

Town of Monkton
Conservation Commission
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
Monday, February 7th, 2022 7:00pm
In-Person at the Town Hall and on Zoom/Phone

Members Present: Ann Johnston Miller (Acting Chair), Jaime Schulte (Clerk), Debra Sprague, Caroline Alves
Members Absent:

Guests Present: Jason Karakehian (doctoral student at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign), Stephen Pilcher (Monkton Selectboard, DRB), .

Ann called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Regular Business

- Review Agenda
- Set Time/Date of Next Meetings
 - Monday, March 7th, 2022 at 7:00pm
 - Monday, April 4th, 2022 at 7:00pm
- Minutes
 - Approve minutes of January 10th, 2022
 - **Jaime moved to approve the minutes of January 10th, 2022 as written. Caroline seconded. No additional discussion?. All were in favor (4-0-0).**

New Business

- Jason Karakehian: Discussion and information on his application to collect fungi in Monkton
 - Talked about his interest in mycology and how he got into the field. Not a large amount of research into micro fungi so it is an interesting area to study. Finishing a doctoral degree and studying the Propolis family of fungi, which has a distinctive species only known to exist in Monkton and which was last collected in the 1800s. Jason would like to visit Monkton in summer 2022 to search for it and take samples.
 - Discussed looking in the Pond Brook Management Area in early June for this particular fungi.
 - **Jaime moved to accept the proposal of Jason Karakehian to collect samples of fungi in the Pond Brook Management Area in Summer 2022. Debra seconded. No further discussion. All were in favor (4-0-0).**
- Wetland Presentation Zapata Courage March 10th Teams invite - starts 5:15pm
 - Jaime will add this to the town calendar.
 - Steve Pilcher brought up the need for a better mapping of wetlands in Monkton.
- Town Meeting Day presenting for CC - we may get a question from the public.
- Discuss Planning Commission agenda
 - Their recent focus has been on updating the Unified Planning Document, Act 171, awareness of ARPA funding, etc. The Addison County Regional Planning Commission delegate from Monkton is stepping down and no other candidate is currently interested from the Planning Commission. Ideally this would be a member of Planning, but that isn't required. ACRPC meets monthly and there is a website explaining the role of ACRPC. We will also share with ANAC.
 - Discussed the maps submitted by Conservation to Planning in September and the Act 171-related language that ANAC submitted to Planning. It would be good to find a funding path to take that a step forward to a more complete/professional mapping. At our next meeting we will consider supporting the funding of a consultant to create a more complete mapping of wetlands, connectivity, and other

natural resources in Monkton for the benefit of Planning, Development Review, Conservation, and other committees.

Adjournment

- Caroline moved to adjourn. Jaime seconded. All were in favor (4-0-0). Adjourned at 08:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jaime Schulte
Clerk