

**Town of Monkton
Conservation Commission Minutes**

Thursday, 09/25/25 6:30pm

Virtual meeting via Zoom

(Approved: 9/25/2025)

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8024533800?pwd=QnlTb20weWwxTEhuSmZ2RENyR3ZzUT09>

Members: Ann Miller, Debra Sprague, Janet Schwarz, Sue Stasny, David Moore, Jaime Schulte

Guests: Laura Farrell, Steve Parren

1. Call to order Sue @ 6:34pm
2. Public comments – none
3. Regular Business
 - a. Review Agenda – Added: rodenticide, Regional Conservation Partnership, discussion of land conservation adjacent to the wildlife crossings
 - b. Review the Minutes of August 14th; Passed 4-0-2 (Jaime and David abstained, not present on 8/14)
 - c. Oct. meeting – 10/9/2025 @ 6:30pm on Zoom
 - d. Set Nov. meeting 11/13/25 @ 6:30pm on Zoom
4. New Business
 - a. Amphibian crossing
 - i. Steve Parren sent a draft management plan
 1. Recommends annual maintenance of vegetation
 2. SD Ireland will be coming out to look at the blocks, hopefully after they are cleaned
 3. S. Parren has done some work on the stones and will see how it looks in the spring.
 4. Discuss management of wild parsnip at the crossings
 5. Steve recommended two approaches to maintenance, which we will continue to discuss
 6. Work session brush removal dates Oct 26th 10AM to 12PM and Nov. 9th 10AM-12PM
 - ii. Wall repair and cameras
 1. Learned how to manage the cameras from Chris Slesar last weekend
 2. Need to coordinate with Bill Joos on reimbursement for the following from the remaining funds for the crossings:
 - a. 24 batteries, card readers for the phone, 21 thumb drives to save the data onto, new locks (from Vtrans)
 3. Discussed storage of photos from the cameras. Need to continue discussing what we want to do with the photos.

4. Brittany Mosher was the professor involved with the original study before/after the crossings were put in.
 - b. Community Radio subcommittee
 - i. Letter sent to 5 towns CCs
 - c. Beaver dam on Bristol Pond update
 - i. The beaver dam on top of the man-made dam is being removed this month or in October, which is an initiative by VT Fish & Wildlife who owns the dam.
 - d. Bobolink Project update
 - i. Updated the contract to make the Selectboard the signer, rather than MCC (per J Zaikowski) – waiting to hear back from The Bobolink Project
 - e. E-Butterfly report update
 - i. Still time to try to report from the areas specified by the project
 - f. Buckthorn removal session scheduled for Oct 12th 10AM to 11:30AM
 - g. Kestrel boxes project
 - i. Engage with the Scouts to partner?
 - h. Pond Brook Management Plan
 - i. Laura will bring forth the latest draft for MCC to review at the next meeting
 - i. Rodenticide act – look for it this legislative session and look for ways to engage Monkton community to support this effort
 - j. UVM student group – capstone project - Spring Semester 2026
 - i. Invasives strategy
 1. Focus on education for the community over manual labor
 2. Specific invasive plant species as well as invasive pests
 3. Sue will draft a pitch for MCC first in prep to share with the professor at UVM
 - k. Regional Conservation Partnership
 - i. Laura looking for a potential member and will send information
 - l. Mark Burns is still interested in joining the CC and will attend an upcoming meeting.
5. Adjourn – Debra moved to adjourn, Ann seconded

Respectfully submitted:
Jaime Schulte and Sue Stasny