

Town of Monkton
Town Forest Committee
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, January 14, 2026, 7:15pm
At Town Hall and via Zoom
(Approved: TBD)

Members: Jaime Schulte (Vice Chair), Jessica Demeritt, Molly Parren, CJ Buzzy, Cassandra Corcoran

Members Not Present: Callie Brynn (Chair), John McNerney

Guests: None

Call to Order - Jaime called the meeting to order at 7:17pm, with four members present. CJ joined at 7:20.

- **Regular business**

- Review Agenda and any additions - no changes
- Public Comment (Guests) up to 10 minutes - none offered
- Review Minutes: 12/17/25
 - **Jess moved to approve the minutes of 12/17/25 as written. Cass seconded. The vote passed (4-0-1),** with Jess abstaining.
- Recommendations & requests
 - Master Naturalist project to make use of the Town Forest. Cass to send more info that she and Robin Hopps put together.

- **New Business**

- None offered

- **Other/Old Business**

- Annual Committee Report - due 1/16
 - Reviewed the draft report and made several minor edits.
 - **Jess moved to approve the annual committee report as amended. CJ seconded. The vote passed 5-0-0.**
- Old Lovers Lane (TH 36)
 - Discussed the Vermont Land Trust's writeup on their site visit to the water crossings east of Hardscrabble Rd. There is a lot to digest and we will consider the report further at the next meeting with more members present.
- Game of Logging - no new update
- Camera policy
 - Currently there are no cameras at the Town Forest. Molly met with Josh Morse (Fish & Wildlife) to discuss best practices. There was some discussion about policy for future requests, wildlife studies, etc. In general cellular cameras may be more of a concern due to the owner

being notified in-the-moment. There could be some security value to that from a vandalism perspective, but otherwise more concern about safety and also the concept of fair chase in hunting.

- Shared ROW Jewell - no new update
- Federal Grant final report - no new update
- Proposed and routine work (kiosk/signage, trails, access, invasives)
 - Boundary & trail marking - we want to work on increasing the visibility of boundaries for visitors, particularly where trails cross boundaries. Reviewed draft trail signs that Callie sent to the committee along with proposed locations. Discussed putting the signs on small t-posts rather than trees. Agreed to obtain signs for up to 20 locations, small posts, "Welcome To MTF"/"Now Leaving MTF" on different sides of the same post or similar. Yellow with black lettering.
 - Connector trail - will continue work in the Spring
 - Kiosk to be constructed at Old Airport parking in the Spring
- Trash/debris removal - community project (Earth day/Green Up)
 - There was discussion of a trash cleanup day - the preference is for Earth Day in April. Green Up Day is busy and increasingly seems too late in the Spring as climate changes. Scout locations for the public to help with (primarily near Hardscrabble).
- Kaolin Dam status - no new update
- OAR Maintenance & Safety zones
 - Discussed the current status of Old Airport Rd. There is a new resident (Roberge) who replaced Dalton/Paine. The road remains private and the current focus for the committee is to continue moving toward a road agreement.
 - Safety zones had initially been brought up by two residents, but signs were ultimately not put in place this season.
- Financial
 - CWSP letter of support
 - It was noted that the letter of support was submitted. There were some followup questions which CJ and Callie responded to.
 - Grants/fundraising committee update - CWSP letter is the current item
 - Management fund balance
 - Jaime has been looking into the Town Forest Management Fund's status. It is believed to have a balance similar to the initial balance after the purchase (\$33,831), but we need to get a report from the Treasurer and review Town Reports, etc., to confirm.
- Upcoming Community Events ('*On the calendar*') - N/A
 - Earth Day cleanup! Earth Day itself is Wednesday, April 22nd, but we might look to the weekend before or after.

- Action Items:
 - Cass to provide more info on the Master Naturalist class at the Town Forest
 - Jaime to follow up with Callie about the Annual Town Report changes.
 - Callie to submit the report by the due date.
 - Jaime to discuss signs with Callie, continue Old Airport discussions, and continue to document the Town Forest Management Fund.
 - John to discuss Game of Logging feasibility with Vermont Family Forests (action from last meeting)
- Set the next meeting date(s): Feb 18th (note, later changed to Feb 25th)

Adjournment

Jess moved to adjourn at 8:39pm. Jaime seconded. The vote passed 5-0-0.