

APPROVED MINUTES



MINUTES

Ridgefield Conservation Commission

Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street

Ridgefield, CT 06877

(203) 431-2713 • conservation@ridgefieldct.org

Meeting May 22 2023 at 7PM

Present: Roberta Barbieri Erik Keller Jim Liptack Jean Linville
Jack Kace Kitsey Snow Peter Nichols Matt Sharp
Benjamin Nissim Allan Welby

Absent: Jim Coyle

Attendance: Alec Rogers, Anthony Markert

Jack Kace called the meeting to order at 7 P.M.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

UPON motion duly made (Keller), seconded (Nichols), and carried, it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of May 8, 2023 be approved and ordered filed in Town Hall. Vote: 8:0 Liptack and Sharp abstained

2. EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT PROPOSAL

Alec Rogers an Eagle Scout with troop 431 presented his proposal for reconstructing a bridge at the entrance of Barrack Hill Refuge.

UPON motion duly made (Welby), seconded (Sharp), and carried, it was RESOLVED to approve up to \$600 for reconstructing a bridge at the entrance of Barrack Hill Refuge. Approved 9-0.

3. CONSERVATION COMMISSION VACANCY

Ms. Snow tendered her resignation after a 16-year long term on the RCC effective June 1. The RCC expressed their deepest gratitude for her service and dedication.

4. TREE COMMITTEE VACANCY

The RCC has two applicants apply for the tree committee vacancy, Ms. Snow and Mr. Markert. Mr. Markert presented his previous work experience and qualifications. Mr. Kace discussed the on-going difficulty working with the tree committee and their non-responsiveness to date. The RCC discussed both well qualified candidates.

UPON motion duly made (Keller), seconded (Sharp), and carried, it was RESOLVED to elect a new member for the opening of the tree committee. Ms. Snow = 6 votes. Mr. Markert = 1 vote. Mr. Liptack Abstained. Ms. Snow is the new member of the tree committee.

5. SHADOW LAKE DAM

Mr. Nichols walked the dam and noticed it was clogged with branches however had checked in with Parks and Rec and they mentioned the dam has been cleared of debris. The town does have a process in place to manage the dam. The RCC will ask Jake Muller again to attend the next meeting to review and explain the process.

6. MAIN STREET TREE PROJECT

Mr. Keller, Ms. Barbieri and Mr. Bossi reviewed the tree planting plan and will need to be reassured that the project plans to maintain straight species verses cultivars.

7. MCKEON VISION COMMITTEE (MVC)

7.1. Invasives Removal

Ms. Barbieri reported on Fat and Sassy Goats productive use at Mckeon. She may need to cut and paint or brush hog the previous area the goats had been used last Fall.

7.2. Chestnut Tree Project

Mr. Nichols will work with Mr. Nissim to iron out the legal liability coverage for both the town and the non-profit.

9. COMMUNITY OUTREACH

9.1 Annual Meeting

The RCC will hold its annual meeting this Wednesday evening May 25th.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Nichols mentioned four items; The RCC needs clear instructions and signage for open space properties in regards to dogs being on leash. The RCC may need to consider printing more walk books as the Books on the Common has high demand. The town of Weston has a number of duplicate old farm tools they will be donating. Carol Brewster's bench is complete and the RCC would like to set up a presentation date in June.

Ms. Snow would like the RCC to consider Carol Brewster for the Edith Meffley award at the next annual meeting.

Ms. Barbieri is hosting a work day at the Aldrich on June 4th from 2 – 4pm.

Ms. Linville mentioned the town's upcoming tax sales and auctions as another way to look for properties to add to open space.

10. MEETINGS FOR ATTENDANCE

P&Z

June 6 – Barbieri

June 20 – Kace

IWB

May 25 – Welby

June 8 – Keller

*Mr. Nissim will be filling in for Mr. Keller on June 8th.

11. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT UPON motion duly made (Barbieri), seconded (Sharp), and carried, it was RESOLVED that the meeting adjourned at 9:03 P.M. Vote: 9:0.