



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

November 5, 2018

A meeting of the Ridgefield Conservation Commission was held at the Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street, Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877 on Monday, November 5, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Susan Baker Carroll Brewster Jim Coyle Dave Cronin
 Jack Kace Daniel C. Levine Alan Pilch Kitsey Snow

Absent: Eric Beckenstein, Tim Bishop and Ben Oko

Mr. Coyle chaired the meeting, Ms. Snow took the minutes.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the October 22, 2018 meeting were reviewed.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of October 22, 2018 are approved and ordered filed in the minute books of the Commission and the Town Hall.

2. OPEN SPACE

Still River Watershed Plan Presentation – Courteny Morehouse, the Conservation Projects Manager for the Still River Watershed Plan, shared background information on the history of the river and highlights of the recently completed study of river water quality, which is now online (stillriverwatershed.com). Non-point source pollution is the largest contributor to poor water quality in the river, which needs to reduce E. coli by (on average) 70% to be compliant. The implementation plan is scheduled to be completed by next September. Courteny requested we review the report and provide comments in the next two weeks (courtenymorehouse.hva@gmail.com).

Lake Windwing – Mr. Coyle shared info from the previous week's meeting with Dennis DiPinto (Parks & Rec director). It was agreed that the RCC would offer to contribute to re-hiring Tremson Inc to re-cut the autumn olive on the area behind the ball fields, and Parks and Rec agreed to mow it twice a year to contain the regrowth. Mr. Coyle will write Mr. DiPinto a letter to spell out our offer and their commitment. Mr. Cronin will provide an aerial picture showing the area to be cleared.

UPON motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to approve up to \$3000 to contribute to the Tremson hiring.

3. AQUARION

– Proposed diversion of Norwalk River. Aquarion has notified the NRWA of their intent to divert 1 million gals/day from Wilton section of NRWA to provide water to Ridgefield and lower Fairfield County. There

is a concern on the part of the NRWA that Aquarion has not suggested conservation measures before resorting to the diversion. NRWA will attend a hearing on this issue this week.

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)
Dec 4	– Brewster/Cronin	(23 Catoonah – Public Hearing)
Dec 12	– Kace/Levine	(Winter Club – Public Hearing, if needed)
Dec 18	– Pilch/Baker	(28 Great Hill – Public Hearing)

b) New and Continued Business

18 Hayes Lane – The RCC was not provided info on this application. It is a remediation. Mr. Kace reported on the application. Ms. Lake should obtain copy of the approval.

23 Catoonah - On agenda for Dec. 4th; Mr. Pilch will review and provide comments.

28 Great Hill - Mr. Pilch delivered comments to Ms. Mucchetti and will send them to Mr. Baldelli and the RCC members.

84 Governor/62 Prospect Ridge - Ms. Baker will attend (along with any other available members).

c) Report on P&Z/IWB Meetings

Oct. 23 – Amendment 4.5. - It was approved, but Mr. Kace asked how much fill the IW Agent can approve without a hearing. Mr. Coyle will follow up.

Oct. 30 – Winter Club - Mr. Beckenstein was not in attendance to report.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

- 2019 Meeting Calendar – Approved.
 - Budget is due in mid-December—Mr. Coyle asked for possible capital and operating budget items.
 - Mr. Cronin will invite the scout who completed the Casey Lane Bridge to attend a meeting.
 - Ms. Snow attended the Rivers Alliance Conference—one of the suggestions to towns from the conference was that each town develop a Drought Plan. Greenwich has one but most towns do not. Mr. Coyle will see if there is interest in pursuing this (from the BOS).
 - There was discussion on re-visiting possible future open space properties.
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ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kitsey Snow