

Monkton Agricultural & Natural Areas Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday 25 Sept 2024, 6:30 PM
Monkton Town Hall Community Room

Members Attending: Laura Farrell (Chair), Susan Mahony (Vice Chair), Debbie Houghton, Jaime Schulte, Steve Parren (alternate), Jessica Demeritt (alternate)

Members Absent: John Mejia (Digital Wiz)

Guests: None

- 1) **Call to order** - Laura called the meeting to order at 6:32PM
- 2) Agenda changes and Minutes taker - Jaime will take minutes for this meeting
- 3) Approve minutes of 24 July 2024 meeting uploaded to this link
 - There was no meeting in August. Our last meeting was on July 24th.
 - **Jessica moved to approve the minutes of July 24th, 2024 as written. Steve seconded.** There was no further discussion. **All were in favor (6-0-0).**
- 4) Updates:
 - End at 8:15 or earlier *reminder*
 - Town Forest Update - the community process to develop a management plan for the property is underway. There was a kickoff last Thursday and there will be a series of meetings on special topics, such as dogs and hunting and bikes, in October and November. The purchase of the land is expected to be complete in December.
 - Operational Guideline status - will check with the Selectboard
 - Raven Ridge: parking, conservation & rec, back trails - users of the trails have been observed going beyond the closed trail point and an off-leash dog was also seen. We will inquire with The Nature Conservancy about their policy regarding service dogs.
- 5) Organizational roles: Scribe
 - Discussed that a Clerk/Secretary/Scribe role is needed. Jaime is willing to take minutes and such when available, but would not like to add on the role. Jessica is willing to take on this role.
 - **Jaime moved to create a position of Clerk for ANAC and nominate Jessica to the position. Steve seconded.** Jessica is willing to serve in the role. **All were in favor (6-0-0).**
 - **Jaime moved to recommend to the Selectboard that they make Jessica a Regular member of ANAC and change Jaime to be an Alternate member. Jessica seconded.** This seemed appropriate to the committee as Jessica assumes the Clerk role and Jaime is looking to take a step back. **All were in favor (6-0-0).**
- 6) Planning for aggregate forest projects
 - Discussed upcoming projects and next steps. Debbie and Laura will work on the project spreadsheet.
- 7) New member letter - revised and completed the letter.

8) Other business

- Jaime mentioned that the remaining funds allocated for Town Forest appraisals in 2022 will be used as we come to a closing on that project (\$1,813).

9) Confirm date(s) and locations/zoom

- Thursday, Oct 24th, 6:30pm
- Tuesday, Nov 19th, 6:30pm

10) Reviewed Minutes

11) **Adjournment** - Steven moved to adjourn. All voted in favor. Adjourned at 8:21PM.