

**Town of Monkton
Conservation Commission
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, March 7th, 2022 7:00pm
Meeting via Zoom/Phone**

Members Present: Ann Johnston Miller (Acting Chair), Jaime Schulte (Clerk), Debra Sprague, Caroline Alves, Nancy Wilson

Members Absent: None

Guests Present: None

Ann called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Regular Business

- Review Agenda
- Set time for next meetings.
 - Monday, April 4th, 2022 at 7:00pm
 - Monday, May 2nd, 2022 at 7:00pm
 - Will establish a regular meeting time monthly, such as first Mondays.
- Minutes
 - Approve minutes of February 7th, 2022
 - **Debra moved to approve the minutes of February 7th, 2022 as written. Caroline seconded.** No additional discussion. **All were in favor (4-0-1)**, with Nancy abstaining (not present at the last meeting).
- Welcome new member Nancy Wilson! Introductions all around.
- Orientation for new members: become familiar with Act 171, rules and procedures etc. check out links on MCC web page, get Monkton email set up!
- Discuss funding for a consultant to create a more complete mapping of wetlands, connectivity and other natural resources.
- Jim Andrews offers Monkton a presentation on “Significant Reptiles and Amphibians of Monkton”
 - **Caroline moved to proceed with a presentation. Nancy seconded.** Discussed late April as an ideal timeframe. **All were in favor (5-0-0).**
- Discuss liaison with Planning Commission on UPD updates
 - Debra and Ann attended a recent Planning Commission meeting. The Planning Commission would like more interaction with Conservation and ANAC as zoning updates are on-going. We will attend meetings as members are able.
- Future direction for CC, what needs keener focus.
 - Committee to review the scope of Conservation Commissions:
 - <https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/fullchapter/24/118>
 - Jaime will reach out to the Rec Committee to continue the conversation about the timing of Morse Park mowing and park management.
 - Continue to consolidate mapping of natural areas and seek funding to continue mapping efforts.
 - Collaborate with the Town Forest Committee as a project develops.
 - Continue to engage with the Planning Commission on Act 171 and other zoning topics.
 - Continue the wild parsnip efforts in Morse Park (year #5?)

- Consider establishing a lending program for tools, perhaps through the library.
 - Debra will look into the small grants program (money for tools, etc.)
- Wetland virtual presentation by Zapata Courage is on March 10, starting at 5:15 for set up, 5:30 start, 45 min then Q & A – Ann will do another round of advertising
- Other business:
 - Recruitment strategy - still have a couple of openings
 - Pond Brook - needs further work from CC - we will ask Laura
 - Environmental Notice Board (ENB) who can follow and catch - discussed the difficulty of short public comment timeframes with our meeting schedule.
 - Ann/Laura to ask Sam Burr about a presentation on Erosion Control he had offered to host.
 - We will elect officers at our April meeting.

Adjournment

- Caroline moved to adjourn. Jaime seconded. All were in favor (5-0-0). Adjourned at 08:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jaime Schulte
Clerk