



**APPROVED MINUTES**  
**Ridgefield Conservation Commission**  
Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street  
Ridgefield, CT 06877  
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**January 22, 2018**

A meeting of the Ridgefield Conservation Commission was held at the Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street, Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877 on Monday, January 22, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

The following members were present:

Susan Baker	Eric Beckenstein	Tim Bishop
Carroll Brewster	Jim Coyle	Dave Cronin
Jack Kace	Dan Levine	Ben Oko
Alan Pilch	Kitsey Snow	

Mr. Coyle chaired the meeting. Colleen Lake was present to take minutes. Kristen Quell-Garguillo was also in attendance.

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

The minutes of the January 8, 2018 meeting were reviewed.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of January 8, 2018 are approved and ordered filed in the minute books of the Commission and the Town Hall.

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**2. TREASURER'S REPORT** – Mr. Brewster informed the commission that \$21,950 has been received from 196 donors for the annual appeal, with an average donation of \$112.

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**3. FRACKING WASTE BAN** – Kristen Quell-Garguillo from RACE (Ridgefield Action Committee for the Environment) explained that the state's fracking waste ban will expire July 1, 2018. In a proactive effort should the ban not be renewed, she has written an ordinance that will protect Ridgefield and asked the RCC to support the ordinance. This will be discussed at the 1/31/18 BOS meeting.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, it was agreed that the RCC will send a letter of support for the ordinance prohibiting fracking waste in the Town of Ridgefield to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Coyle will draft a letter of support to the First Selectman.

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#### 4. OPEN SPACE

**Kiosk Maps** – Additional costs for the two sizes of maps were discussed. It was agreed that 1,000 copies of the 8.5x11 will be made and 11x17 maps will be made available inside and outside the office.

**Banners** – Mr. Cronin created two banner options to be used at RCC public events. The commission will submit additional pictures for the banner background to be selected at a later meeting.

**Algae Signs** – Ms. Snow provided three examples of warning signs for blue/green algae used in various locations. The RCC will create its own sign that will be displayed in areas experiencing blue/green algae. The RCC will inform Mr. Marconi about the signage.

**Taylors Pond** – Ms. Baker, Ms. Snow, and Mr. Coyle walked the Taylors Pond open space on Friday, 1/19/18. The 27-acre land donation abuts Pierrepont State Park and 1.86 acres containing a farmer's-wall dam.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the RCC approved accepting the approximately 27-acre parcel as proposed in the letter submitted by the landowner's attorney, Robert Jewell, on January 3, 2018, with the understanding that the 1.86 acres containing the dam will become a separate parcel and the current owner will retain all responsibility and any liability for the dam. Mr. Coyle will provide a letter to Jewell with our acceptance with conditions.

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#### 5. PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION, INLAND WETLANDS BOARD

##### a) Meetings for Attendance

Jan. 23 – Mr. Pilch

Feb. 6 – Mr. Bishop & Brewster

Feb. 20 – Mr. Cronin & Kace

Feb. 27 – Mr. Pilch

##### b) New and Continued Business

28 West Branchville Subdivision – No report.

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Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was agreed to add Charter Revision Commission to the agenda.

Ms. Baker updated the RCC on subcommittee progress. They continue to collect information and do not have a presentation date set. Ms. Snow has some projects to discuss with commissioners. The next subcommittee meeting will be held on Saturday, 1/27/18 at 10am in the library.

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**6. Chairman's Remarks** – Mr. Coyle and Ms. Snow met with Ms. Freeman to discuss future activities at McKeon farm. The farm map was divided in sections and a management plan is being developed. The commission has tried to schedule a meeting with Mr. Williams but has received no communication from him to date. Subsequent to this meeting, Mr. Coyle and Dr. Kace did meet with Mr. Williams.

Ms. Snow informed the commission about the upcoming NRVt walk on Tuesday, 1/30/18 led by Timber & Stone. It will begin at 11am and cover the two-mile Ridgefield Ramble section. Parking will be at Simpaug Turnpike and Route 7. Subsequent to this meeting, the walk was cancelled because of weather.

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## **7. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Open Space Acquisition**

UPON motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried it was AGREED to enter executive session at 8:10 pm. The executive session concluded at 8:30 pm.

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## **ADJOURNMENT**

UPON motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Colleen Lake