



**APPROVED MINUTES**  
**Ridgefield Conservation Commission**

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

**February 10, 2020**

A meeting of the Ridgefield Conservation Commission was held at the Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street, Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877 on Monday, February 10, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Present:      Eric Beckenstein      Carroll Brewster      Jim Coyle      Dave Cronin  
                 Jack Kace                   Jean Linville                   Matt Sharp                   Allan Welby

Absent:          Erik Keller, Daniel C. Levine and Kitsey Snow

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

Ben Oko and Alice Leaderman were also in attendance.

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## **1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the January 22, 2020 meeting were reviewed.

UPON motion duly made (Cronin), seconded (Brewster) and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of January 22, 2020 be approved and ordered filed in the Town Hall.

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## **2. FUTURE COMMISSION ACTIVITIES**

– Based on recommendations from the last RCC meeting, areas of future RCC focus, and their subcommittee assignments, were reviewed. Mr. Coyle will include input from the commission and present the final committee assignments at the next RCC meeting.

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## **3. OPEN SPACE**

Scouting Awards – Mr. Sharp explained three Scout awards that include some conservation work. He plans to visit four of the local Scout troops to discuss the RCC's mission and how the RCC can assist scouts achieve their goals and awards.

103 Peaceable – A settlement has been reached on the open space tree cutting violation. Payment should be received shortly and clean-up of leftover debris, with oversight by the RCC, will be scheduled this spring.

Parks & Rec Authorization – The need for additional outside help with trail maintenance and mowing was discussed.

UPON motion duly made (Cronin), seconded (Beckenstein) and carried, it was RESOLVED to authorize up to \$2000 to hire P&R employees to help with maintenance on an as-needed basis throughout the year.

Great Swamp Trail – Mr. Coyle will schedule a meeting with Mr. Marconi to discuss the proposed LINC trail from Parks & Rec to the Rail Trail. There is concern that the proposed trail may overlap with the new RCC Schlumberger trail and could affect the bridges Eagle Scouts are planning to build this spring.

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#### 4. MEETINGS FOR ATTENDANCE

a) P&Z

Feb 11 – Sharp (Gov St. Pkg lot, Turner 8-30g)

Feb 25 – Levine (POCD)

b) IWB

Feb 13 – Brewster (Peaceable pond dredging – withdrawn)

Feb 27 – Cronin

c) Reports from Meetings

Feb 4 – Ms. Linville discussed her notes taken at the recent P&Z meeting. It appears that many RCC comments were ignored. Mr. Coyle will organize RCC comments to correspond with the latest version and resubmit prior to the next P&Z meeting discussion on Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>.

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#### 5. EXTRA CURRICULARS –

The Devil We Know – RCC co-sponsoring the documentary on PFAs water contamination.  
Tuesday, Feb 11, 6-8:30pm at the Ridgefield Library.

Earth Day – April 22, 2020 – The commission will think about possible activities to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Annual Meeting Planning/Edith Meffley Award – Commissioners will think about possible dates, speakers and recipient(s) for the Edith Meffley Award to be discussed at the next meeting.

Ridgefield Women's Club – Mr. Coyle will speak on town conservation issues at the March 5, 2020 meeting.

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#### 6. BOARD OF SELECTMEN

- The BOS denied Attorney Jewell's request to waive the FOIA fees.
  - Mr. Coyle and Mr. Kace will present the Open Space Report at the February 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. In addition, the reappointments of Mr. Cronin and Mr. Brewster, and renewal of Ms. Freeman's license agreement will be discussed.
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#### 7. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS – None.

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#### 8. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Land Acquisitions

UPON motions duly made (Brewster), seconded (Cronin) and carried it was RESOLVED to enter Executive Session at 9:00pm and to exit at 9:25pm.

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#### ADJOURNMENT

UPON motion duly made (Cronin), seconded (Welby) and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Colleen Lake