will approve advertising posters at our next meeting.
- Review press release
  - **Kevin moved to consider the Press Release wording. Jaime seconded.** Minor edits were made on review (date, time, etc.)
  - **Kevin moved to approve the press release as amended. Ann seconded. All were in favor (4-0-0).**
- Assign someone to create content for Facebook and FPF posts and decide how often the posts will go out.
  - **Ann moved to consider the Front Porch Forum content for the event. Kevin seconded.** Minor edits were proposed on review (wording, dates, etc.)
  - **Ann moved to approve the Front Porch Forum content as amended. Kevin seconded. All were in favor (4-0-0).**
  - Facebook event to be created in October for the event.
- Not planning to phone bank at this point.
- Assign someone to print materials (Kevin)
- Assign someone to troubleshoot the website (Jaime)
- Everyone will consider locations around town for the sandwich boards. Will discuss at our next meeting. Will need contacts for the press release.

### Work with other Committees

- Unified Planning Document (UPD) recommendations to the Planning Commission
  - The Agricultural & Natural Areas Committee has invited us to develop a joint list of recommendations for changes to the UPD. Discussed that the Planning Commission's timeline of October to complete their edits to the UPD does not leave adequate time to coordinate with ANAC.
  - **Jaime moved that we bring ANAC's attention to the Conservation Commission's recommendations as documented in meeting minutes from recent months (for instance when we met with the Planning Commission Co-Chair). Kevin seconded.** Discussion was that ANAC may have different recommendations or may adopt our recommendations if they choose to. Jaime will locate the meeting minutes content and send to ANAC. **All were in favor (4-0-0).**

### New Business

- Discussed a letter received regarding activity noted on a parcel off Mountain Rd. No action taken at this time, but further clarification is anticipated from the Zoning Administrator.

### Education & Stewardship

- Pond Brook Management Plan Changes
  - Mark Boltz-Robinson (Monkton Tree Warden) proposed that the management plan include the Monkton Tree Warden in relevant management decisions.
  - Continued review of the management plan:

- **Kevin moved to amend Page 1, second to last paragraph, to read “Since then a number of additional parcels were conserved in this area, such that a continuous band of conserved parcels now extends across the wetlands.” Jaime seconded. No additional edits/discussion. All were in favor (4-0-0).**
- **Kevin moved to accept proposed clarifying language on page 4 (highlighted in red). Jaime seconded. No edits made in review. All were in favor (4-0-0).**
- **Ann moved to amend page 5 under Current Physical Improvements to the Area to extend the second sentence to read: “There are fallen barbed wire fences and there was a woods road through a youngish woodland in 2003, which is presumably now early successional forest.” Jaime seconded. All were in favor (4-0-0).**
- **Kevin moved to table further consideration of the Pond Brook Management until our next meeting. Ann seconded. All were in favor (4-0-0).**

### **Adjournment**

- **Jaime moved to adjourn. Kevin seconded. All were in favor (4-0-0). Adjourned at 8:07pm.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Jaime Schulte  
Clerk