

**Town of Monkton
Agricultural & Natural Areas Committee
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, December 7th, 2020, at 7:30pm
Zoom & Phone Meeting**

Members Attending: Laura Farrell (Chair), Susan Mahony (Vice-Chair), Jaime Schulte (Clerk), Whitney Leighton, Sam Burr (Alternate – joined at 8:03pm)

Members Absent: John Mejia (Digital Czar), Nora Woolf (Alternate)

Guests: None

- 1) **Laura called the meeting to order at 7:33pm.**
- 2) **Jaime moved to consider the minutes of November 17th, 2020. Susan seconded.** Some review took place. **Laura moved to approve the minutes of November 17th, 2020 as written. Susan seconded.** No additional discussion. **All were in favor (4-0-0).**
- 3) **Updates:**
 - a. Covid assistance progress – Laura has been in touch with some area farms. Please send info on any news about state or federal programs.
 - b. Thank you notes to the Doyle-Burrs and Huizengas. Laura will send a card.
 - c. Post spreadsheet in ANAC Archives – in-progress.
 - d. Potential project 2019A – no update.
 - e. Values Mapping – completed in November and the data is being assembled.
 - f. Town Forest progress – researching funding options, keeping an eye open for suitable parcels available.
 - g. Document storage space – no update.
- 4) **Raven’s Ridge use rate**
 - a. Foot traffic has dramatically increased at Raven’s Ridge recently due to a general trend toward outdoor recreation in Covid-19 times and increased advertising online. The concern is about the safety of 20+ cars parked along the roadside by Raven’s Ridge at times and the ecological impact of increased human traffic (and related dogs who are not allowed at the site). We are looking at ways to have it removed from some websites where it is shown as a “Top 10” hike.
- 5) **2021 Line item budget request**
 - a. Developed a write-up to accompany the 2021 budget request to the Selectboard.
- 6) **2020 Town Report**
 - a. Began work on the 2020 Town Report write-up, which presumably would be due mid-January. Susan will create a draft for approval at our next meeting.
- 7) **Confirm next meeting dates**
 - a. Wednesday, January 13th, 7:00pm
 - b. Wednesday, February 10th, 7:00pm
- 8) **Adjournment**
 - a. Jaime moved to adjourn. Susan seconded. All were in favor (4-0-0). Sam had departed the meeting by this time. Adjourned at 9:18pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**Jaime Schulte
Clerk**