



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

July 29, 2019

A meeting of the Ridgefield Conservation Commission was held at the Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street, Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877 on Monday, July 29, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Susan Baker Eric Beckenstein Dave Cronin Jack Kace
 Erik Keller Daniel C. Levine Alan Pilch Kitsey Snow
 Allan Welby

Absent: Jim Coyle and Carroll Brewster

Tracy Miller and Susan Constantino were also in attendance
Dr. Kace chaired the meeting. Ms. Lake took the minutes.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the July 15, 2019 meeting were reviewed.

UPON motion duly made (Cronin), seconded (Welby) and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of July 15, 2019 be approved and ordered filed in the Town Hall.

2. OPEN SPACE

103 Peaceable Hill – Mr. Coyle, Dr. Kace, Beth Peyser and town attorneys met with Mr. Ritter's attorney, Will Harris, and landscape architect, Brook Clark, to discuss the tree cutting violations and remediation costs. Mr. Harris and Ms. Clark disagreed with the RCC's proposed costs and submitted their recommendations on Friday, July 26. Ms. Peyser will schedule a meeting with Mr. Pinchbeck to discuss the recommendations.

Acquisition – The purchase offer was made to the landowner. As of this date, negotiations are ongoing.

McKeon Farm

- The RCC will submit a FY 2021 capital expenditure request for a new brush hog.
- Mr. Keller has offered to make and install barn doors on the front of the barn and close in the side opening in late summer/early fall. The cost of supplies will be reimbursed by RCC.
- Water line – Mr. Cronin would like to run approximately 200' of 1-1/2" pvc line to carry water to the garden area. The summer workers will assist in digging the trench and laying the pipe.

UPON motion duly made (Snow) and seconded (Baker) and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to spend up to \$500 for water line materials.

Ranger Feedback – Mr. Levine will send a reminder to the rangers to walk the trails and report issues before our summer workers finish up in August.

Casey Lane Erosion – Mr. Cronin is concerned about runoff from a nearby property eroding the trail. Mr. Pilch offered to take a look and will report back to the commission at the next meeting.

233 Danbury Road/P&R Trail Erosion – Mr. Beckenstein was contacted by a concerned individual that the construction, and lack of erosion controls, at 233 Danbury Road could be affecting nearby wetlands. Mr. Beckenstein will contact Ms. Peyser to schedule a site walk.

3. APA – Dr. Kace discussed his draft letter to the Board of Selectmen suggesting that control of the APA go to the new IWB rather than staying with P&Z. This is the second letter from the RCC to the BOS. The BOS did not respond to the RCC's first letter dated June 4th. The commission agreed with the content and to email the letter to each of the Selectmen.

4. STORMWATER REGULATIONS – Ms. Peyser sent around draft regulations to members of the Stormwater Management Committee. Mr. Pilch feels they offer a reasonable balance and will discuss specifics at the next RCC meeting.

5. PLANNING & ZONING/INLAND WETLANDS BOARD

a) Meetings for Attendance

Jul 30 – Kace/Keller (439 Silver Spring & 800 EA Hwy – PH cont'd)

b) Report on Meetings

Jul 16 – Ms. Snow discussed her detailed report. Dr. Kace and Mr. Keller will suggest stopping the paddle season from Feb 15 through June 1st as a protective measure to vernal pool wildlife.

Jul 23 – Mr. Levine provided a detailed report on the approvals of 99 Barry Ave and 100 Danbury Road. There was concern about ownership of the split rail fencing and discussion about a wetlands planting plan (never shared with the RCC) at 99 Barry Ave. There was also concern about the planting plan for the vegetated swale at 100 Danbury Road. Additional comments from the RCC may be required. Ms. Lake will forward the adopted resolutions for both properties to commissioners.

MISCELLANEOUS

Ms. Lake provided Mr. Beckenstein with past easement language. Mr. Beckenstein will review and provide his recommendations by the end of the week.

ADJOURNMENT

UPON motion duly made (Cronin), seconded (Beckenstein) and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,
Colleen Lake