

Town of Monkton Conservation Commission
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, November 20th, 2023
7:00pm Meeting via Zoom/Phone
(Approved: December 18th, 2023)

Members Present: Ann Johnston Miller (Chair), Nancy Wilson (Vice-Chair), Jaime Schulte (Clerk), Debra Sprague (Treasurer), Janet Schwarz, Sue Stasny

Members Absent: None

Guest Present: Laura Farrell (ANAC Chair)

Call to Order - Ann called the meeting to order at 7:04pm

1) Reviewed Agenda - no changes made

2) Public Comment - there was no public comment

3) Regular Business:

- a) Set next meeting dates
 - i) Monday, December 18th, 2023
 - ii) Monday, January 15th, 2024
- b) Reviewed draft meeting minutes
 - i) **Debra moved to approve the minutes of October 16th, 2023 as written. Sue seconded.** There was no further discussion. **All were in favor (6-0-0).**

4) Natural Resource Inventory project updates and next steps

- a) Discussed the Town Plan hearing held by the Planning Commission on October 17th
- b) Next steps with the Planning Commission
 - i) We will work with MPC on an update to the natural resources map, as requested.
 - ii) Need to determine the long-term host for the online map and how it will be updated. Sue will reach out to Arrowwood to learn more about longer-term hosting of the online map they created.
- c) Jaime will post the presentation slides to the website.
- d) Jaime will contact Arrowwood about remaining project deliverables (final report, billing, etc.).

5) Addison Conservation Commissions Summit on November 4th

- a) Sue, Debra, Ann, and Nancy attended the summit. It was good to share experiences and ideas with other conservation commissions about what they do in their towns. One takeaway is to reach out to new residents to educate them on things like invasive species and what is happening in Monkton on conservation topics.

6) MCC Budget Request for 2024

- a) MCC budget request for 2024 (total \$800):
 - i) Natural Resource Inventory updates: \$300
 - ii) Educational opportunities (presenter, etc.): \$200
 - iii) Other activities (hosting a town event, etc.): \$150

- iv) Sending members to events/conferences: \$100
- v) Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions membership: \$50
- b) **Nancy moved to approve the proposed budget for 2024. Sue seconded.** There was no further discussion. **All were in favor (6-0-0). Debra will send our budget request to the Selectboard.**

7) Morse Park Management Plan updates

- a) Reviewed the draft, which still has some edits to resolve. Subcommittee of Sue, Jaime, and Jan will meet on December 7th to work on the document and share the result with the rest of the committee. We'll look to finalize the draft at our December committee meeting.

8) Other Business / Other items of interest to members

- a) The Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions (AVCC) meeting was held on October 19th. Debra presented regarding the Tiny Grant awarded to Monkton, which purchased Uprooter tools to remove buckthorn with. We have held several buckthorn sessions with them to-date.
- b) Our annual dues for the AVCC are due in January. Debra is working on that.

Adjournment - Jaime moved to adjourn. All were in favor (6-0-0). Adjourned at 8:54pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jaime Schulte
Clerk