



## TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD Aquifer Protection Agency

### MEETING

#### APPROVED/REVISED MINUTES

These minutes are a general summary of the meeting and are not verbatim transcription.

January 14, 2021

Members present: Patricia Sesto; Chair, Susan Baker; Vice Chair, Tim Bishop, Tracey Miller, Alan Pilch, Kory Salomone, David Tatge

Also present: Beth Peyser, Inland Wetlands Agent; Aarti Paranjape, Office Administrator; Alex Bellina, Mark Lancor P.E. Dymar Inc. Brook Clark, Fell Herdig, David Vallerie, Thomas Main.

#### **I: Call to order**

Chair Ms. Sesto called the meeting to order at 9:55P.M.

#### **II: Discussion:**

- 1. #2020-075-APA, 223 West Mountain Road** application per Section 4 of the Town of Ridgefield Aquifer Protection Area Regulations to make a determination of a prohibited, nonregulated or regulated activity for a proposed playscape and associated sitework within State-Defined Level A Public Water Supply Aquifer Area. *Owner/Applicant: Ridgefield Academy. Authorized Agent: David Vallerie.*

Mr. Valerie gave an overview and introduced his team. He said the property is approximately 42 acres and the proposed playscape is on ½ acre. The new playscape will replace the old playground that is located elsewhere on the site and will require clearing of trees and topographic changes.

Mr. Main continued by stating that the playscape will transform the nature of the campus but at the same time preserves the nature and the surroundings.

Ms. Sesto asked if the activity proposed is prohibited, non-regulated or regulated per the aquifer protection regulations.



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Mr. Mark Lancor stated the activity is not a regulated activity. The project will not have any negative impact on the underlying aquifer. He added that although trees will be removed, the project will have no negative net impact on the aquifer.

Ms. Sesto stated concerns with the number of trees being removed but acknowledged this activity is not identified as “regulated.” She asked the applicant if they would be willing to replace the canopy trees lost during construction on site, citing the removal of trees affects stormwater renovation which ultimately impact the aquifer below.

Ms. Brook Clark stated that the planting plan includes Norway spruces along with other ornamental and shade trees on the site of construction. All sugar maples will stay along the entry.

**Mr. Bishop motioned the proposed activity is not a regulated activity within the State defined Level A Public Water Supply Aquifer Area, Mr. Salomone seconded. Motion carried 7-0-0. Publication date is January 21, 2021 and Effective date is January 22, 2021.**

### III: Approval of Minutes

- Meeting minutes- December 10, 2020  
**Mr. Bishop motioned to approve the minutes and Ms. Baker seconded. Motion carried 6-0-1, with Mr. Salomone abstaining.**
- Sitewalk Minutes- January 10, 2021  
**Ms. Sesto motioned to approve the sitewalk minutes as amended, Ms. Miller seconded. Motion carried 6-0-1, with Mr. Bishop abstaining.**

### IV: Adjourn

Hearing no further comments, Ms. Sesto adjourned the meeting at 10:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by,

Aarti Paranjape

Recording Secretary