

## **APPROVED MINUTES**

**Ridgefield Conservation Commission  
Flood and Erosion Control Board**  
Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street  
Ridgefield, CT 06877 (203) 431-2713  
October 25, 2010

A meeting of the Ridgefield Conservation Commission was held at the Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877 on Monday, October 25, 2010 at approximately 7:35 p.m.

The following members were present:

Susan Baker  
Carroll Brewster  
Dave Cronin  
Ben Oko  
George Orlan  
Alan Pilch  
Patricia Sesto  
Kitsey Snow

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

### **MINUTES**

The minutes of the September 13, 2010 meeting were reviewed.

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

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of September 13, 2010 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 no bills had been paid.

### **OPEN SPACE**

Maintenance/Posting/Projects – Mr. Cronin described a large tree that had fallen into the spillway of the dam at Florida Refuge. Removal will be done at a later date. Mr. Cronin will continue to check the area.

Lake Windwing Cleanup Day – Ms. Snow worked with a dozen volunteers from the Church of Latter Day Saints in Newtown who offered to remove autumn olive at Lake Windwing.

Coyotes – Ms. Sesto met with the neighbors near Weir Farm and with the trapper. He prefers using a rifle instead of trapping because traps cannot be fully controlled. There are several coyotes in the area. The neighbors wish to contract with the trapper to take them out. Ms. Sesto will continue to monitor the situation. No action on Town property would be needed if the problem coyote is removed through the efforts of the neighbors.

Turner Hill – A recent computation of the open space at Turner Hill revealed that 68% of the property is open space. 65% must be left in its natural state. 2.8% can be mowed. The residents are presently mowing 4%. Discussions with representatives of Turner Hill are taking place to work towards a resolution.

Mr. Brewster stated that the final agreement should be added to homeowner deeds so that it is on the record for all future owners.

New York Water Study – Dr. Oko reported that the forester at Connwood received the contract to do a water study on Ridgefield open space. He will do the project in late November or early December.

## **SHARING SESSIONS**

October 18 - Ms. Snow reported that the Town of Redding plans to build affordable housing on the old sawmill site on Route 7. This land is leased from the Connecticut DEP and is part of the Super 7 land. The front of the property is in Ridgefield. Should Redding pursue the plan, access through the Ridgefield section would be necessary.

## **PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION, INLAND WETLANDS BOARD**

Meetings for Attendance

November 3 (Wednesday) – Ms. Baker

November 9 – Ms. Yanity

November 16 – Mr. Brewster

November 23 – Mr. Cronin

## **NEW BUSINESS**

746-48 Danbury Road – BMW – Mr. Pilch reviewed plans for the site. The present tennis facility would be demolished and a new dealership constructed in its place. The current dealership would be replaced by a parking lot. The paved area would remain about the same as before building construction. Suggested water quality controls would include deep galleries for runoff that would then move to water quality basins. Mr. Pilch questioned whether or not the *stormwater* treatment plans would work because the galleries would be placed in ground water. *It was recommended that soils be tested in the location of the galleries to determine the depth to any restrictive layer.* There are better solutions available. He was also concerned about pretreatment of water.

Because of the complexity of the plan, Mr. Brewster suggested sending technical comments to the applicant's engineer and laymen's comments to Planning and Zoning. Mr. Pilch will draft a document.

Ms. Snow wished to see a plan for removal of knotweed. Maintenance of the planned detention basin should also be included.

Open Space Appeal Letter – Members reviewed a draft of the appeal letter and made suggestions. Mr. Brewster will amend the letter.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

NRI Map Approval – Members studied a town map for accuracy. The map will be used in the NRI final report.

NRI Water Quality Study –The study will take place on November 6 at 10:00. Ten people have signed up to get training and then study an assigned stream. Commission members are invited to participate.

Spring Valley Study – The forest ecologist from Highstead Arboretum will lead a study of trees on Spring Valley Road.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The commission met in executive session starting at 8:43 and ending at 9:03 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy McDaniel