

**Town of Monkton**  
**Agricultural & Natural Areas Committee**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at 6:30pm**  
**Monkton Town Hall & via Zoom/Phone**

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

**Members Absent:** Sam Burr (Alternate), John Mejia (Digital Czar)

**Guests:** None

**Laura called the meeting to order at 6:40pm.**

**1) Minutes**

- a) Approve minutes of November 17th
  - i) **Susan moved to approve the minutes of November 17th, 2021 as written. Jaime seconded.** There was no additional discussion. **All were in favor (4-0-0).**

**2) Project 2019A – site visit report and next steps**

- a) Edited the site visit report.
- b) **Jaime moved to approve the Site Visit Report for the Close and Weisenbach properties. Susan seconded.** There was no additional discussion. **All were in favor (4-0-0).**

**3) 2019A application**

- a) The project application is pending appraisal numbers.

**4) 2021 Line item amount**

- a) Need additional information: the current ANA Fund balance, which has been requested of the Treasurer.
- b) Historically this was 2 cents on the tax dollar and then a similar figure of \$50k/year to the ANA Fund. This was reduced to 35k and then 15k over the past two years to minimize the town tax rate, so residents could better absorb supporting our schools, the new town hall/library and ongoing economic conditions during the pandemic. We do have at least one substantial project that is expected to occur in 2022 in addition to the 2019A project. There have been projects in the past that needed to occur in a short amount of time and the project was only possible due to having a sufficient ANA Fund balance.

**5) 2021 ANAC report for Town Report. *Due in Jan 2021***

- a) Edited a draft of the ANAC write-up for the Town Report.
- b) We encourage the community to view Eric Sorensen's presentation from July 2021 on Monkton's Ecological Landscape (found on the Conservation Commission's page on the town website) at <http://monktonvt.com/boards-and-committees/conservation-commission/> which addresses the natural history of the town through time.

**6) Posting the work ANAC completed in September on behalf of the Planning Commission regarding Act 171 and ecologically-focused zoning language**

- a) Briefly reviewed the documents and discussed completing/posting them publicly in January.

- 7) Updates:
  - a) Covid assistance progress - ARPA - Laura is working on a proposal to have a consultant map fine-scale habitat connectivity in Monkton.
  - b) Farm list - Sam Burr is working on a directory of farms
  - c) Document storage space - Google Drive space has been acquired for the various committees.
- 8) Confirm dates and locations/zoom - @6:30 or 7:00?
  - a) Wednesday, 15th December 2021, 6:30pm-8:00pm - **canceled**
  - b) Wednesday, 5th January 2021, 6:30pm-8:30pm
  - c) Wednesday, 12th January 2021, 6:30pm-8:30pm
  - d) Wednesday, 19th January 2021, 6:30pm-8:30pm
  - e) Wednesday, 2nd February 2021, 6:30pm-8:30pm
  - f) Wednesday, 16th February 2021, 6:30pm-8:30pm
- 9) Review Minutes
  - a) Minutes were reviewed

### **Adjournment**

Jaime moved to adjourn. Susan seconded. All were in favor (4-0-0). Adjourned at 8:54pm.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
**Jaime Schulte**  
**Clerk**