

**Town of Monkton**  
**Town Forest Committee**  
**DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**  
**Monday, August 7th, 2023, 7:00pm**  
**Monkton Town Hall & via Zoom**

Members present: Jaime Schulte (Vice-Chair), John McNerney, Molly Parren  
Members absent: Callie Brynn (Chair - on maternity leave), Peter Dufault, CJ Buzzy (Alternate)  
Guests: Bob Heiser (Vermont Land Trust); Monkton residents: Louise Watson, Susan Davis, Larry Pike, Walter Crandall (Selectboard), Barb Crandall, Joe Szarejko, Sue Grover, Dale Grover, Chris Payne.

**Call To Order** - Jaime called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

**1. Reviewed the Agenda**

**2. Public Comment**

- a. There was no public comment.

**3. Executive Session**

- a. Continuation of a discussion with the residents of Old Airport Road to hear their perspectives on the shared maintenance of this private road and to develop a draft agreement regarding that maintenance (to take effect if/when the proposed Monkton Town Forest is established).
  - i. **John moved to enter Executive Session, on the basis of our finding from July 6th, 2023, to continue discussion of a potential contract between the Town and the residents of Old Airport Road regarding the future shared maintenance of that road, and that we invite the residents of Old Airport Road and their family members present, the Selectboard members present, and Bob Heiser of Vermont Land Trust to join the Committee for that discussion. Molly seconded.** There was no further discussion. **All were in favor (3-0-0).** Entered Executive Session at 7:04pm.
  - ii. **John moved to exit the Executive Session. Molly seconded.** There was no further discussion. **All were in favor (3-0-0).** Exited Executive Session at 8:34pm.
  - iii. The committee thanked the residents of Old Airport Road for attending. We anticipate sharing the draft with the Selectboard and town attorney for feedback, as a next step.

**4. Grant/funding updates**

- a. We are awaiting an announcement by the federal program on the grant applied for.
- b. Need to plan the approach to fundraising the last 5% of the project budget. Will discuss at upcoming meetings.

**5. Community input/outreach next steps**

- a. Mailing/postcard survey
  - i. 454 postcards were returned during the survey! This is a strong response, representing about 25.4% of registered voters. 75% favored the project and the use of ARPA and ANAC funds as proposed. 20% were opposed and 5%

undecided. Support for the project from the community was clear in the survey results, at a 3.7-to-1 ratio. As a result the Selectboard approved the town portion of the funds, as proposed, on July 11th. The committee has shared a detailed report on community engagement, on the town website.

- b. Need to consider when/how to begin the Management Plan process. This could begin in the late fall or winter.
- 6. Reviewed minutes of 7/6/2023**
- a. **Molly moved to approve the minutes of July 7th, 2023 as written.** John seconded. There was no additional discussion. **All were in favor (3-0-0).**
- 7. Set next meeting date(s)**
- a. Regular meeting: Wednesday, August 16th, 6:00pm
  - b. Regular meeting: Wednesday, September 20th, 7:00pm

**Adjournment** - John moved to adjourn. All were in favor (3-0-0). Adjourned at 9:18pm.

Minutes taken by Jaime Schulte.