

**Town of Monkton
Town Forest Committee
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, October 18th, 2022, at 7:00pm
Town Hall & Zoom/Phone Meeting
(Approved January 4th, 2023)**

Members present: Jaime Schulte, Callie Brynn, Pete Dufault

Members absent: John McNerney

Guests: None

Callie called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

1. Review minutes: 9/15/22
 - a. **Jaime moved to approve the minutes of September 15th, 2022 as written. Pete seconded.** No additional discussion. **All were in favor (3-0-0).**
2. Public Comment - None
3. Grants/budget
 - a. Federal grant - not open yet. Will inquire with the landowner if we can do a visit related to bat habitat, as another funding option.
 - b. Does the Town Forest Committee have a budget? What would that look like? Some discussion.
4. Timeline
 - a. Expecting appraisal shortly.
5. Site visit
 - a. On hold for now
6. Community input
 - a. Pending discussion with the landowner after appraisal comes in.
 - b. Discussed what information would be needed ahead of a town vote on a town forest and potentially the related use of funds.
7. Parcel of interest
8. Cruise
 - a. Since our last meeting the Town Forest Committee requested up to \$4,000 in Agricultural & Natural Areas Funds for appraisal-related costs as we look to establish a town forest. The Agricultural & Natural Areas Committee approved the request and recommended it to the Selectboard. The Selectboard approved the recommendation.
 - b. The Town Forest Committee then engaged Vermont Family Forests to do a timber assessment of the parcel of interest, to compare with the landowner's assessment.
 - c. The timber assessment is now underway and should be available by early November.
9. On-going:
 - i. ARPA proposal - will continue to prepare the application
 - ii. Grant application - on hold
 - iii. ACRPC Recreational Planning - on hold/future

10. Determined time/date of next meeting:

- a. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, November 3rd, 7pm.
- b. We anticipate joining the Selectboard meeting on Tuesday, November 8th, to provide an update on progress.
- c. There will also be a town forest committee meeting on Thursday, November 10th.

Adjournment

Jaime moved to adjourn. All were in favor (3-0-0). Adjourned at 8:40pm.

Minutes taken by Jaime Schulte.