

**Town of Monkton**  
**Town Forest Committee**  
**DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, May 16th, 2023, at 7:00pm**  
**Monkton Town Hall & via Zoom**

Members present: Callie Brynn (Chair), Jaime Schulte (Vice-Chair), Peter Dufault, John McNerney, Molly Parren, CJ Buzzy (Alternate)

Members absent: None

Guests: Bob Heiser (Vermont Land Trust)

**Call To Order** - Callie called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

1. **Public Comment** - there was no public comment
2. **Review minutes 4/26/23**
  - a. **John moved to approve the minutes of April 26th, 2023 as written.** Pete seconded.  
There was no additional discussion. **All were in favor (6-0-0).**
3. **Welcome new committee members**
  - a. Welcomed Molly Parren and CJ Buzzy to the committee! Did introductions and discussed use of town email, etc.
4. **5/13 Recycling center recap, 5/21 site walk prep**
  - a. Callie and Jaime had an info table at the Recycling Center. There were many good conversations and some information was distributed. We would like to repeat this on some upcoming recycling days and other events, like the Strawberry festival.
  - b. There is some interest in the site walk on Sunday at 1:00pm.
5. **Community input/engagement/poster**
  - a. How do we engage more residents? We've directly heard from or talked with about 135 voters so far.
  - b. Tabling at the Recycling Center (starting 5/13) and the Strawberry Festival.
  - c. We can improve visibility on the homepage.
  - d. Continuing to post online regularly. Consider a mailing or in-person vote at Town Hall.
  - e. Bob is updating the community map/flyer.
6. **Grant/funding applications (Federal, VHCB, ANAC)**
  - a. The Vermont Housing and Conservation Board grant of \$371,000 was awarded for the project on May 16th!
  - b. Members of the Town Forest Committee, and Bob Heiser of the Vermont Land Trust (VLT), met with the ANAC committee on May 11th and took questions on the application submitted by VLT for up to \$45,000 from the ANA Fund. ANAC will be doing a site walk on June 1st, followed by a vote on the application. If approved the application would be referred to the Selectboard for their review.
  - c. We anticipate hearing in the next couple of months whether the federal grant will be awarded (by July).

**7. Title report**

- a. We should have everything needed related to the title. The next step is a meeting between the town and VLT's lawyers, Selectboard, A. Johnson, etc., to see if there are any questions/concerns.

**8. Access/maintenance**

- a. Callie and Jaime marked possible parking turnouts at Hardscrabble and Town Highway 36/Old Lover's Lane. We will ask Shane Lawrence (road foreman) to evaluate the areas and ask for an update on his assessment of Airport Road condition and maintenance.
- b. Jaime left the meeting at this point in the agenda (8:00pm) to join the Planning Commission's meeting.

**9. UVM Field assessment**

- a. There will be a site walk on 5/22 with Walt Poleman to consider the parcel's potential for field assessment projects by UVM graduate students. Data from such projects would help to inform the management plan.
- b. Molly mentioned that Cindy Sprague is interested in collecting data on Eastern Rat Snakes in the next year or so.

**10. Set next meeting date(s)**

- a. Community Site Walk on Sunday, May 21st, 1:00pm.
- b. Tabling at the Recycling Center on Saturday, May 27th, 9:00am-Noon.
- c. Community Site Walk on Wednesday, May 31st, 5:30pm.
- d. Regular meeting: Tuesday, June 6th, 7:00pm

**Adjournment** - John moved to adjourn. All were in favor (5-0-0), with Jaime having left the meeting earlier. Adjourned at 8:37pm.

Minutes taken by Jaime Schulte.