

**Town of Monkton
Conservation Commission
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, May 13th, 2021 6:00pm
Zoom and Phone Meeting**

Members Present: Chelsea Smiley (Chair), Ann Johnston Miller (Vice-Chair), Jaime Schulte (Clerk), Prem Linskey, Caroline Alves, Pam Tingiris

Members Absent: Kevin Lambert (Treasurer)

Guests Present: Laura Farrell (MCC advisor)

Chelsea called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

Regular Business

- Review agenda
- Set Time/Date of Next Meetings
 - Thursday, June 10th, 2021 at **5:00pm**
 - Thursday, July 8th, 2021 at 6:00pm
- Approve Minutes
 - **Caroline moved to consider the minutes of April 8th, 2021. Prem seconded.** No edits were made in discussion. **Caroline moved to approve the minutes as written. Jaime seconded.** No additional discussion. **All were in favor (6-0-0).**
- Welcome new members! Prem Linskey and Pam Tingiris.

Updates

- Morse Park Management Plan
 - Determine whether we will attend next Rec Committee meeting or request a special meeting to finalize.
- ENB Permit updates
- Pollinators
- Naturalist Project

Act 171

- Updates from Recommendations Group
 - Goals for what the Recommendations Group will complete by our regular meeting on May 13th:
 - Gather what other towns have for town plan/zoning language /compare with Act 171 guidance
 - Start work on draft language
 - Select map layers/resources – gather examples
 - Scope:
 - Drafting language for the Planning Commission & related maps
 - Identifying the areas of Monkton that are important for this project (forest blocks, etc.)
 - Evaluating what other towns have done, best practices, etc.
 - Develop priorities for what to protect and how
 - Prepare recommendations and mapping to show the resources and areas in Monkton
 - Members of this working group: Jaime, Caroline, Laura (advisory)
- Updates from Engagement Group
 - Goals for what the Engagement Group will complete by our regular meeting on May 13th:
 - Brainstorm Presentations/Engagement ideas
 - Have a list of engagement activities & some progress toward scheduling & outreach
 - Scope:
 - Education and outreach with the community, gathering community feedback
 - What is Act 171 about and how does it relate to the future of Monkton?

- Outcomes from the Values Mapping exercise last year
- Learning about Monkton's natural resources
- What Monkton might look like in various future development/zoning scenarios
- Members of this working group: Kevin, Chelsea, Prem
- Consider collaboration with ANAC
- Timeline: to be voted on in May – need to have info to the Planning Commission in September
 - Recommendations groups will meet between regular Commission meetings.
 - Next meeting Monday 5/17 5:00pm.
- Caroline has started to assemble a table of what surrounding towns have for rules on forest blocks and stream setbacks and such. We will all start by reviewing Monkton's Town Plan and Zoning to calibrate.

Pond Brook Management Plan

- Update from site visit
 - Laura visited the Pond Brook Management Area with the Vermont Land Trust a couple of months ago. They found the area to be in good condition with no management needed at this time (for invasive plants, etc.)
- Edit plan.
 - The plan has been in revision for some time and we are nearing the end of that process. The committee made minor edits during tonight's review.
 - **Jaime moved to approve the edits made to the Pond Brook Management Plan during review. Prem seconded. No additional discussion. All were in favor (6-0-0).**

Adjournment

- Jaime moved to adjourn. Caroline seconded. All were in favor (6-0-0). Adjourned at 8:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jaime Schulte
Clerk