



**Ridgefield
Economic &
Community
Development
Commission**

400 Main Street • Ridgefield, CT 06877 • 203.431-2700

Glori Norwitt - Chair
James Classey
Sean Dowd
Kay Gelfman
Jennifer Gioffre
Peter Kearney
Bob Knight

Rudy Marconi, First Selectperson
ridgefieldct.gov

**Meeting Minutes
July 7, 2025 at 6:30pm
in Town Hall Small Conference Room**

The meeting was called to order at 6:31pm in the small conference room in Town Hall.

In attendance: Chair Glori Norwitt, Commissioners Sean Dowd, Kay Gelfman (on phone), Bob Knight, James Classey, and Peter Kearney.

Norwitt motions to add to tonight's Agenda a discussion of the open seat created when ECDC Secretary Geoffrey Morris stepped down. Knight seconds. All in favor.

Dowd motions to approve the June 2, 2025 Meeting Minutes without changes. Classey seconds. All in favor.

Dowd motions to approve the June 25, 2025 Meeting Minutes without changes. Knight seconds. All in favor.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Recap of Recent Events / Info

The Office of Danbury Mayor Roberto Alves sent information on the P3 Fundamentals of Public-Private Partnerships, a premier event hosted by the US Conference of Mayors and the Association for the Improvement of American Infrastructure, on Thursday July 17 from 9am – 3pm at WestConn.

Executive Director Diana Spence is stepping down from the Ridgefield Chamber of Commerce in late July, and the position is open.

ECDC Vacancy

Recently, Commissioner Geoffrey Morris stepped down from the ECDC. Today, Commissioner Brittny Howell also stepped down from the ECDC.

This spring, the ECDC interviewed candidates for an open Commissioner position. At that time, the ECDC voted to recommend one person to the Board of Selectpersons, and voted to recommend Corrin Arasa as a non-voting member of the ECDC. The First Selectperson confirmed now that the ECDC can now recommend Ms. Arasa to the Board of Selectpersons for Morris' open Commissioner position.

Norwitt motions that the ECDC recommends Corrin Arasa to the Board of Selectpersons to fill Morris' open Commissioner position. Gelfman seconds. All in favor.

For Howell's Commissioner seat, Norwitt will contact the Town Clerk and the First Selectperson's office to put out public notice of an opening.

Selection of Secretary

Tabled.

Assistance with Film Locations (Gelfman)

Gelfman spoke with Kay Jewelry, which was interested in filming background shots in the downtown area.

Tiger Shark Tank (Dowd)

Dowd and contractor Tori Dinkel sent out the first ECDC email today via MailChimp to approximately 2600 email addresses. Thus far after 4 hours, the email has a 28% open rate. The email included info on Tiger Shark Tank and also the next Ridgefield Connect event.

Thus far, Jay Walker and Suni Harford have agreed to return as Judges. Discussion of upcoming Press Release, tables at event, sponsorship, communications, and possibly a master of ceremonies. Plan to take photos in lobby after the event, and possibly film the event.

Ridgefield Connect (Kearney)

Next event is Wednesday Sept 10 at the Golf Performance Center from 5:30-7:30pm. Payment for venue has been made. Kearney will contact GPC to confirm their discussion points and speaker(s). Press Release to be written.

Discussion of future Ridgefield Connect events, possibly in January/February and again in May, and possible locations/speakers.

Healthcare Roundtable (Knight)

It is anticipated that the first Roundtable will be held in September.

Marketing (Gioffre, Howell)

Kerry Anne Ducey has closed Hamlet Hub.

Discussion of communications objectives, targets and sites. Corrin Arasa will assist with a draft Communications plan.

Cultural District (Norwitt)

The Cultural District group met on June 24 and discussed the celebration of America's 250th Anniversary. Also, they discussed ads on Comcast for the Town of Ridgefield.

Planning & Zoning Update (Gelfman)

Red Rooster public hearing has closed, and a decision is expected soon. Accessory Dwelling discussion postponed. Discussion of contamination at 145 High Ridge Avenue.

Strategic Planning

Overall discussion of possible goals for FY2026 and beyond. The Commission will look into the possibility of an offsite discussion for Strategic Planning.

Dowd motioned to end the meeting; Kearney seconded. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9:08pm.