



APPROVED MINUTES
Ridgefield Conservation Commission

Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street
Ridgefield, CT 06877
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January 28, 2019

A meeting of the Ridgefield Conservation Commission was held at the Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street, Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877 on Monday, January 28th, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Susan Baker Eric Beckenstein Carroll Brewster Jim Coyle
Dave Cronin Jack Kace Alan Pilch Kitsey Snow

Absent: Eric Beckenstein, Daniel C. Levine, Ben Oko

Mr. Coyle chaired the meeting, Ms. Lake took the minutes.
Phil Kearns, Lukas Dapkus, and his father, were also in attendance.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January 14, 2019 meeting were reviewed.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of January 14, 2019 are approved and ordered filed in the Town Hall.

2. OPEN SPACE

Eagle Scout Project Proposal – Lukas Dapkus – Lukas presented his proposal to rebuild the bridge at the north end of Aldrich Park. He will replace the rotted bridge, add cement footings and clean up the trail leading to the bridge. He plans to start the project as soon as the ground thaws (April) and hopes to complete the project in two weekends using six men each day. The material cost estimate is \$765.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to appropriate up to \$850 for the renovation of the Aldrich bridge.

McKeon Farm – The Henny Penny Farm and Cornerstone Gardens One-Year License Agreements were approved at the January 23rd Board of Selectmen meeting.

Norrans Ridge Violation – Mr. Cronin found cut phragmites on open space behind the fence of an abutting homeowner. Ms. Peyser will send a letter informing the homeowner of open space rules and ask for help in removal of the debris. Mr. Coyle will assist in the letter writing.

Lake Windwing Autumn Olive – Parks & Rec will begin removal of the smaller (under 2-1/2") invasives in February (weather permitting). Once P&R is finished, the RCC will hire Tremson to remove the remaining invasives and the RCC will apply herbicide to the stumps. Parks & Rec will maintain the meadow after removal by mowing two times each year until the meadow is established.

Blacksmith Ridge – Fallen Tree – A tree in open space fell across the trail and onto an abutting homeowner's property. Ms. Lake will contact Mr. Pinchbeck about clearing the trail.

Woodcock Tree Replacement – Ms. Snow reported that Woodcock is getting ready to replace several fallen trees. In October, 2018 the RCC agreed to help with the project.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to donate \$1000, from the Old Sib Tree Fund, to replace two fallen trees with two new 8-10' trees, to be planted on the Ridgefield portion of the property.

ADA Request – Don Ciota, Chairman of the Ridgefield Commission for Accessibility, asked the RCC to recommend 3-4 open space areas most accessible with modifications. The commission agreed to recommend Shadow Lake, Lake Windwing (ballfield and North Shore Drive entrances), Hemlock Hills (Bogus Road entrance) and Casey Lane.

Summer Workers – Two Eagle Scouts have expressed interest in working for the commission this summer. The commission agreed to hire the candidates but will need to adjust budget items to cover the costs.

3. POCD – The RCC received the briefing booklets on Conservation and Sustainability and will offer suggestions at the first listening session Tuesday, 1/29.

4. PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION, INLAND WETLANDS BOARD

a) Meetings for Attendance

Jan 29 – POCD (Baker, Coyle, Pilch)

Feb 12 – Levine/Kace

Feb 26 – Pilch/Beckenstein (167-173 High Ridge Ave)

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION – LAND ACQUISITION

UPON motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried it was AGREED to enter executive session at 9pm. The executive session concluded at 9:25 pm.

6. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS – Mr. Coyle asked the commissioners to start thinking about possible speakers, dates, and recipients of the Meffley Award for the upcoming Annual Meeting, which will be discussed in more detail at the 2/11/19 RCC meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Colleen Lake