



APPROVED MINUTES
Ridgefield Conservation Commission
Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street
Ridgefield, CT 06877
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June 17, 2019

A meeting of the Ridgefield Conservation Commission was held at the Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street, Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877 on Monday, June 17, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Susan Baker Eric Beckenstein Carroll Brewster Jim Coyle
 Dave Cronin Jack Kace Daniel C. Levine

Absent: Alan Pilch and Kitsey Snow

Erik Keller and Allan Welby were also in attendance.

Mr. Coyle chaired the meeting, Ms. Lake took the minutes.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the June 3, 2019 meeting were reviewed.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of June 3, 2019 are approved and ordered filed in the Town Hall.

2. OPEN SPACE

7 Chipmunk Lane – The homeowner has concerns that downed trees and a beaver dam in bordering open space are the cause of flooding on the property. They would like the RCC to clear the problem areas and alleviate the problem. The RCC will request a site walk for Friday, 6/21/19 at 8am.

Summer Maintenance Schedule – Carter and Malcolm are working day to day. Additional help with supervision would be appreciated.

The McKeon Farm – Mr. Cronin and Mr. Keller recommend adding additional support to the barn roof and a new barn door. The RCC agreed and will use remaining capital funds to pay for the renovations.

Topstone Trails – Mr. Cronin reported that the trails are rarely, if ever, used and need extensive work to be accessible. He also mentioned that the NRVt plans to run their trail nearby. For these reasons, Mr. Cronin recommends abandoning the trails. The RCC agreed.

103 Peaceable – The NOV and Enforcement report was sent to the property owner Friday, 6/14/19, after Ms. Peyser and Mr. Coyle met with John Pinchbeck to confirm remediation costs. There has been no contact from the property owner yet.

Schlumberger Trail – Mr. Coyle and Mr. Cronin will schedule a meeting with Marty Handshy to discuss the proposed trail that will run from ROAR to the Rail Trail.

3. DEER COMMITTEE MEETING

Mr. Levine and Mr. Coyle met with Stefano Zandri from the Deer Committee to discuss the future of Ridgefield's deer hunt. A list of 15 open space properties will be generated and five properties will be hunted on a yearly, rotating basis to ensure that each property is hunted only once every three years. A maximum of five hunters will participate. The two groups will evaluate the hunt on a yearly basis at the end of the season. The new arrangement will begin with the 2019-20 hunt, if approved by the Board of Selectmen.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was RESOLVED to send the Letter of Agreement between the RCC and Deer Committee to the Board of Selectmen for approval.

4. PLANNING & ZONING/INLAND WETLANDS BOARD

a) Meetings for Attendance

- Jun 25 – Cronin/Kace (99 Barry Ave, 100 Danbury Rd)
- Jul 2 – Brewster/Snow
- Jul 9 – Baker/Beckenstein (800 EA Hwy)
- Jul 23 – Levine/Cronin (439 Silver Spring)

b) New and Continued Business

- **99 Barry Avenue** – Mr. Pilch's comments on the 5 lot PRD were discussed. Additional language will be added to clarify the requirements for delineation of the open space.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was agreed to send Mr. Pilch's comments, with the above noted addition, to P&Z/IWB.

- **100 Danbury Road** – Mr. Pilch's comments on the building addition of 16 units were discussed. The RCC recommends finding alternatives to the driveway and parking area that would have a less detrimental effect on the wetland and watercourse on the property.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was agreed to send Mr. Pilch's comments to P&Z/IWB.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

6/19/19 Board of Selectmen Meeting – Erik Keller and Allan Welby will be interviewed Wednesday at the BOS meeting. RCC members are encouraged to attend and show support for the new commissioners.

POCD – Dr. Kace sent a letter to P&Z recommending that the updated POCD contain a separate chapter on Sustainability. The public input session will be held Tuesday, 6/18/19.

FECB – Consistent with Article IX of the town ordinance, FECB duties will be exercised by the RCC. Per the Chairman, FECB issues will be discussed twice a year (or as needed) at RCC meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

UPON motion duly made, seconded and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm.

Respectfully submitted by,
Colleen Lake