



MINUTES - APPROVED

Ridgefield Conservation Commission

Town Hall annex, 66 Prospect Street

Ridgefield, CT 06877

(203) 431-2713 • conservation@ridgefieldct.org

July 12, 2021 at 10:30 A.M.

In person - Environmental Room – The Annex

Present: Jim Coyle Jean Linville Kitsey Snow

Mr. Coyle chaired the meeting. Ms. Campbell-Gibson took the minutes.

1) NRI GIS

Mr. Coyle contacted Eric Davison regarding his availability to work on the NRI GIS. He recommended Michelle Ford for the assignment. Michelle send her resume and her rate

The subcommittee will request expenditure of \$4,000.00 from the Discretionary Fund account to have the NRI GIS maps updated. This request will be made to the Conservation Commission at the July 19 meeting, for their approval.

2.) NRI Field Work

Dr. Linville has received a timeline of proposed field study from Michael Rubbo of PACE university. His proposal is as follows:

- Late summer/early fall of 2021 building awareness for the project and creating the structure for the citizen science component. This can consist of lectures/trainings (e.g., using apps such as iNaturalist or Seek) at the library and guided hikes highlighting the open spaces of Ridgefield. I can see educators from Woodcock helping here.
- Early 2022 (Jan-March) will be ideal for putting out wildlife cameras for mammals.
- Vernal pool surveys are typically late March-April.
- Spring ephemeral wildflowers in May.
- Breeding bird surveys in early June.
- Plants, reptiles and amphibians, fish, and insects can be done during the spring/summer months.
- Data compilation during summer 2022.
- Story map complete by Dec 2022.
- Budget items - general field supplies (batteries for cameras, etc.) - \$500. Stipend for graduate student to create story map - \$3,500. Mileage reimbursement for students - \$800

The subcommittee will request these funds from the Discretionary Fund account. This request will be made to the Conservation Commission at the July 19 meeting, for their approval.

3.) NRI Drone Photography

Dr. Linville said the drone photographer could begin work as soon as funds are approved. The cost quoted in the scope of work submitted by Mr. Thompson is \$2,500.00.

The subcommittee will request funds for the drone photography from the Discretionary Fund account. This request will be made to the Conservation Commission at the July 19 meeting, for their approval.

4.) Commissioner assignments to NRI project work

At the next RCC meeting commissioners will be asked again to volunteer to manage and update data for certain sections of the update – based on their interest and expertise.

5.) Other

Ms. Snow will reach out to Theodora Pinou of West Conn, regarding her students' ability to contribute to the data collection for the NRI update, as well as Victor Massey regarding his availability to contribute to the butterfly update.

Invitations will be sent to Michael Rubbo and Michelle Ford to attend our next NRI update meeting

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting ended at 12:15 pm