



APPROVED MINUTES
Ridgefield Conservation Commission

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

January 6, 2020

A meeting of the Ridgefield Conservation Commission was held at the Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street, Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877 on Monday, January 6, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Eric Beckenstein Carroll Brewster Jim Coyle Dave Cronin
 Jack Kace Erik Keller Kitsey Snow Allan Welby

Absent: Daniel C. Levine

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

Alice Leaderman, Jean Linville, Matt Sharp, Whitney Freeman, and Timothy Porter were also in attendance.

UPON motion duly made (Cronin), seconded (Keller), and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to add Timothy Porter, Eagle Scout Presentation to the agenda.

Timothy Porter reported that his Eagle Scout Project is complete. The Schlumberger trail was cleared and blazed with the help of several other scouts and members of FCNEMBA. The RCC congratulated Tim on his efforts and a job well done.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

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

2. OPEN SPACE

Whitney Freeman – Lease Update – Ms. Freeman requested renewal of her one-year license agreement for Ridgebury Pasture 1, which expires the end of January. She also asked the RCC to approve adding Ridgebury Pasture 2 to the agreement and increasing the sheep total to 18 on the two parcels in the new agreement.

UPON motion made (Snow), seconded (Brewster) and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to approve the one-year license to include Ridgebury Pastures 1 & 2 with a maximum of 18 sheep.

Mr. Coyle will draft the agreement and forward to Ms. Freeman for comment and then on to Mr. Marconi.

Garden of Ideas Proposal – Based on the specific wording in the deed, the RCC cannot pursue the land swap suggested by the property owner. Mr. Cronin and Ms. Snow walked the site and found the area to be valuable open space but it lacks access. They proposed asking the property owner to sell a one acre-parcel that would provide access to the abutting open space. Mr. Coyle will contact the property owner about selling the parcel.

Thrift Shop Grant – Grant requests are due the end of January. Members are asked to bring ideas to the next meeting.

103 Peaceable – Nothing new to report.

3. PLANNING & ZONING/INLAND WETLANDS BOARD

a) Meetings for Attendance – P&Z

Jan 7 – Keller (POCD)

Jan 14 – Snow (805 North Salem/Turner-Barnum Affordable Housing)

Jan 28 – Levine

b) Meetings for Attendance – IWB

Jan 9 – Welby (Governor St. Pkg lot)

Jan 23 – Beckenstein

4) CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS – Mr. Coyle and Dr. Kace met with Mr. Marconi January 3 to discuss several items.

- Proposed expense budget - the RCC may be asked to present the budget to the Board of Finance.
 - Status of the town's open space - the RCC will present the latest report to the Board of Selectmen at the meeting on February 19.
 - NRI – funding and timing of the NRI were discussed. The RCC will look into NRI production by other local towns.
 - Open space maintenance – Mr. Coyle will schedule a meeting with Mr. DiPinto to discuss field mowing on open space.
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ADJOURNMENT

UPON motion duly made (Brewster), seconded (Beckenstein) and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,
Colleen Lake