

## APPROVED MINUTES



### MINUTES

## Ridgefield Conservation Commission

Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street

Ridgefield, CT 06877

(203) 431-2713 • [conservation@ridgefieldct.org](mailto:conservation@ridgefieldct.org)

**Meeting June 05 2023 at 7PM**

**Present:** Roberta Barbieri      Jack Kace      Jean Linville      Allan Welby  
Peter Nichols      Benjamin Nissim      Matt Sharp

Absent: Jim Coyle, Erik Keller, Jim Liptack

Attendance: Andrew Pearl

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

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### 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

UPON motion duly made (Sharp), seconded (Nichols), and carried, it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of May 22, 2023 be approved and ordered filed in Town Hall. Vote: 6:0

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### 2. EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT PROPOSAL – Andrew Pearl

Andrew Pearl, a life scout with Troop 76 presented his proposal for the Aldrich Park Trail Replacement. **UPON** motion duly made (Welby), seconded (Nichols), and carried, it was RESOLVED to approve up to \$130 for the Aldrich Park Trail Replacement. Approved 7-0.

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### 3. CONSERVATION COMMISSION VACANCY

The RCC discussed moving Pete Nichols from alternate member to full member now that there is a vacancy.

**UPON** motion duly made (Sharp), seconded (Barbieri), and carried, it was RESOLVED to nominate Pete Nichols serve on the RCC as a full member. Approved 7-0.

The RCC will begin the process of advertising the alternate position this week.

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### 4. SHADOW LAKE DAM

The RCC is waiting to hear from Jake Muller regarding the schedule and process of maintenance. The RCC will table this discussion until we hear from Jake.

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### 5. RCC TRUCK

Mr. Nichols had the RCC truck in for its regular maintenance and was informed that the chaise is rusting through. Mr. Nichols will have Steve Metzger from the highway department on the lookout for a replacement within the town.

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### 6. MAIN STREET TREE PROJECT

Mr. Keller, Ms. Barbieri and Mr. Bossi submitted the tree planting plan to the Main Street Tree committee. All parties are aligned on what is to be planted, however there could be issues sourcing trees.

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## 7. EBIKES

Mr. Sharp brought to the RCC's attention that Ebikes are not mentioned in our open space rules & guidelines prohibiting the use on trails. Mr. Nissim and Mr. Sharp will review and propose changes.

## 8. MCKEON VISION COMMITTEE (MVC)

### 8.1. Invasives Removal

Ms. Barbieri reported post goat cleanup at Mckeon. Ms. Barbieri, Mr. Welby and Mr. Nichols have been making progress cutting away the new open area the goats made accessible. Mr. Nichols to show the summer workers how to use the brush cutter in efforts to open areas up faster.

Mr. Nichols mentioned a huge amount of poison ivy growing over the walls and will try a number of experiments (tarps, organic horticulture mixtures) to see which one is most effective on removal.

### 8.2. Chestnut Tree Project

Mr. Nichols reported the man hours to be around 15 to 25 hours on the project. Mr. Nissim to provide comments on the contract regarding legal liability coverage for both the town and the non-profit.

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## 9. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Sharp mentioned the schedule for mowing and bailing for Lauzen. Mr. Coyle will schedule August 1<sup>st</sup> with Carlos.

Mr. Sharp let the RCC know he noticed minor brush fire damage on Hemlock Hills.

Mr. Sharp mentioned the summer workers have started and we need a new weed whacker. **UPON** motion duly made (Sharp), seconded (Welby), and carried, it was RESOLVED to approve up to \$300 for the purchase of a new electric weed whacker. Approved. 7:0

Mr. Nichols mentioned Carrol Brewster's bench ceremony will be June 12 with a rain date of June 15. The RCC may provide some refreshments depending on the amount of people that attend.

The RCC discussed the proposed 92 occupant building at 877 Ethan Allan Hwy. as there may be a conservation easement in relation to where the proposed building may occur. The RCC will review the easement and deed as well as bring up for discussion at the upcoming P&Z meeting and IWB meeting.

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## 10. MEETINGS FOR ATTENDANCE

### **P&Z**

June 20 – Kace

July 5 – Liptack

### **IWB**

June 8 – Nissim

June 22 – Linville

## 11. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Nothing to report.

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**ADJOURNMENT UPON** motion duly made (Sharp), seconded (Nichols), and carried, it was RESOLVED that the meeting adjourned at 8:34 P.M. Vote: 7:0.