



APPROVED MINUTES
Ridgefield Conservation Commission
Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street
Ridgefield, CT 06877
(203) 431-2713 • conservation@ridgefieldct.org

October 22, 2018

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

Present: Susan Baker Eric Beckenstein Tim Bishop Carroll Brewster
Jim Coyle Dave Cronin Jack Kace Alan Pilch

Absent: Daniel C. Levine, Ben Oko and Kitsey Snow

Mr. Coyle chaired the meeting. Ms. Lake took minutes.
Parents and members of Scout Troop #431 were also in attendance.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the October 10, 2018 meeting were reviewed.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of October 10, 2018 are approved and ordered filed in the minute books of the Commission and the Town Hall.

2. OPEN SPACE

Boy Scout Donation – Charlie Kalbfus and Alex Failla of Troop #431 presented the RCC with a check for \$1500 for the Open Space Conservation Fund. The funds come from a partnership between ScoutsCAN and the Boy Scouts of America where the scouts collect and recycle cans and bottles and select local charitable organizations for the proceeds. The RCC was very appreciative and commended the scouts for their hard work and generosity.

5 Taylor Place – Mr. Pinchbeck determined that two trees in open space near the home could be dangerous in the future and that the property owner should be allowed to remove the trees. The RCC agreed with Mr. Pinchbeck's assessment and will ask the property owner to replace the two trees with Redbud and/or Downey Serviceberry understory trees.

The McKeon Farm – Mr. Coyle is updating the farm management plan and will meet with the McKeon farm committee to discuss future plans for the farm. Mr. Brewster received a bill for work done at the farm which included the remaining tilling of the garden, trail weedwacking and some perimeter work.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was RESOLVED to approve the \$463.02 invoice from Mr. Rosado for work done at the McKeon farm.

Lake Windwing Fields – Mr. Cronin advised the commission that the fields at Lake Windwing have not been mowed in some time and are now overrun with Autumn Olive. Mr. Coyle will schedule a meeting with the new Parks & Rec Director, Mr. DiPinto, to discuss this issue and the partnership between the two groups.

3. AQUARION – Proposed diversion of Norwalk River. Postponed until Ms. Snow is available.

4. PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION, INLAND WETLANDS BOARD

a) Meetings for Attendance

Nov 7	– Baker	(84 Governor/62 Prospect Ridge - Public Hearing)
Nov 13	– ??	(Winter Club Public Hearing – if needed)
Nov 20	– Bishop/Pilch	(84 Gov/62 PR – Public Hearing, if needed)
Nov 27	– Snow	(Winter Club- Public Hearing – if needed)

b) New and Continued Business

340 Peaceable Street – See below.

84 Governor/62 Prospect Ridge – Mr. Pilch and Ms. Baker walked the site with P&Z/IWB on Sunday, 10/21/18. Mr. Pilch will amend RCC comments to reflect new findings from the walk. The comments will be discussed and voted on at the RCC November 5th meeting.

25 Stonewall Lane – Mr. Coyle, Dr. Kace and Mr. Beckenstein met with Attorney Walsh to discuss the revised easement swap. The RCC agreed that the 2:1 swap proposed on October 12, 2018 was acceptable.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was RESOLVED to approve and support the 2:1 easement swap at 25 Stonewall Lane. In addition, the RCC agreed to vacate/waive the citation, pending the relocation of the fence and receipt of the as-built survey.

28 Great Hill Road – Mr. Pilch reviewed the plans for the 8-30g development of three homes that includes a one+ acre donation to the RCC. He will draft comments to be discussed and voted on at the next RCC meeting.

18 Hayes Lane – The property owner disturbed and added fill to an upland review area without a permit. A permit was submitted to IWB to remediate the situation. The RCC will withhold comment until after the remediation plan is discussed at the 10/23 P&Z meeting.

27 Richardson Drive - Comments on the planting plan are due by Oct. 31, 2018. Mr. Pilch/Ms. Baker to provide recommendations.

Proposed Amendment 4.5 – The RCC will send a letter of support for the amendment and recommend including guidelines regarding the size of intrusion.

c) Report on P&Z/IWB Meetings

Oct. 16 – Winter Club. Ms. Snow, Mr. Bishop and Mr. Brewster attended the meeting which focused on noise and light issues surrounding the outdoor ice rink. The RCC did not present their position at the meeting.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Question 2 – Mr. Coyle discussed his recent letter sent to the Press in support of Question 2-Protect Public Lands on the upcoming ballot.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was RESOLVED to fully support Mr. Coyle's position on Question 2.

Whitbeck Estate – The final check has been received and, once the attorney's fees are determined, they will be removed from the proceeds.

Shadow Lake – still in discussion with BOS.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Colleen Lake