

**Town of Monkton  
Town Forest Committee  
MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, December 1st, 2022, at 7:00pm  
Monkton Town Hall  
(Approved January 4th, 2023)**

Members present: Jaime Schulte, Callie Brynn, John McNerney, Peter Dufault

Members absent: None

Guests: Bob Heiser (Vermont Land Trust), Stephen Pilcher (Selectboard), Louise Watson (Monkton resident), Barb and Walter Crandall (Monkton residents), Susan Davis and Larry Pike (Monkton residents).

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

1. Public Comment
  - a. The public was interested in what “parcel of interest” the committee might be considering. They would like to know more. As we have noted in past meeting minutes, conversations are in-progress with a landowner and an appraisal was ordered but the project is still confidential at this stage. If an agreement is reached we would be able to begin engaging with the community about the project while working to obtain necessary funding.
  - b. Discussed how funding works for projects like this. Still a long road ahead, even if there were to be an agreement on a parcel, to apply for and obtain federal and state funding to cover the bulk of the project.
  - c. Discussed what uses a town forest might allow/support. That would be the result of engaging with the community to gather and understand Monkton’s priorities for a community forest, what uses are compatible with the areas of land in the eventual parcel, and the requirements and expectations of easement holders and funders, etc.
  - d. We were advised to gather a clear understanding of deeds, rights of way, mineral rights, etc., for any project. It can be complicated.
  - e. The committee expressed appreciation for the public’s input and interest in the project. We look forward to a more robust conversation in the near future.
2. Executive Session regarding parcel of interest appraisal
  - a. **John moved to enter Executive Session to consider a potential real estate transaction and invite Stephen Pilcher and Bob Heiser to join us. Jaime seconded. All were in favor (4-0-0).** Entered the Executive Session at 7:50pm.
  - b. **John moved to leave the Executive Session at 9:48pm. Jaime seconded. All were in favor (4-0-0).**

**Adjournment**

John moved to adjourn. All were in favor (4-0-0). Adjourned at 9:52pm.

Minutes taken by Jaime Schulte.