



APPROVED MINUTES
Ridgefield Conservation Commission
Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street
Ridgefield, CT 06877
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August 17, 2020

A meeting of the Ridgefield Conservation Commission was held via teleconference on Monday, August 17, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Carroll Brewster Jim Coyle Jack Kace Erik Keller
 Jean Linville Matt Sharp Allan Welby

Absent: Eric Beckenstein, Dave Cronin, Dan Levine, and Kitsey Snow

Wendy Campbell-Gibson and Caroline Vilinskis also attended via teleconference.

Mr. Coyle chaired the meeting. Ms. Lake took the minutes.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the July 27, 2020 meeting were discussed.

UPON motion duly made (Brewster), seconded (Keller), and carried, (Kace abstaining), it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of July 27, 2020 be approved and ordered filed in the Town Hall.

2. OPEN SPACE

Eagle Scout Presentation – Caroline Vilinskis

Caroline, a junior at RHS and member of Troop 19, discussed her project to remove invasives such as barberry, bittersweet, multiflora rose, from one or two of the stone walls at McKeon farm. In addition, she will research the history of the farm, interview the farmer(s) currently leasing the fields and prepare a field guide (tri-fold pamphlet) that contains information on invasive and native species, farming, and history of the property. She plans to begin in early September and hopes to finish by the end of September. Troop 19 will revisit the project annually and continue invasive removal on the stone walls. Caroline requested approximately \$125 to cover the field guide costs. Ms. Linville and Ms. Snow will review the field guide prior to publication

UPON motion duly made (Brewster), seconded.(Kace), and carried, it was RESOLVED to approve the invasive removal and field guide project and up to \$125 in costs.

Tree Clean-Up – Mr. Sharp and Mr. Cronin have been assessing and clearing some of the smaller open space parcels while FC NEMBA has been instrumental in helping to clear Hemlock Hills and Pine Mountain. Mr. Levine continues to deliver reports from Rangers on areas in need of clearing. A list will be compiled of the larger trees to be removed by P&R, or an outside contractor, sometime in the fall.

McKeon Haying – The hayer is available to hay the Lauzun field in the next week or two. Mr. Welby will contact Ms. Snow to discuss her reasons for not wanting to hay the field. The RCC will agree with whatever the two commissioners recommend.

3. ADMINISTRATOR SEARCH – The commission is pleased to announce that Wendy Campbell-Gibson has accepted the position of RCC Administrator, effective Sept. 2, 2020.

4. MEETINGS FOR ATTENDANCE

P&Z

Sep 1 – Welby
Sep 8 – Beckenstein
Sep 22 - Brewster

IWB

Sep 10 – Brewster
Sep 24 – Cronin

5. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS – The RCC received a \$20,000 cash-in-lieu payment, deposited in the Open Space Conservation Fund, from the first half of the subdivision at 523 Ridgebury Road.

ADJOURNMENT

UPON motion duly made (Brewster), seconded (Keller), and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at. 7:40pm.

Respectfully submitted by,
Colleen Lake

These minutes are a general summary of the meeting and are not intended to be a verbatim transcription.