

Town of Monkton
Town Forest Committee
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, August 21th, 2024, 1:00pm
Virtual meeting via Zoom only
(Approved: Sept. 11th, 2024)

Members present: Callie Brynn (Chair), Jaime Schulte (Vice-Chair), John McNerney, CJ Buzzy
Committee members absent: Molly Parren, Jessica Demeritt, Pete Dufault
Guests: Bob Heiser (Vermont Land Trust)

Call To Order - Callie called the meeting to order at 1:00pm

- Review Agenda
 - Added a discussion of Interim Management Plan (IMP) feedback just received from Vermont Land Trust (VLT)
- Public Comment - none offered
- Community Survey - consider additional updates
 - Reviewed the comment fields under hunting and trapping, which may have duplicate questions - can we simplify? We opted to combine the two questions under each section into one question.
 - Reviewed the question on timber harvests and added an additional option to gather more nuanced community feedback.
 - **Jaime moved to approve the Community Outreach Survey as amended. John seconded.** There was no further discussion. **All were in favor (4-0-0).**
- Community Mailing - finalize postcard
 - Reviewed the proof of the postcard and made some edits.
 - **Jaime moved to approve the postcard and authorize Callie to proceed with the mailing when ready. CJ seconded.** There was no further discussion. **All were in favor (4-0-0).**
- Field Naturalist Studies
 - Additional Field Naturalist study to follow the UVM work
 - The committee had no concerns about UVM Field Naturalist students extending the work completed by the UVM LIA course last spring. This will add additional information about the parcel at no cost to the town.
- Discuss Interim Management Plan feedback from VLT

- Bob shared that VLT Forester Caitlin Cusack provided feedback on the Interim Management Plan and indicated that the plan needs to note that VLT approval is required for any harvest of tree blowdowns from storms. Also that trails that will be maintained during the interim period need to be shown on the map. Bob had additional recommendations, including that the old VT Kaolin foundations be shown on the map and mentioned in the plan, along with other comments which he will forward to the committee.
- **John moved to establish a subcommittee consisting of John, Jaime, & CJ to incorporate the VLT feedback into the IMP. CJ seconded.** Discussed that the subcommittee will then bring that draft back to the full committee to review in time for the Select Board's meeting on September 10th. This will need a committee meeting ahead of our regular meeting on the 11th. **So moved (4-0-0).**

Adjournment: Jaime moved to adjourn. All were in favor (4-0-0). Adjourned at 1:57pm.

Minutes taken by Jaime Schulte.