

Monkton Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 8th, 2025, 6:30pm
(Approved: TBD)

Members Present: Ann Miller (Co-Chair), Sue Stasny (Co-Chair), Debra Sprague (Treasurer), Janet Schwarz (joined at 7:00pm), David Moore, Jaime Schulte

Members Absent: None

Guests Present: None

1. **Call to Order:** Ann called the meeting to order at 6:33pm. Jaime will take the minutes.
2. **Public Comment** – no public comment was offered
3. **Regular Business**
 - a. Review agenda – no changes
 - b. Review minutes of April 10th
 - i. **Debra moved the minutes of April 10th, 2025 as written. Ann seconded. The vote passed 4-0-1**, with Jaime abstaining because he was not at the April 10th meeting. Jan had not yet joined the meeting at this time.
 - c. June Meeting – Thursday, June 12th, 6:30pm at the Town Hall and Zoom.
 - d. July Meeting – Thursday, July 10th, 6:30pm.
4. **Other Business**
 - a. Town forest - walk with county forester - update
 - i. We are on-schedule for June 7th 11:00am. We'll let the public know to park at the Town Forest parking on Old Airport Rd. and to try to carpool. The address is approximately 700 Old Airport Rd., Monkton VT 05443.
 - b. Amphibian crossing stewarding - Jan to report
 - i. Jan is in contact with the Road Foreman about what the town can do to help maintain the area of the wildlife crossings.
 - c. Residence Brochure
 - i. The brochure was mailed out!
 - d. Beaver policy further discussion
 - i. Sue will reach out to Jessica Demeritt on Select Board timing
 - ii. Jan brought up the next steps for education on this topic.
 - e. Pollinator Pathway - Butterfly Atlas - MCC engagement
 - f. Buckthorn & Parsnip Eradication - promo posters.

- i. Will get the Buckthorn posters up ASAP. First session is this Saturday at 10:00am, if the weather cooperates.
- g. Bobolink project - No update yet. Sue will follow up.
- h. AVCC mini grant update
 - i. The Monkton Conservation Commission has received a mini-grant in the amount of \$660.00 from the Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions for the purchase, assembly and public circulation of three bird watching kits through the Russell Memorial Library! We will share these with the community at the Strawberry Festival.
- i. Community Radio – considerations
 - i. Discussed the idea from John Corcoran about community radio. He has time to fill in his schedule. Would MCC want to have a monthly hour of content?
 - ii. Discussed ideas for programming/content for community radio. There are many people in the community who have great knowledge to share. The format might be a quarterly Conservation Hour, or similar, and we might be able to pull in Conservation Commissions from other towns.
 - 1. Sue moved to form a Community Radio subcommittee consisting of Jan and David. Jan seconded. The vote passed 6-0-0.**
- j. Member concerns
 - i. We would be interested in having a presentation on birds at the Town Hall and a related bird walk at the Town Forest. Jaime will reach out to Enid Weinheimer if she is available to lead a session.
 - ii. Jan did a walk on Pease Mountain, which is cared for by the Charlotte Trails Committee. They have great signage for tree species ID and education. This is an idea for the Town Forest.
 - iii. Jaime mentioned that there is also a need for an invasives management plan in Monkton, perhaps starting with town properties. Morse Park is covered under the Morse Park Management Plan, but the Town Forest Committee will be looking to establish one as well. Sue will ask the Lewis Creek Association how they approach invasives management plans. We can also discuss that with the county forester on June 7th.

5. Adjournment

- a. Debra moved to adjourn at 8:02. Sue seconded. The vote passed 6-0-0.