



APPROVED MINUTES
Ridgefield Conservation Commission
Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street
Ridgefield, CT 06877
(203) 431-2713 • conservation@ridgefieldct.org

September 23, 2019

A meeting of the Ridgefield Conservation Commission was held at the Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street, Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877 on Monday, September 23, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Susan Baker Eric Beckenstein Carroll Brewster Jim Coyle
 Dave Cronin Jack Kace Erik Keller Daniel C. Levine
 Alan Pilch Kitsey Snow

Absent: Allan Welby

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

Ben Oko, Burgess Walker, Susan Constantino, Lori Mazzola and Lynne Noyes were also in attendance.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the September 9, 2019 meeting were reviewed.

UPON motion duly made (Cronin), seconded (Brewster) and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of September 9, 2019 be approved and ordered filed in the Town Hall.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION – LAND ACQUISITION

UPON motion duly made, seconded and carried it was RESOLVED to enter Executive Session at 7:35pm and to exit at 7:55pm.

HUDSON TO HOUSATONIC PARTNERSHIP

Dr. Oko discussed his desire to continue as RCC liason with the Hudson to Housatonic Regional Conservation Partnership (H2H).

UPON motion duly made (Cronin), seconded (Beckenstein) and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to appoint Dr. Oko Special Envoy of the RCC regarding H2H activities.

3. OPEN SPACE

103 Peaceable Street – Mr. Coyle and Dr. Kace will work with Ms. Peyser and town counsel on the next step toward violation remediation.

McKeon Maintenance

- A work party will be scheduled in October to winterize tools and to clean-up garden areas.
- Mr. Coyle, Mr. Cronin and Mr. Keller will construct, paint and install the barn doors.
- Ms. Lake will get advice/estimates for apple tree pruning. A large, fallen limb will be cut up within the next week or two.
- One last mowing of perimeter, trail, garden area, and shed/barn area will be done in late October at a cost of \$750.
- Two additional fields will be mowed in December. Ms. Lake will get estimates.
- Mr. Welby offered to install ten bird boxes for swallows and bluebirds at an estimated cost of \$400.

UPON motion duly made (Cronin), seconded (Baker) and carried, it was RESOLVED to approve spending up to \$400 for the bird boxes.

Turtle Pond Trail – Mr. Cronin and Mr. Walker proposed reblazing an old trail near Turtle Pond on Land Conservancy open space. Mr. Brewster and Mr. Walker will look at the deed for restrictions.

4. FECB – Mr. Coyle reported that, according to town charter, the members of the FECB and RCC are one and the same. The RCC will keep FECB on the agenda and discuss topics as they arise.

Ms. Lake will find/share Chairman Bishop's letter regarding the Shadow Lake dam and the NRCS report. The topic will be revisited at the next meeting.

5. PLANNING & ZONING/INLAND WETLANDS BOARD

a) Meetings for Attendance

Sep 24 – Baker/Beckenstein (APA Meeting/St. Stephens Parking lot)
Oct. 2 – ???/Cronin – WEDNESDAY meeting (800 EA Hwy/887 EA Hwy)
Oct. 15 – Kace/Keller
Oct. 29 – Levine/Pilch

b) New & Continued Business

351 Main Street – Mr. Pilch discussed his comments on the revised parking lot plans. His concerns centered on the inadequate design of the stormwater management plan and lack of protection and restoration of wetland areas.

UPON motion duly made (Baker), seconded (Kace) and carried, with two recusals, it was RESOLVED to submit Mr. Pilch's comments to P&Z/IWB.

887 EA Hwy – No RCC involvement is needed at this time.

Turner/Barnum – Because there are no wetlands or open space involved in the 8-30g pre-app, the RCC has no comment at this time.

c) Report on Meetings

Sep. 10 – Snow/Welby (800 EA Hwy) – Ms. Snow discussed her meeting summary. The public hearing was closed. Mr. Pilch will draft comments on the recently discovered responses to RCC July 9th letter. Mr. Coyle will check with Atty. Grogins about submission procedures after public hearings are closed.

6. DRAFT STORMWATER REGULATIONS – Ms. Peyser distributed the draft regulations and asked for comments by October 25. Mr. Pilch found the regulations to be appropriate for Ridgefield and is pleased that recommendations on thresholds, water quality volume and development coverage are included in the new regulations. There is no need for further comments by the RCC.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION – ATTORNEY CONSULTATION

UPON motion duly made (Cronin), seconded (Beckenstein) and carried, it was RESOLVED to enter Executive session at 9:42pm and to exit at 10:20pm.

8. CHAIRMANS REMARKS

Mr. Coyle asked commissioners to seek out possible candidates for the one full and one alternate openings.

ADJOURNMENT

UPON motion duly made (Brewster), seconded (Snow) and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,
Colleen Lake