



APPROVED MINUTES
Ridgefield Conservation Commission
Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street
Ridgefield, CT 06877
(203) 431-2713 • conservation@ridgefieldct.org

August 21, 2017

A meeting of the Ridgefield Conservation Commission was held at the Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street, Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877 on Monday, August 21, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

The following members were present:

Eric Beckenstein	Carroll Brewster
Jim Coyle	Dave Cronin
Jack Kace	Dan Levine
Alan Pilch	Kitsey Snow

The following members were absent: Susan Baker, Tim Bishop and Ben Oko.
Mr. Coyle chaired the meeting. Colleen Lake was present to take minutes.

Chief Roche, Stefano Zandri, Paul Payne, Don Ciota and Christina Calabro were also in attendance.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the July 24, 2017 meeting were reviewed.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of July 24, 2017 are approved and ordered filed in the minute books of the Commission and the Town Hall.

2. OPEN SPACE

a) Trails/Commission for the Disabled – Don Ciota. Mr. Ciota explained the assessment currently underway to evaluate ADA compliance throughout the Town. In an effort to simplify the RFP being prepared, Mr. Ciota asked the RCC to identify a few open space areas that could be made handicap accessible with modification. The RCC proposed the following areas: John Soluri, Casey Lane/Mar Joy Pond, part of Hemlock Hills, and Shadow Lake.

b) Winterizing equipment – Mr. Cronin asked for volunteers later this year to help winterize equipment and move some items to the shed at McKeon. Mr. Beckenstein offered to help.

3) DEER HUNT 2017-18

The proposed list of parcels was discussed and RCC concerns regarding signage and hunt notification area were addressed. Mr. Zandri agreed to send drafts of the signs to RCC for prior approval. Chief Roche agreed to work with Jake Muller to expand the notification area.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to approve the list of parcels below with the following conditions:

1. Accurate signage is critical and the RCC needs to approve all signage on the properties for which we are responsible.
2. Adequate and timely notification of abutting and close neighbors before hunting season opens must happen. The RCC will work with the Deer Committee on this effort.
3. Hunting stands need to be removed immediately after the hunt is concluded.

APPROVED LIST OF 2018-18 DEER HUNT PROPERTIES:

1. Laurel Lane (Archery, shotgun and muzzleloader)
2. Linden Lane/Willow Court (Archery).
3. Between Old Trolley and Shadow Lake (Archery)
4. Keeler Court (Archery)
5. Ledges property (Archery, shotgun, muzzleloader)
6. Stonecrest (Archery, shotgun).
7. Ridgebury Farms/Turner Hill (Archery)
8. Silvermine Ridge/Spectacle Swamp (Archery)
9. Sarah Bishop (Muzzleloader)
10. Bobby's Court (Archery)
11. Colonial Heights (Archery)
12. Peaceable Refuge (Archery)
13. Turtle Ridge (Archery)
- *14. Levy Park (Archery, shotgun, and muzzleloader – until 12pm).
Approval pending discussion with attorney regarding deed restriction.

4) NEW AND CONTINUING TOPICS

a) Great Swamp – Waiting to hear from Harbor Watch about attending an upcoming RCC meeting.

b) HVA Still River Project – The HVA would like to assess several Ridgefield properties in an effort to improve water quality, reduce flooding and enhance outdoor opportunities along streams in Ridgefield. Ms. Snow reported that Mr. Marconi will send a letter to 27 residents with streams feeding the Still River watershed asking for their help in the assessment.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to add the following five items to the Agenda.

1) Hudson to Housatonic Stewardship Program – Dr. Oko will be inviting all commissioners and the people who took advantage of the free tree giveaway, to attend an event in September. Jim Nordgren, an environmental consultant, will demonstrate what can be done to a property; what and where to plant, what can be removed, what can be ignored, what can be changed, to make a property more nature friendly. Joan Corley of the Land Conservancy has offered her property for the event.

2) CT Plan of Conservation and Development – Ms. Baker, Mr. Pilch, and Dr. Kace will review the plan and coordinate comments to send on behalf of the RCC.

3) Stormwater – Mr. Marconi supported the clean water initiative in a recent Ridgefield Press article. Mr. Coyle will draft a response praising Mr. Marconi's interest and support of the initiative.

4) NRWA/REI Topstone Project – Ms. Snow will represent the RCC at the September 30, 2107 event focusing on invasive removal and the proposed NRVT trail at Simpaug Turnpike.

5) McKeon Farm – The Henny Penny Farm amended deed is being filed. Ms. Snow will invite interested bee keepers to present proposals to the commission.

5. PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION, INLAND WETLANDS BOARD

a) Meetings for Attendance

Sep. 5 – Mr. Bishop

Sep. 19 – Ms. Snow

Oct. 3 – Mr. Brewster

Oct. 17 – Mr. Beckenstein

b) New & Continued Business

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the commission entered executive session at 9:45pm and exited at 10:05pm.

ADJOURNMENT

UPON motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 10.20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Colleen Lake



APPROVED MINUTES
Ridgefield Conservation Commission
Flood and Erosion Control Board
Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street
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June 12, 2017

A meeting of the Flood and Erosion Control Board was held at the Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street, Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877 on Monday, June 12, 2017, immediately following the RCC meeting.

The following members were present:

Tim Bishop Jack Kace Kitsey Snow

The following member were absent: Susan Baker and Carroll Brewster

Mr. Pilch was also in attendance.

Mr. Bishop chaired the meeting. Colleen Lake was present to take minutes.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The minutes of the March 6, 2017 meeting were reviewed. UPON motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of March 6, 2017 are approved and ordered filed in the minute books of the Commission and the Town Hall.

2. CONTINUING TOPICS

Mr. Bishop asked to appoint Mr. Pilch and Mr. Brewster Alternate Members of the Board.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to welcome Mr. Brewster and Mr. Pilch as Alternate Members of the FECB.

3. LETTERS TO PRIVATE DAM OWNERS – Mr. Bishop will draft a letter before the next FECB meeting to send to private dam owners in town. The letter will inform them of their responsibilities regarding maintenance and care of their dam and cite state requirements.

4. MEETING WITH FIRST SELECTMAN AND TOWN ENGINEER – Mr. Bishop will try to schedule another meeting with Mr. Marconi and Mr. Fisher.

ADJOURNMENT

UPON motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Colleen Lake