

Town of Ridgefield Board of Selectpersons Meeting Minutes APPROVED

September 17, 2025 at 6:30pm

Please note – these minutes are not verbatim.

Present: Sean Connelly, Maureen Kozlark, Barbara Manners, Rudy Marconi, Geoffrey Morris

Absent: None

Rudy Marconi called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

1. Public Comment

Debra Franceschini, 72 Spireview Road, and Clemencia Saleeby, 66 Grove Street, expressed support for the reappointment of Patricia Yaffa to the Commission on Aging.

2. Commission on Aging

a. Patricia Yaffa – Re-appointment- Patricia Yaffa was present. She stated that she wishes to continue serving on the commission to carry forward the good work they are doing. Maureen Kozlark clarified that the BOS doesn't elect commission officers. She thanked Ms. Yaffa for all her service. Geoffrey Morris commented that the Senior Expo was such a success and asked if another was planned. Ms. Yaffa shared that the commission will hold the expo every other year to allow for the pursuit of other commission goals.

Barbara Manners motioned to re-appoint Patricia Yaffa to the Commission on Aging. Sean Connelly seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

b. Transportation report

Patricia Yaffa, Tony Phillips -Director Social Services, Collette Kabasakalan, Margaret Thompson and Don Ciota, members of the Transportation Task Force reported the group's financial objectives for the funds raised from the Senior Expo.

- Transportation demand has increased and there are not enough drivers.

 Applications for volunteer drivers are on the website and background checks are completed for all applicants. The greater challenge is the return trip for seniors.
- The Task Force has drafted a pilot program to utilize the existing Nuvance program called Roundtrip, to provide transportation for the return trip. They provided a description of the program; as community seniors submit a request for an outbound trip to a medical destination, they are asked if they have a return trip planned. If not, they are offered the option of a rideshare that

would be paid by the Commission on Aging. Sean Connelly asked how transportation needs are being prioritized. The group stated that their focus is on return trips from medical appointments. Maureen Kozlark asked if the town has any implicit liability for the rideshare. The group is still researching liability. Barbara Manners asked for the background on Roundtrip. The group explained that Roundtrip is created by Nuvance but there are other options such as Medical Transportation Management. Medicaid and Medicare may cover medical transportation needs as well. Sean Connelly asked if they have success metrics established to determine pilot program success. They stated that they are developing those measures. Rudy Marconi reminded the group that their funds are available.

3. Parking Authority re-appointments

Marcus Recck reported that the purpose of the parking authority is to make parking free and available for the community. Currently, income from penalties is covering the cost of parking enforcement expenses. There are license agreements between the Parking Authority and private property parking. Therefore, the public and private parking are regulated the same way and by the same entity, Parking Authority. However, there are some spaces that are not monitored. Mr. Recck requests reappointment.

Sean Connelly motioned to re-appoint Marcus Recck to the Parking Authority. Maureen Kozlark seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. June 25, 2025 BOS Meeting

Maureen Kozlark motioned to amend the June 25, 2025 meeting minutes to include a motion by Barbara Manners and second by Sean Connelly to add to the agenda the appointment of Geoffrey Morris to the Board of Selectpersons. Sean Connelly seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

b. September 3, 2025 BOS Meeting

Maureen Kozlark corrected on page 2, first paragraph, last line, "may" instead of "will."

Maureen Kozlark motioned to approve the minutes from September 3, 2025 Board of Selectpersons Meeting, as amended. Geoffrey Morris seconded. Motion carried 4-0-1, with Sean Connelly abstaining.

c. September 10, 2025 BOS Meeting

Sean Connelly motioned to approve the minutes from the September 10, 2025 Board of Selectpersons Meeting. Geoffrey Morris seconded. Motion carried 4-0-1 with Barbara Manners abstaining.

5. Selectpersons Report

Rudy Marconi asked the BOS if there are any priorities to ask the ECDC to consider such as companies coming or leaving Ridgefield or expanding or contracting. We can compile a list or contact the current chair directly.

He also shared that the 29 Lakeview ownership issue has been somewhat resolved. The property has been transferred to the town but there is equipment on the property left behind by previous owners. Town Counsel will review the legality of removing the equipment from the property.

Fire at 20 Flatrock Drive, this morning, burned a vacant home.

Conservation Commission met with Deer Management and provided a list of properties to be hunted. Will be on the 10/8 BOS meeting.

Maureen Kozlark confirmed that the Safety Building meeting is Saturday, September 27, 2025 at 10:30 am at the library.

Sean Connelly motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:30pm. Geoffrey Morris seconded. Motion carried 5-0.