

## **APPROVED MINUTES**

**Ridgefield Conservation Commission  
Flood and Erosion Control Board**  
Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street  
Ridgefield, CT 06877 (203) 431-2713  
May 23, 2011

A meeting of the Ridgefield Conservation Commission was held at the Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877 on Monday, May 23, 2011 at approximately 7:30 p.m.

The following members were present:

Susan Baker  
Carroll Brewster  
Dave Cronin  
Ben Oko  
Alan Pilch  
Patricia Sesto  
Kitsey Snow  
Beth Yanity

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

### **MINUTES**

The minutes of the May 2, 2011 meeting were reviewed.

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

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of May 2, 2011 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 the following bill had been paid: \$43.33 – Dave Cronin for chicken wire for a slippery bridge.

### **EAGLE SCOUT CANDIDATE**

Bill Pfohl presented his plan to build a kiosk at Pine Mountain at the intersection of the red and yellow trails and the Ives trail to help orient hikers. Mr. Cronin suggested scaling down the kiosk from 7 ft. to approximately 4 ft. and forgoing concrete footings in favor of pressure-treated posts set directly in the ground. The estimated cost for materials is +/- \$300. Billy will ask Ridgefield Supply to donate materials and will submit the final plan to Ms. Snow for approval.

## **NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR ENERGY CHALLENGE**

Dr. Oko asked if the commission wished to participate in the Energy Challenge. He introduced Anastasia Rogich who presented a program on the Challenge. Ten non-profits are working to reduce energy consumption in houses by 20%. The project is funded by the Department of Energy. To date, 14 towns in Connecticut are participating, four of which are in Fairfield County. Ms. Rogich outlined the steps an individual would take to join the program and get an energy audit. There is a system of rewards for both individuals and sponsoring organizations who participate in the audit.

On a motion by Mr. Cronin, seconded by Ms. Snow and passed by the majority with Mr. Pilch abstaining, it was

RESOLVED that the Conservation Commission become a partner in the Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Challenge.

## **OPEN SPACE**

Maintenance/Posting/Projects – Mr. Cronin and Ms. Snow said that the high school interns had started work, but that the endless rain had made it difficult for them to work outdoors.

Summer Workers - Ms. Snow announced that Shane Neeson and Andy Boytos had been hired to work for the commission during the summer.

Mountain Road Easement – Dr. Oko explained that a bridge over a stream in the easement had been built by a previous owner of the land where the easement is located. The bridge is now broken. Nearby residents wish to have it rebuilt. The Rainbow Lake Association has offered to supply the labor for the project and have requested funding from the commission. After discussion, it was decided to supply partial funding.

On a motion by Mr. Brewster, seconded by Ms. Yanity and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED that the commission fund half of the bridge rebuilding project up to \$500 on the condition that plans are submitted and approved prior to funding.

Pine Mountain Land Swap – Dr. Oko had been asked to consider swapping a small parcel of private land on Pine Mountain for a parcel of open space. He consulted counsel and then notified the owner that the commission does not swap land.

## **SHARING SESSIONS**

May 17 – The buffer and storm water management were discussed. Dr. Oko will write a letter suggesting that runoff be treated before going into the catch basin and ultimately into the lake.

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

Meetings for Attendance

May 24 – Mr. Brewster  
June 7 – Mr. Cronin  
June 14 – Ms. Yanity  
June 21 – Ms. Baker

### **NEW BUSINESS**

McKeon Orchard – Hans Williams, the farmer, will attend the next meeting to discuss the terms of the lease.

7 & 9 North Salem Road – Mr. Pilch will study the plans and make a recommendation.

### **OPEN SPACE ACQUISITIONS AND DONATIONS**

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

NRI Recommendations – Members studied the draft recommendations and made constructive suggestions which Dr. Oko will forward to Michael Klemens.

Cell Tower – The vote was delayed until June. Rudy Marconi will attempt to obtain a 60-day extension of the contract. It expires on June 4. No vote can take place if the contract is not extended.

Freedom of Information Seminar – The seminar will be discussed at the next meeting.

Candidate for Open Position on the Commission – Members discussed candidates for the position and chose one to endorse to the Board of Selectmen. Dr. Oko will convey the commission's preference to the selectmen.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy McDaniel