



APPROVED MINUTES
Ridgefield Conservation Commission
Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street
Ridgefield, CT 06877
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October 10, 2018

A meeting of the Ridgefield Conservation Commission was held at the Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street, Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877 on Wednesday, October 10, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

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

Absent: Jim Coyle and Ben Oko

Dr. Kace chaired the meeting in Mr. Coyle's absence. Ms. Lake took minutes.
Mr. & Mrs. Arun Chinnaraju were also in attendance.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the September 24, 2018 meeting were reviewed.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of September 24, 2018 are approved and ordered filed in the minute books of the Commission and the Town Hall.

2. OPEN SPACE

5 Taylor Place – Mr. & Mrs. Chinnaraju asked the RCC for permission to remove two trees in open space that border their property line. They feel the trees are dangerous and could cause damage to their home in a storm due to their close proximity. The commission will contact Mr. Pinchbeck about assessing the health and danger of the two trees and, for his opinion on removal of the two trees. If allowed to remove the trees, the homeowner agreed to replace the trees with two new trees recommended by the RCC.

The McKeon Farm – Mr. Cronin updated the commission on farm progress. He proposed the RCC purchase a riding mower with attachments for mowing the garden area, edges of hayfields and general work around the farm.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and carried, with one abstention and one nay, it was agreed to spend up to \$5000 for the riding mower and attachments.

Mr. Cronin was asked by a Troop Leader if the RCC had any ideas for an Eagle Scout project. Mr. Cronin will suggest rebuilding the outbuilding on the farm.

6 Conley Court – The homeowner contacted the RCC about two dangerous sinkholes that were in the property's Streetscape Easement under RCC jurisdiction. After investigating the sinkholes, Mr. Coyle contacted Mr. Marconi and asked for remediation assistance. It appears the holes have been repaired.

3. PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION, INLAND WETLANDS BOARD

a) Meetings for Attendance

Oct 16 – Bishop/Brewster (Winter Club-7pm)
Oct 23 – Cronin/Kace (Amendment app. 4.5)
Oct 30 – ?? (Winter Club – if needed)
Nov 7 – Levine/Pilch (84 Governor/62 Prospect Ridge)
Nov 13 – ?? (Winter Club – if needed)
Nov 20 – Baker
Nov 27 – ?? (Winter Club – if needed)

b) New and Continued Business

340 Peaceable Street – No report.

84 Governor/62 Prospect Ridge – Site walk with P&Z Sunday, October 21, 2018.

233 Danbury Road – No report.

25 Stonewall Lane – A survey from the homeowner with the proposed easement swap was discussed and deemed unacceptable by the RCC. Mr. Coyle, Dr. Kace and Mr. Beckenstein will meet with Ms. Peyser and Atty. Walsh on 10/11/18 to discuss alternate solutions to the violation.

c) Report on P&Z/IWB Meetings

Oct. 2 (POCD) and Oct. 9 (233 Danbury Road) – No RCC member attended the meetings. Ms. Snow will listen to transcripts and report on her findings at the next meeting.

UPON motion made, seconded and carried, it was RESOLVED to add two items to the agenda: Vote Yes on Question #10 PAC, and, Understory update.

- Ms. Baker discussed the newly formed PAC and explained what is and what is not allowed as a commissioner and as an individual when promoting Question #10 based on information provided by the State Elections Enforcement Commission (SEEC).
 - Dr. Kace reported that the Understudy report is scheduled to go to the BOS by the end of October. Mr. Coyle, Ms. Baker and Dr. Kace will set up a meeting to finish the report.
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6. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS – None.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Ms. Snow and Mr. Brewster attended the Deer Committee Public Hearing, which was attended by 5 residents and several hunters. Ms. Snow stated her concerns with hunting at the golf course.
- The River Alliance will hold their annual meeting on October 30, 2018
- CACIWC Annual Meeting is scheduled for November 17. RCC attendance is encouraged.
- Ms. Snow mentioned that the Woodcock Nature Center is asking for donations to replace several trees. She proposed donating two trees with the money from the Old Sib account. She will get more details on location and type of tree.
- Commissioners were asked to read the Annual Appeal Letter and send changes/comments to Ms. Lake by Tuesday morning.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,
Colleen Lake