

Town of Monkton
Town Forest Committee
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, January 6th, 2025, 7:30pm
Virtual Meeting via Zoom
(Approved: TBD)

Members present: Callie Brynn (Chair), Jaime Schulte (Vice-Chair), John McNerney, Molly Parren, CJ Buzzy (departed the meeting at 9:20pm), Jessica Demeritt, Pete Dufault

Members absent: None

Guests: None

Call To Order - Callie called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

- Reviewed Agenda
- Public Comment, up to 10 minutes - None offered
- Interim Management Plan
 - Discussed signs, parking, trails. Seeing an uptick in visitors since the purchase of the Town Forest. There has been some vandalism by the gate on Hardscrabble. We will refer these episodes to the sheriff.
- Long-Term management plan
 - Allowed/restricted uses
 - Discussed the management plan process and the working draft. We considered how the community meetings, survey, and other inputs help to inform the choices that need to be made about management of the forest and allowed uses. Discussed hunting & trapping, horses, and other uses.
 - Next steps are to complete a first draft and post it for public comment, likely in February or early March.
 - CJ needed to depart the meeting at this point (9:20pm).
- Other Updates:
 - Federal Grant - we have some final documentation to provide as a follow-up to the grant, such as a copy of the recorded deed. Jaime will take the lead on responding to the grant program and collecting the needed documents.
 - 2024 Committee report/Town Meeting Day
 - **Jaime moved to appoint a subcommittee of Callie, Jaime, and John to complete the 2024 MTFC annual report and send it to the Town Clerk. John seconded. All were in favor (6-0-0).**
 - Committee terms/organization
 - This will be discussed with the Selectboard on the 14th.
 - OAR Maintenance

- There is a subcommittee of the Selectboard working with representatives of the OAR residents on the approach to maintenance of the road.
- UVM Field Naturalist - Received the final report from the students on their field work. They did identify some old forest/old growth in more remote areas of the property.
- Review Minutes 11/20/24, 12/4/24, 12/16/24 - postponed to next meeting
- Set next meeting date(s)
 - Wednesday January 22nd 6:30pm Hybrid meeting

Adjournment: Jaime moved to adjourn. All were in favor (6-0-0). Adjourned at 9:48pm.

Minutes taken by Jaime Schulte.