

**Town of Monkton  
Conservation Commission  
MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 6:00pm  
In-Person at the Town Hall and on Zoom/Phone**

**Members Present:** Chelsea Smiley (Chair & Treasurer), Ann Johnston Miller (Vice-Chair), Jaime Schulte (Clerk)

**Members Absent:** Caroline Alves

**Guests Present:** Laura Farrell

Chelsea called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

Conservation Commission member Prem Linskey is moving out of Monkton. We thank him for his service to the town and wish him well.

### **Regular Business**

- Reviewed Agenda
- Set Time/Date of Next Meetings
  - Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 6:00pm
  - Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 6:00pm
- Approve Minutes
  - **Ann moved to approve the minutes of August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 as amended. Chelsea seconded. No additional discussion. All were in favor (3-0-0).**

### **Updates**

- Review Zapata's Resources
  - Zapata can do a community presentation later in the year and provide some materials.
- Environmental Notice Board (ENB)
- Morse Park Management Plan
  - Chelsea to reach out to the Rec Committee on next steps
- Check-in about Town Forest Committee
  - Had two public input sessions last week and have a start on community priorities. No current project yet.
- Check in about local COVID Relief Allocations
  - Jaime to send the current list of ideas for use of the funds as compiled by the Selectboard

### **Act 171 (6:40-7:40)**

- Who will attend Planning Commission meeting on September 21<sup>st</sup>?
  - Make sure attendees are prepared to present
    - Will quickly review the series of educational and community engagement events around this topic. These reports and recordings can be found on the town website.
    - Will present a set of 3 maps and discuss.
    - Will share key short and medium recommendations.
      - Assistance from the Planning Commission on gathering community feedback
      - Consider hiring consultant(s) to project what future development in Monkton could look like with current zoning & facilitate community engagement on future land use
      - Consider hiring consultant(s) to map habitat connectivity in Monkton & facilitate community engagement
      - Discussed additional recommendations that could be impactful in the current planning cycle.

- **Ann moved to recommend to the Planning Commission that riparian and river corridor zoning protection be strengthened by increasing buffer width and promoting vegetated buffers, due to their significance as habitat connectivity and for water quality and flood resilience. Jaime seconded. No further discussion. All were in favor (3-0-0).**
- **Chelsea moved to recommend to the Planning Commission that town zoning regarding wetlands and their associated buffers be stronger than state minimums. Jaime seconded. No further discussion. All were in favor (3-0-0).**

### **Pond Brook Management Plan**

- Continued review of the Pond Brook Conservation Area management plan.
- **Chelsea moved to approve changes made in review to the draft management plan. Ann seconded. No further discussion. All were in favor (3-0-0).**

### **Adjournment**

- Jaime moved to adjourn. Ann seconded. All were in favor (3-0-0). Adjourned at 7:59pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jaime Schulte  
Clerk