

APPROVED MINUTES

Ridgefield Conservation Commission

Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street Ridgefield, CT 06877 (203) 431-2713 ● conservation@ridgefieldct.org

March 5, 2018

A meeting of the Ridgefield Conservation Commission was held at the Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street, Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877 on Monday, March 5, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Eric Beckenstein Tim Bishop Carroll Brewster

Jim Coyle Dave Cronin Jack Kace

Alan Pilch Kitsey Snow

Absent: Susan Baker Dan Levine Ben Oko

Eileen White was also in attendance.

Mr. Coyle chaired the meeting. Colleen Lake took minutes.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the February 21, 2018 meeting were reviewed.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of February 21, 2018 are approved and ordered filed in the minute books of the Commission and the Town Hall.

2. TREE COMMITTEE INTERVIEW - EILEEN WHITE

Ms. White discussed her interest in becoming a member of the Tree Committee, and the importance of the balance between man and tree.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to appoint Ms. White to a three-year term on the Tree Committee.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT - None.

4. OPEN SPACE

Pollinator Pathway – Ms. Snow mentioned that the map and pamphlet have been completed ahead of the April 18th kickoff at the Ridgefield Library. Planting will begin on Sunday, April 22 at Casagmo.

McKeon Farm – Mr. Coyle and Dr. Kace will meet with Mr. Williams to discuss his 2018 License Agreement. The process of liming the fields remains under discussion.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was AGREED to add a possible open space violation to the agenda.

The chain blocking vehicular access to the trailhead at the intersection of Skytop and North Shore Drive has been broken, allowing heavy machinery access to abutting private property. Ms. Peyser is currently investigating the situation.

5. PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION, INLAND WETLANDS BOARD

a) Meetings for Attendance

Mar. 20 - Dr. Kace & Mr. Bishop

Mar. 27 - Mr. Brewster/Mr. Pilch/Ms. Baker

Apr. 3 - Mr. Beckenstein & Mr. Levine

Apr. 17 - Mr. Pilch & Ms. Snow

Apr. 24 - Ms. Baker & Mr. Beckenstein

b) New and Continued Business

Winter Garden – Phil Doyle – Postponed until the next meeting.

153 West Mountain Road – Mr. Pilch explained his draft comments on the single family home being developed on the 86 acre property. Overall, the plan is acceptable and the RCC is pleased that the new site improvements have been kept outside the 50' wetlands setback. Minor concerns focus on the stormwater management plan. The RCC will ask the property owner about possibly granting a 50-foot wide easement on the property, in an effort to connect the Reed and Green open space areas.

6. Annual Meeting – April 26, 2018.

RCC members should start thinking about possible invitees and forward names to Ms. Lake. Mr. Levine will design the Save the Date and invitation.

7. CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION – Ms. Snow is preparing a Powerpoint presentation. The subcommittee will meet on Saturday, 3/10 and Sunday, 3/11 to finalize the presentation.

8. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Whitbeck Estate – The sale of the house closed last week and the three beneficiaries are working with attorneys to disburse proceeds.

<u>2017-18 Deer Hunt</u> – The DMIC will present findings and parcel requests for the 2018-19 hunt to the Board of Selectmen on Wednesday, March 7, 2018.

<u>NRI Plots</u> – The RCC will continue to monitor the NRI plots this spring. Dr. Kace has requested another RCC member to take over the organizational responsibilities of the project. Dr. Kace will create a list of required tasks for review by the commission.

ADJOURNMENT

UPON motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Colleen Lake