



## TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD Inland Wetlands Board

### APPROVED/REVISED MINUTES

July 14, 2022

Members present: Susan Baker, vice chair; Alan Pilch, secretary; Tim Bishop, Tracey Miller,

Member Absent: Patricia Sesto, chair; David Smith, Chris Phelps.

Also present: Andrew P. Hally, wetland agent; Aarti Paranjape, Recording Secretary; Jack Kace; Conservation Commission.

#### **I: Call to order**

Ms. Baker called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.

#### **II: Application for Discussion:**

**1. (Contd.)IW-22-19, 162 Old West Mountain Road,** Summary Ruling application to correct a violation of cutting and depositing cut trees/ branches within wetlands and upland review area of wetlands. *Owner/Applicant: Martha Rogers and Richard Cavett, Trustees.*

<https://ridgefieldct.viewpointcloud.com/records/86880>

Applicant was not present.

Ms. Miller stated after reading the Conservation Commission memo and the biologist report she agrees that the wetlands planting is not necessary and that it can be left undisturbed for the better health of wetlands.

Mr. Pilch deferred and stated that if the wetlands plantings of understory trees be done by hand and not machines, and tree protection from the deer, will have minimal impact. He added that cutting the topped trees would however impact the wetlands.

Mr. Bishop seconded Mr. Pilch's comments stating that plantings by hand with the deer protection plan wouldn't disturb the wetlands.

Discussion ensued on should the topped trees be cut, if plantings need to be done, what types of wetlands and upland species be planted and the number of plantings in order to mitigate the damage done.

Mr. Pilch said that during the winter season the topped trees can be cut and new diverse plantings of understory trees can be done in spring if the topped trees are down.



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Mr. Kace said that the Conservation Commission typically requires a care and maintenance plan when the plantings are done. The area in question is not accessible to the public and also the accessibility for caring of the plantings. The Conservation members had expressed concern with the inspection and care of the plantings done in the open space.

Members expressed concern if the plantings as suggested by the Board will not be allowed by Conservation Commission.

Members agreed that Mr. Kace will discuss with the members of his Conservation and write a final letter to the Board regarding the plantings in the wetlands, and also state in the letter that if the topped trees should not be brought down as recommended by Conservation Commission.

Mr. Hally reminded the Board that per the IWB meeting held on June 23: “Applicant will address the violation and submit the planting plan which will include number of trees and sizes of trees shrubs. Planting mix of understory trees like shadblows, dogwoods will be a restoration plan focusing on the violation.”

The discussion is continued to July 28, 2022. Mr. Hally will contact the Applicant to grant the extension.

### III: Application(s) for Receipt:

1. **IW-22-26, 66 Keeler Drive**, Summary Ruling Application to a correct a violation which includes to dredge pond and install stone retaining walls around perimeter, install new weir, restore other work within the upland review area of Wetlands. *Owner: Alexandre Suter. Applicant: Mike Mazzucco. For receipt and scheduling a sitewalk and discussion.*  
<https://ridgefieldct.viewpointcloud.com/records/87703>
2. **IW-22-27, 40 Mountain Road**, Summary Ruling application to correct a violation of installing a patio within wetlands and upland review area of wetlands. *Owner: Pilar Magrigal. Applicant: Robert DeRoma. For receipt and scheduling a sitewalk and discussion.*  
<https://ridgefieldct.viewpointcloud.com/records/87687>
3. **IW-22-29, 0 Rustic Road**, Summary Ruling application to maintain floating dock/Swim float and related activity within wetlands and watercourses. *Owner: Town*



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*of Ridgefield. Applicant: Robert Jewell. For receipt and scheduling a sitewalk and discussion.*

<https://ridgefieldct.viewpointcloud.com/records/87770>

**Mr. Pilch Motioned to receive the above three applications. Mr. Bishop Seconded. Motion carried 4-0-0.**

**Sitewalk will be on July 24, 2022. Discussion on July 28, 2022.**

#### **IV: Other Business:**

None.

#### **V: Approval of Minutes:**

- **Inland Wetlands Meeting: June 28, 2022**

**Mr. Bishop Motioned to approve minutes as amended. Ms. Miller Seconded. Ms. Baker abstained. Motion carried 3-0-1.**

#### **VI: Adjourn**

Hearing no further business, Ms. Baker adjourned the meeting at 7:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Aarti Paranjape  
Recording Secretary