

## APPROVED MINUTES



### RetDRAFT MINUTES Ridgefield Conservation Commission

Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street

Ridgefield, CT 06877

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

**Meeting**  
**May 9, 2022 at 7 P.M.**

**Present:** James Coyle                      Jack Kace                      Erik Keller  
                 Daniel C Levine                      Jim Liptack                      Peter Nichols  
                 Matt Sharp                      Kitsey Snow                      Allan Welby

**Absent:**                      Roberta Barbieri, Jean Linville

Chairman Coyle called the meeting to order at 7 P.M.

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#### **1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**UPON** motion duly made (Keller), seconded (Nichols), and carried, it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of April 25, 2022 be approved and ordered filed in the Town Hall. Vote: 6-0

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#### **2. ENFORCEMENT ACTION**

##### 2.1 Bobby's Court

Mr. Nichols and Ms. Snow performed a site visit on 4/29. They noted the majority of the dumping was south of the Bobby's Court Trail entrance on Rt. 7. Ms. Snow informed the Highway Dept. and they said they will alert the State DOT. They also walked the trail that cuts through open space on Bobby's Court. There is significant debris being dumped behind one of the adjacent properties.

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#### **3. EAGLE SCOUT PRESENTATION**

Emily Fox presented a bog bridge project she completed at McKeon Farm. She was commended for a very good looking and useful bridge as well as staying within budget.

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#### **4. MCKEON FARM**

##### 4.1 Cornerstone Gardens License

Mr. Coyle gave an update from the BOS meeting. They increased the square footage in the lease and approved moving onto next steps, which is a Public Hearing 5/18 and a Town Meeting on 6/1.

##### 4.2 Fence Update

Mr. Nichols shared images of the fence progress with the Commission. The project should be complete within the next two weeks.

##### 4.3 Parking Update

Mr. Coyle let the Commission know he is waiting on Dave Buccitti with the Highway Department to schedule, which should be soon.

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Ms. Snow added additional information on planting six apple trees in the orchard at McKeon Farm. Ms. Snow will look into costs comparisons for plantings.

Ms. Snow will get a cost estimate from Parks and Rec on tilling the Upper Meadow once every 3 weeks for the season.

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### 5. NRI UPDATE

Ms. Snow updated the Commission on the upcoming event planned for the NRI. The 24-hour Bio Blitz event will need many volunteers. Weir Farm and Woodcock Nature Center are helping with the event for 6/11. Ms. Snow will work with Dan Levine to notify the public and ask for volunteers.

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### 6. SUMMER WORKERS

Mr. Sharp let the Commission know there are five applicants as of today (and a possible sixth). Mr. Sharp and Mr. Keller will conduct interviews via zoom and report back to the Commission.

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### 7. OPEN SPACE BENCHES

Mr. Nichols and Ms. Snow will put a plan together for where the benches should be located and how many will be needed.

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### 8. COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Mr. Levine will include more of the NRI updates in the upcoming summer newsletter.

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### 9. MEETINGS FOR ATTENDANCE

There were no changes to report.

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### 10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion duly made (Snow), Seconded (Keller), and carried, it was RESOLVED that the Commission go into Executive Session Vote 9:0 to discuss potential litigation.

Returned to public 9:00pm

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### 11. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Mr. Coyle asked the commission the best way to notify the public of bear and coyote sightings. The commission agreed the community typically is notified via Facebook faster than a Conservation notification would be given.

Ms. Snow made the Commission aware of a few items at Pine Mountain, the pile of dog poop bags and bikers using the yellow trail. Ms. Snow will work with the administrator on signage to address these two issues.

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### **ADJOURNMENT**

**UPON** motion duly made (Keller), seconded (Nichols), and carried, it was **RESOLVED** that the meeting adjourn at 9:25 P.M. Vote: 9:0.