

**Town of Monkton  
Agricultural & Natural Areas Committee  
MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at 7:00pm  
Zoom & Phone Meeting**

**Members Attending:** Laura Farrell (Chair), Susan Mahony (Vice-Chair), Jaime Schulte (Clerk), Whitney Leighton, John Mejia (Digital Czar)

**Members Absent:** Sam Burr (Alternate)

**Guests:** None

**Laura called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.**

**1) Minutes**

- a. **Whitney moved to consider the minutes of March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Jaime seconded.** Some review took place and a minor edit. **Jaime moved to approve the minutes of March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 as written. Whitney seconded.** No additional discussion. **All were in favor (3-0-1)**, with John abstaining (not present at the last meeting) and Susan having not yet joined the call.

**2) Updates:**

- a) Covid assistance progress – no new updates
- b) Potential project 2019A – Laura provided a brief update
- c) Potential project inquiry (would be 2021A) – Jaime provided an update
- d) Town Forest progress – no new updates
- e) Document storage space – no new updates
- f) Raven's Ridge use
  - a. Susan visited Raven's Ridge as planned at our last meeting. Signage/blocked off area of Raven's Ridge was clearly marked. No dogs seen at the time.
  - b. Whitney will check in with The Nature Conservancy about checking in on the site.

**3) Field Naturalist application**

- a) Laura met the field naturalist student.
- b) Expecting the survey of northern and western areas of Monkton to be completed by the fall.

**4) Host some Regional Conservation Partnership pollinator pathway info on website**

- a) Laura described the project and suggested putting information on the website. Will confer with Conservation on where best to put the link.

**5) Request from The Planning Commission**

The Planning Commission is looking for input by June 1, 2021 from ANAC on revisions to Monkton's Unified Planning Document (zoning regulations) later in 2021. We can contribute recommendations for improved zoning and subdivision regulations in support of required updates for Act 171 (protection of forest blocks and connectors between them, etc.).

Discussed what habitat and natural resources exist in Monkton and available mapping of them. We will take assignments to research:

- 1) What other towns have done for zoning/town plans around this topic of forest block and natural areas protection.

- a. Ferrisburgh – Whitney
  - b. Thetford – Susan
  - c. Marshfield - John
- 2) Reviewing the presentation that Andy Wood (of the Agency of Natural Resources) gave on the topic to Monkton (sponsored by the Conservation Commission) which included examples from other towns.
  - a. Jaime & Laura
- 3) Review examples from the Act 171 guidance document (Shrewsbury, Hartford, etc.)
  - a. Jaime, all
- 6) **Other Business**
  - a. There was no other business.
- 7) **Confirm next meeting dates**
  - a. Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm
  - b. Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm (if needed)
  - c. Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm
  - d. Wednesday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm

**Adjournment**

- a) John moved to adjourn. Susan seconded. All were in favor (5-0-0). Adjourned at 8:57pm.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Jaime Schulte  
Clerk**