

Town of Monkton
Town Forest Committee
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, Sept 19th, 2024
7:00-8:30, in-person and on Zoom/Phone at Town Hall
(Approved: Sept. 23rd, 2024)

Members present: Callie Brynn (Chair), Jaime Schulte (Vice-Chair), John McNerney, Molly Parren, Jessica Demeritt

Members absent: Pete Dufault, CJ Buzzy

Guests: Bob Heiser (Vermont Land Trust), Sam Peisch, Lauren Parren, Steven Parren, Ivor Hughes, Buzz Kuhns, Carroll Maxwell, Robin Kuhns, Charlene Sandonato, David Lein, Nancy Wood, Julie Kenyon, Jan Schwarz, Mickey Schwarz, Peter Close, Debbie Houghton, Addison Tate (Hinesburg), Jeremy Moses, Tammy Parker, Tim Steele (Bristol), Sue Stasny, and Adam Miller.

Purpose: to kick off the Town Forest Management Plan process with an update and workshop.

The session began at 7:00 with pizza, name tags, etc., and got underway at 7:10. Everyone was in-person, except for Sue Stasny and Adam Miller on Zoom.

There was a short overview of the status and timeline of the project. We went around the room for brief introductions. The group then circulated around to four easel stations where these questions were considered:

- 1) What excites you about the Monkton Town Forest?
- 2) How can we be responsible stewards of the property as individuals and a community?
- 3) What do you value or appreciate about being outdoors?
- 4) What topics concern you or need further discussion?

Participants put sticky notes on the easels with their thoughts. Around 7:50 we re-grouped and reviewed the easels. There was some discussion and then an overview of next steps:

- Some of the more complex topics (such as mountain bikes) will need a follow-up session. Certain topics need a discussion as part of the Conservation Easement process too.
- We will use the themes from the online/paper survey and this meeting to inform the list of special topic sessions, which will be scheduled in October and November. That schedule will be set at the next Town Forest Committee meeting and published the week of 9/22.

The meeting concluded at approximately 8:25pm.

Minutes taken by Jaime Schulte.