

Town of Monkton  
Town Forest Committee  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
Wednesday, February 25, 2026, 7:15pm  
At Town Hall and via Zoom  
(Approved: TBD)

**Members:** Jaime Schulte (Vice Chair), Jessica Demeritt, Molly Parren, CJ Buzzy, Cassandra Corcoran, Callie Brynn (Chair), John McNerney

**Members Not Present:** None

**Guests:** Robin Hopps, Scott Gustin

**Call to Order** - Callie called the meeting to order at 7:15pm, with seven members present.

- **Regular business**

- Review Agenda and any additions - no changes; Announcements - none
- Public Comment (Guests) up to 10 minutes - none offered
- Review Minutes: 1/14/26
  - **John moved to approve the minutes of January 14th 2026 as written and Jess seconded. There was no further discussion. The vote passed 5-0-2**, with Callie and John abstaining (not present on 1/14).
- Recommendations & requests
  - Master naturalist project proposal
    - Robin Hopps, Scott Gustin, and MTFC member Cass Corcoran joined the committee to discuss their proposal, which is part of their coursework for the Vermont Master Naturalist Program. Subjects could include geology, plants, soils, animals, and human history in three or more main areas of the Town Forest. Small signs on kiosks with QR codes could link to webpages for visitors to learn more about the places they are visiting. The committee shared existing resources and expressed support for the project. There will be a second phase of reviewing the content the group creates, before it is shared with the community.

- **New Business** - none

- **Proposed and routine work** (kiosk/signage, trails, access, invasives)

- Boundary marking, trail marking, OAR kiosk, parking sign, connector trail, gate - identify next steps
  - Discussed ordering the small boundary signs for trail crossing points, to be mounted on small metal or cedar posts. Vermont Land Trust has also recommended improving boundary visibility.
  - Discussed creating two parking spots at Old Lover's Lane and setting up a gate in the middle section of the eastern side.
- Trash/debris removal

- Most trash on the property is located east of Hardscrabble. Set a date/time of Saturday, April 18th, to coincide with Earth Day (4/22), to work on locating and retrieving trash and consolidating it near Hardscrabble for pickup.
  - Kaolin Dam status - no new updates
  - OAR Maintenance & Safety zones
    - Discussed next steps to move toward a road agreement. The committee should bring the Selectboard up to speed. We will look to schedule a meeting with residents who have an interest in the road.
- **Old Business**
  - Game of Logging
    - VFF's Spring class is full, but we may look to schedule for Fall.
  - Old Lovers Lane (Town Highway 36)
    - Vermont Land Trust recommended restoring the section of OLL that crosses the wetland to a natural state. There is a question of adjacent landowner access. John to check with the Vermont League of Cities & Towns regarding the obligations of a town. We will look to meet with interested landowners in the near future before taking any action.
  - Molly camera policy - Molly sent an initial draft which committee members will review.
  - Shared ROW Jewells - John will find a time to discuss with the Jewells.
  - Federal Grant final report - no new updates. Jaime to follow up.
- **Financial**
  - A memorial donation has been received in memory of Wayne Darling, at the request of his family. That amount will be placed in the Management Fund.
  - Management fund balance - Jaime provided updates and will work with the Town Administrator or Treasurer to complete the picture. We appear to have some \$37,762 in the Fund currently.
  - Grants/fundraising committee updates
    - CWSP letter of support
- **Upcoming Community Events** (*'On the calendar'*)
  - Earth day cleanup 4/22 - will pick up trash at MTF on Saturday, 4/18
- **Action Items**
  - Callie to look into boundary signs
  - Callie to check with GMP about potential parking options near OLL
  - John to connect with VLCT
  - Jaime to follow up with the federal grant
  - Callie/Jaime to work on a letter to the Selectboard regarding the background of Old Airport Rd as it relates to the Town Forest
  - The committee will continue work on developing policies
    - Volunteer policy (John, Jaime)
    - Camera policy (Molly)
    - Management Fund use (Jaime)
- Set the next meeting date(s): April 1, 2026, 7:00pm

**Adjournment**

Jess moved to adjourn at 9:03pm. Cass seconded. The vote passed 7-0-0.