

**Town of Monkton  
Conservation Commission  
MEETING MINUTES  
Saturday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 10:00am  
Zoom and Phone Meeting**

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

**Members Absent:** Chelsea Smiley (Chair), Caroline Alves

**Guests Present:** None

Kevin called the meeting to order at 10:01pm as sub-committee lead.

**Act 171 (protection of forest blocks and connectivity)**

Act 171 Requires towns to:

- indicate those areas that are important as forest blocks and habitat connectors
  - plan for land development in those areas to minimize forest fragmentation and promote the health, viability, and ecological function of forests. Forest areas can be inclusive of wetlands.
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- Discussed the timeline for Act 171. Need to gather community priorities on protecting ecological resources and create a related map by summer. From there the Planning Commission can create policy/zoning.
  - Could begin to discuss with the community at or around Town Meeting.
    - Community education on forest blocks, fragmentation, and connectivity is one step. Feedback gathering about Monkton's collective ecological values is a key next step. We will also review of the current Town Plan to see what is already described there and what might be missing from an Act 171 perspective. It is essential to balance protection of Monkton's ecological richness with human uses and landowner interests
  - Kevin will work on content for community education to consider at our next regular meeting on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Adjournment**

- Kevin moved to adjourn. Ann seconded. All were in favor (3-0-0). Adjourned at 10:35am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jaime Schulte  
Clerk