



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

**November 18, 2019**

A meeting of the Ridgefield Conservation Commission was held at the Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street, Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877 on Monday, November 18, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Present:      Eric Beckenstein      Carroll Brewster      Jim Coyle      Dave Cronin  
                 Jack Kace                   Erik Keller                   Kitsey Snow                   Allan Welby

Absent:          Dan Levine

Mr. Coyle chaired the meeting. Ms. Lake took the minutes.

Joe Keller was also in attendance.

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## 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the November 4, 2019 meeting were reviewed.

UPON motion duly made (Cronin), seconded (Welby) and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of November 4, 2019 be approved and ordered filed in the Town Hall.

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## 2. TREASURER'S REPORT

Annual Appeal – \$6007 has been received from 75 donors with an average donation of \$80.

Invoice Approval – A \$493.50 invoice for fence rail/post repair at McKeon was discussed.

UPON motion duly made (Brewster), seconded (Cronin) and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED to approve the \$493.50 invoice for 30 fence rails and 10 posts.

Expense/Capital Budgets – The RCC will not submit a capital budget request this year. Mr. Coyle is working on the FY2021 Expense Budget due 12/12/19.

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## 3. FECB – No report

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## 4. OPEN SPACE

Garden of Ideas Proposal – Joe Keller – Mr. Keller described his proposal to swap a one acre parcel for a half acre section of nearby open space. The swap would provide access to a currently land-locked open space area. The RCC will walk the property on Friday, 12/6/19 at 10:00am.

GIS Demonstration – Mr. Cronin showed the commission how to use the town’s GIS system to find locations/gps coordinates for areas around town.

McKeon Maintenance – Cornerstone Gardens has cleaned up their garden. Ms. Snow will check in with Ms. Berger about future plans.

Schlumberger Trail – Members of FC NEMBA cut the blow downs and left them for clearing by the scouts. Tim Porter plans to begin work on the trail in the next week or two. Bridges will be constructed in the spring.

103 Peaceable - Still waiting for the independent arborist’s report.

Great Swamp Observation Deck – Mr. Welby suggested transferring the neglected observation deck at the transfer station to a different location in Great Swamp. The RCC will continue to look into a Great Swamp project.

Open Space Summary – A deep dive into the town’s open space properties by Mssrs Coyle, Cronin and Kace has confirmed that the town’s total open space is close to 25%. It continues to be a work in progress, as most of the lists are outdated and need additional information.

Open Space Acquisitions – Mr. Keller looked into the town’s larger properties that may be available for future open space acquisition. The RCC will discuss open space bonding with Mr. Marconi.

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## **5. GOALS & PROJECTS** – Postponed to next meeting.

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**6. POCD** – The RCC will forward additions/changes to the draft POCD to Mr. Baldelli and Planimetrics.

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## **7. PLANNING & ZONING/INLAND WETLANDS BOARD**

- a) Meetings for Attendance
  - Nov. 26 – Cronin
  - Dec. 3 – Brewster
  - Dec 10 – Cronin (Snow?)
  - Dec 17 – Kace

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## **8. CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS**

Mr. Coyle received resignation letters from Ms. Baker and Mr. Pilch. The RCC will continue to forward agendas and meetings to past commissioners.

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## **ADJOURNMENT**

UPON motion duly made (Cronin), seconded (Keller) and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Colleen Lake