

APPROVED MINUTES

**Ridgefield Conservation Commission
Flood and Erosion Control Board**
Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street
Ridgefield, CT 06877 (203-438-4571)
June 9, 2008

A meeting of the Ridgefield Conservation Commission was held at the Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877 on June 9, 2008 at approximately 7:35 p.m.

The following members were present:

Susan Baker
Carroll Brewster
Dave Cronin
Ben Oko
George Orlan
Patricia Sesto
Kitsey Snow
Carol Stoddard

Dr. Oko chaired the meeting. Nancy McDaniel was present to take minutes.

MINUTES

The minutes of the May 28, 2008 meeting were reviewed.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of May 28, 2008 be and hereby are approved and ordered filed in the minute book of the Commission and the Town Hall minute book.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Brewster reported that two bills had been paid: Ridgefield Supply - \$198.16; Dave Cronin – supplies - \$8.36

OPEN SPACE

Deer Committee Issues – Members discussed the need to keep accurate records of how many deer are taken, when and where during the hunting season in order to analyze the

success of the hunt. Extensive signage is needed along the perimeters as well as at trail entrances. There should be more than one person to police signage during the hunt.

The advisory capacity of the commission was emphasized. Setting policy lies in the hands of the selectmen. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the selectmen recommending more signs, more personnel overseeing placement of signs and increased advertising of the hunt in the *Press* and on the town's website.

The commission will request from the Deer Implementation Committee a count of deer taken per parcel per season as well as the number of hunters and man-hours. Rangers will be asked to contact the commission if they have any concerns about signage. The information will be sent to the selectmen.

Maintenance/Posting/Projects – Mr. Cronin distributed a list of tasks for the summer workers and asked for suggestions of additional projects.

Pine Mountain Fence – The new fence will be installed on June 13.

Fence at McKeon Farm – The split rail fence is falling down. Mr. Orlan and Mr. Cronin will obtain estimates on a replacement fence.

Summer Program: Worker Supervision – Ms. Snow will meet with the workers each Monday and Wednesday. They will check in at the office on Fridays. On other days, they can call Mr. Cronin with any questions.

Ms. Snow, Mr. Cronin and Dr. Oko will meet with them to lay out job expectations.

Turner Hill – Dr. Oko discussed moving forward the Turner Hill discussion with Mr. Marconi. The RCC committee could go before the selectmen on July 2.

Bobcat on South Olmstead Lane – A resident expressed concern about a bobcat in the neighborhood and wanted the commission to trap and move it. She will be advised to contact DEP Wildlife Department to ask for advice.

SHARING SESSIONS

June 3 – Ms. Baker reported that the P & Z accepted Ms. Pardee's recommendations for 140 Wilton Road West and agreed that the Lakeview Drive donation would be good for the town.

Dr. Oko will discuss the importance of raising the informational standards for wetland applications with Mr. Brosius, Ms. Mucchetti and Ms. Pardee.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION, INLAND WETLANDS BOARD

Meetings for Attendance
June 10 – Mr. Orlan

June 17 – Mr. Stoddard
July 1 – Mr. Brewster
July 8 – Ms. Baker

NEW BUSINESS

213 High Ridge Avenue – Don Sturges and Bob Jewell presented plans for a six-house subdivision requiring a zone change. The open space offered is a narrow strip running behind three of the proposed houses. Mr. Sturges offered to remove the invasives and plant a row of evergreens to delineate the open space and prevent extension of lawns. He would install signs on 4" x 4" posts to mark the open space.

Discussion centered on the value of the parcel versus a donation of money in lieu of open space. An alternate parcel containing a detention basin was also discussed as possible open space.

Members decided to walk the parcel before making a judgment.

90 Spring Valley Road – A resident asked the commission to repair the equestrian trail damaged by the Szenkuti construction. Mr. Szenkuti was instructed by the enforcement officer to make the repairs, but has not acted.

The commission will not assume responsibility for maintaining equestrian trails. Interested riders may submit a plan for remediation to the commission for approval and fund the repairs if they wish, or the commission might close a trail if it is hazardous.

748 Danbury Road – An extension of the tennis facility that will touch wetland is proposed. Members will walk the property.

WALKS

June 20 - Starting at the Annex parking lot at 8:00 a.m.
Trail at Toll Brothers' Laurelwood
748 Danbury Road – tennis facility
Opening of new trail at Hemlock Hills
Katz property on Old Stagecoach Road

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy McDaniel