

## APPROVED MINUTES



### MINUTES

## Ridgefield Conservation Commission

Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street

Ridgefield, CT 06877

(203) 431-2713 • [conservation@ridgefieldct.org](mailto:conservation@ridgefieldct.org)

### Meeting October 02 2023 at 7PM

**Present:** Roberta Barbieri    Jim Coyle    Jana Hogan    Jack Kace  
Jean Linville    Jim Liptack    Pete Nichols    Benjamin Nissim  
Matt Sharp    Allan Welby

Absent: Erik Keller

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

**UPON** motion duly made (Barbieri), seconded (Sharp), and carried, it was RESOLVED to add signage to the agenda after item 2. Vote: 8:0

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#### 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**UPON** motion duly made (Sharp), seconded (Liptack), and carried, it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of September 7, 2023 be approved and ordered filed in Town Hall. Vote: 8:0

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#### 2. OLD WEST MOUNTAIN RD OS

RCC rescheduled its site visit for October 16<sup>th</sup> at 9am.

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#### 3. SIGNAGE

Ms. Barbieri would like to create 2 to 3 signs at Aldrich to explain the restoration project.

**UPON** motion duly made (Sharp), seconded (Nichols), and carried, it was RESOLVED to approve up to \$200 for restoration signage at Aldrich. Vote: 8:0

Ms. Barbieri will inquire on posting native plant signs on Main Street, which include pictures and the native plant policy.

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#### 4. NRI UPDATE

RCC is in the final stages of updating the NRI. As no comments were received from commissioners (except Ms. Linville) on the working draft, Messrs. Coyle and Keller and Ms. Setterlund will complete the document and send to printer. It is anticipated to order about 50 copies at \$10-11 per copy.

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#### 5. POLLINATOR PATHWAY

Ms. Hogan proposed adding OS properties to the Pollinator Pathways.

**UPON** motion duly made (Sharp), seconded (Barbieri), and carried, it was RESOLVED to approve all OS under RCC's jurisdiction be added to the Pollinator Pathway. Vote: 9:0

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#### 6. SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE

Ms. Hogan proposed adding an RCC Instagram page as well as increasing RCC's social footprint with members posting more regularly. Mr. Coyle will circle back with IT on the online donation process and emailing lists for RCC's newsletter.

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#### 7. TOWN GIS

Mr. Coyle mentioned the new town GIS system is up and running. He is working with the town's GIS company to overlay RCC's OS maps onto this mapping system.

**UPON** motion duly made (Sharp), seconded (Nichols), and carried, it was RESOLVED to approve up to \$3,000

expenditure for OS map overlay to the town's GIS system. Vote: 9:0

There was a discussion on using Alltrails app and on Avenza for ease of public access and use. Mr. Liptack to follow-up with the Ridgefield Running Company on mapping out hikes on Alltrails as well as maps for Avenza.

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## **8. MCKEON**

### **Fall Workers**

Mr. Sharp mentioned that the Fall workers are almost complete for the season. One of their last projects will be helping Mr. Keller with the plantings in McKeon orchard.

### **Stone Walls**

Mr. Nichols and Mr. Sharp walked the stone walls at McKeon to get an idea of the size and scope of the invasive removal. They will meet with a contractor to provide an estimate for invasive removal along the Ridgebury Road boundary of the site.

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## **9. NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Coyle stated that the vote for the Rockwell property will be next week, October 11<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Barbieri indicated that the Native Plant Policy revisions will be voted on at the regular BOS meeting on that same day.

Ms. Barbieri will have a flyer ready to post for the restoration project at the Aldrich and will distribute. She also was contacted by a neighbor of OS on how to remove invasives. RCC may grant permission for removal, but will not pay for the removal.

Mr. Sharp and Mr. Liptack have recertified their chain saw certification.

Mr. Nichols distributed walk books to the Historical society, Parks and Rec, Town Clerk, and Books on the Common. The RCC will revisit the publication of more walk books after the NRI is complete.

Mr. Nissim let the RCC know he has been nominated to run for the Inland Wetlands Board position. The election will take place early November and the new IWB will convene in early December.

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## **10. MEETINGS FOR ATTENDANCE**

### **P&Z**

October 3 – Linville  
October 17 – Hogan

### **IWB**

October 12 – Liptack  
October 26 – Nichols

## **8. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

Mr. Coyle was asked to look into the Chestnut Tree project once more and see if the parent organization was able to compile with indemnification insurance. Mr. Nissim will reach back out. Mr. Coyle will reach out to the appropriate town staff to seek options.

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**ADJOURNMENT UPON** motion duly made (Sharp), seconded (Nichols), and carried, it was RESOLVED that the meeting adjourned at 8:36 P.M. Vote: 9:0.