

Town of Monkton
Town Forest Committee
MEETING MINUTES
Sunday, November 10th, 2024
1:00-3:00pm, in-person and on Zoom/Phone at Town Hall
(Approved: TBD)

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

Members absent: None

Guests: Bob Heiser (Vermont Land Trust), Ann Miller, Steve Parren, Hannah Baxter, Kathleen Norris (Starksboro), Larkin Brown (via Zoom), Adam Rainville (via Zoom)

Purpose: to discuss Extraction from the Town Forest, in particular timber, maple sugaring, and foraging.

The session began at 1:00 with crackers/cheese, cookies, name tags, etc.

There was a short overview of the status and timeline of the project. We went around the room for brief introductions. We looked at survey feedback to date on these topics. The group then circulated around to tables/easels to consider themes from the surveys and where the committee needs more input:

- How can the community avoid over-harvesting if foraging is allowed?
- What kind of sugaring operations would you support on this property? What would potential concerns be?
- How can we protect rare species, habitats, plans, and communities (timber & foraging)?
- What does a healthy forest mean to you?
- Should old growth forest areas be a priority? On what scale?

Participants wrote on the easel sheets and we reviewed them as a group. The committee will consolidate the notes and send them to participants who left an email address.

The meeting concluded at approximately 2:55pm.

Minutes taken by Jaime Schulte.