

# UNAPPROVED 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 January 4, 2023 at 7PM**

**Present:**

Roberta Barbieri	James Coyle	Eric Keller	Jean Linville
Jim Liptack	Peter Nichols	Benjamin Nissim	Matt Sharp
Kitsey Snow	Allan Welby		

Absent: Jack Kace

Attendance: Cohen & Wolf Attorney Alex Copp

Chairman Coyle called the meeting to order at 7 P.M. Upon motion duly made (Keller), seconded (Nichols) to add Summer Help and Grant Requests to the agenda. Vote 7:0

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### 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

UPON motion duly made (Keller), seconded (Nichols), and carried, it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of December 11, 2022 be approved and ordered filed in Town Hall. Vote: 7:0

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### 2. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion duly made (Keller), seconded (Nichols), and carried, it was RESOLVED that the commission go into Executive Session. Vote 9:0 to discuss enforcement actions.

Returned to public meeting 8:08pm.

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### 3. ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

#### 3.1 258 West Mountain Road

Mr. Keller has been working with the property owner and set a deadline for completion of May 31.

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### 4. OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION

Nothing new to report on the 17.5 acres of Open Space on West Mountain, Mr. Coyle to follow up.

Mr. Coyle shared an update on the Port of Missing Men 7.5-acre parcel adjoining Sturges Park. The parcel will be foreclosed for tax purposes and become town property.

Upon motion duly made (Keller), seconded (Barbieri), and carried, it was RESOLVED that the RCC will pay Cohen & Wolfe \$180 in legal fees. Vote 9:0

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### 5. NRI UPDATE

#### 5.1 Woodcock Nature Center collaboration

Ms. Linville is working to set up events with Woodcock Nature Center. They have agreed to host 10 walks for the year. Each walk will be \$100 to cover their costs of registration, staff, and event logistics.

Upon motion duly made (Barbieri), seconded (Nichols), and carried, it was RESOLVED that the RCC will pay Woodcock Nature Center \$100/walk; \$1000/year to cover their costs to host 10 walks in 2023. Vote 9:0

## 5.2 NRI Report

Nothing new to report.

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## 6. TRAIL BENCHES

Mr. Nichols is working on a bench to honor Carol Brewster near the Jones Trail in recognition of his long-term service.

The RCC received a donation to place a bench in the pollinator garden at McKeon farm for commission member, Kitsey Snow.

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## 7. PINE MOUNTAIN PARKING

Mr. Coyle will reach out to the First Selectmen to schedule a meeting with Dave Buccitti.

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## 8. SUMMER HELP

Mr. Sharp and Mr. Keller will work on the job description for summer workers in an effort to post earlier and attract more applicants.

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## 9. GRANT REQUESTS

The Thrift Shop application is due January 31. Some possibilities for the grant request were discussed including two eagle scout projects, defraying part of the contribution for Open Space acquisition; additional bird housing at McKeon; invasives removal, native tree planting in the apple orchard at McKeon. Mr. Coyle requested written scopes and cost estimates for requests by January 15. Mr. Coyle has drafted the response to the Lewis Grant request.

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## 10. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Nichols was given an old hand plow that he will put on the shed wall at McKeon.

RCC went through mockups for the McKeon sign and the Rangers hats.

Mr. Nichols asked if he could offer the shed to Whitney for the Winter to store her tractor, the RCC all agreed.

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## 11. MEETINGS FOR ATTENDANCE

### **P&Z**

January 3 – Barbieri

January 17 – Kace

### **IWB**

January 12 – Keller

January 26 – Linville

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## 12. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Annual OS Appeal has received about \$15,510 to date.

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## ADJOURNMENT

**UPON** motion duly made (Keller), seconded (Sharp), and carried, it was RESOLVED that the meeting adjourned at 8:46P.M. Vote: 9:0.