

APPROVED MINUTES



MINUTES

Ridgefield Conservation Commission

Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street

Ridgefield, CT 06877

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

Meeting July 5 2023 at 7PM

Present: Roberta Barbieri Erik Keller Jean Linville Jim Liptack
Jim Coyle Matt Sharp Allan Welby

Absent: Jack Kace, Pete Nichols, Benjamin Nissim,
The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7 P.M.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

2. EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT PROPOSAL – ANDREW ISAAC

Andrew Isaac, an Eagle Scout with Troop 431 proposed Ridgebury Slope/Peterson Gorge Trail Improvements.

UPON motion duly made (Sharp), seconded (Keller), and carried, it was RESOLVED to approve the application for Ridgebury Slope/Peterson Gorge Trail Improvements with minor adjustments to plan at no cost to the RCC. Approved 7-0.

3. CONSERVATION COMMISSION ALTERNATE VACANCY

3.1 Interviews

Jana Hogan and Anthony Markert presented their backgrounds to the RCC.

3.2 Executive Session

UPON motion duly made (Keller), seconded (Sharp), and carried, it was RESOLVED that the commission go into executive session. Vote: 7:0

Returned from to public meeting at 8:05pm.

The commission voted unanimously to appoint Jana Hogan as an alternate commission member. Mr. Coyle will email the recommendation to the BOS for selection.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION (enforcement)

Nothing new to report.

5. BLAZES IN RIDGEFIELD TRAILS

6. PIERREPONT MAP

Mr. Liptack will coordinate with the Ridgefield Running Company regarding volunteers to help blaze trails as well as which maps the RRC would like to view.

7. PINE MOUNTAIN ROAD ACCESS

Mr. Sharp and Mr. Malwitz walked the Pine Mountain access trail which seems to either be on town owned property or the property lines are incorrect. RCC needs to have access to maintain the trails. Mr. Coyle and CEO will look into this further.

8. MCKEON HAYFIELD

Mr. Sharp has a quote for \$1,600 to cut and bail the hay at McKeon. The work would start on/around August 1.

UPON motion duly made (Sharp), seconded (Keller), and carried, it was **RESOLVED** to approve \$1,600 to cut and bail hay at McKeon on or around August 1st. Vote: 7:0

9. NRI REPORT / STORY BOARD

Ms. Linville is set to present the story board at the Ridgefield Library exhibition July 12th with the talk on July 15th to present the story map to the public. The next step will be to work with the town on how to link on the website.

10. WATERBODY CARE AND TREATMENTS

Ms. Linville mentioned that under the Town Charter it looks like the care of waterbodies and treatment falls under RCC; however, there is little guidance on how to manage this effort. Ms. Linville and Mr. Liptack will look into creating a sub committee to meet with IWB, BOS and Health Department to create plan moving forward.

11. MCKEON VISION COMMITTEE

11.1. Invasives Removal

Nothing new to report.

11.2 Chestnut Tree Project

Waiting on insurance issue to be resolved.

12. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Welby reported that banding of the purple martins will take place next week and the bander will now be able to tag a couple with a GPS tracker. There are now 87 babies in the martin houses.

Mr. Keller reported that P&R approved the change in the Native Plant Policy. They will present at the BOS meeting in September/October. He is also installing “no dogs” signs at McKeon this week.

13. MEETINGS FOR ATTENDANCE

P&Z

July 5 – Liptack

July 18 – Keller

IWB

July 13 – Linville

July 27 – Sharp

14. CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS

None.

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