



APPROVED MINUTES
Ridgefield Conservation Commission

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

July 30, 2018

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

Present: Susan Baker Eric Beckenstein Tim Bishop
 Jim Coyle Dave Cronin Jack Kace
 Dan Levine Alan Pilch Kitsey Snow

Absent: Carroll Brewster, Ben Oko

Mr. Coyle chaired the meeting. Colleen Lake took minutes.
Phil Doyle, Bud Brown, Kate Throckmorton and Joe Canas were also in attendance.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the July 16, 2018 meeting were reviewed.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of July 16, 2018 are approved and ordered filed in the minute books of the Commission and the Town Hall.

2. WINTER CLUB

– Mr. Doyle described the proposed project at 340 Peaceable Street, which will include a 12,000-sq ft clubhouse, outdoor ice rink, and a Zamboni house. Ms. Throckmorton addressed the wetlands issues and activities that would occur in the upland review area. Mr. Canas explained the proposed stormwater management systems throughout the property. Among a number of questions and comments, the commission emphasized the need to include a discussion of alternatives in their application. The public hearing is scheduled for September 4th at East Ridge Middle School. The RCC will schedule a site walk for an upcoming Friday morning. Mr. Pilch will draft comments for review at the next RCC meeting on August 13, 2018.

3. OPEN SPACE

The McKeon Farm – Mr. Coyle updated the commission on several farm issues:

- The liming is complete for 2018. The Lauzun field will be done in the spring, 2019. Less lime (20-30%) will be purchased compared to the fields limed this summer.
- Cornerstone is working on getting the garden plowed and ready for planting.
- Mr. Cronin would like to order the solar panel system at the shed.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to approve up to \$500 for purchase of a solar panel system at the McKeon farm shed.

Understory Study Update – Mr. Levine has created a Dropbox to organize data and pictures collected at the site visits. Mr. Beckenstein will review the data and draft a report for RCC review by the end of August.

NEMBA Bike Trails – NEMBA has been flagging and rerouting trails without RCC approval. Mr. Cronin will contact Mr. Malwitz to request increased communication and collaboration in the future.

Sky Top Road – The RCC will provide a combination lock for Mr. Beylouni and move forward with the recommendation to the BOS to abandon the road.

Old Sib – Mr. Cronin reviewed the fallen tree situation at the property (on the order of 12-15 trees).

UPON motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to approve up to \$800 for clearing the trees at Old Sib.

4. PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION, INLAND WETLANDS BOARD

a) Meetings for Attendance

Sep 4 – Brewster/Cronin (340 Peaceable Public Hearing)

Sep 19 – Kace/Snow (233 Danbury Road?)

Sep 25 – Pilch/Baker

b) Report on P&Z/IWB Meetings

July 24 – Mr. Bishop reported that the Contractor Yard was approved.

c) New and Continued Business

233 Danbury Road – Mr. Pilch walked the site on Sunday, 7/29 and will draft comments for the next RCC meeting.

POCD – Ms. Baker will attend the 7/31 P&Z special meeting on the topic. The RCC would like to write three chapters; Open Space, Natural Resources and a new, third chapter on Sustainability.

5. USE OF ROAD SALT – No report.

6. CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION – The CRC voted 7-2 to send the recommendation to split P&Z and IWB back to the BOS. Ms. Baker will respond to the Ridgefield Press request for comment on the BOS vote against splitting the boards.

7. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS – None.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Colleen Lake