

## Town Board Meeting June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2005

Steve Parent called a special town board meeting to order at 9:30 AM at the town hall and then the board and visitors left for Ridges Road. Present Steven Parent, James Parent, Barbara Anschutz, Robert Schultz, Jane Pluff, Catherine Carnes, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Pat Robinson, DNR, Paul Regnier, Ridges Sanctuary and 21 visitors. Peter Jacobs was absent.

The issue of mowing along Ridges Road came before the board under citizen input in March and it was put on the April's agenda. There is concern from some of the residents along Ridges Road for the safety of the people walking and biking. They feel there is no place for them to get off the road. They were asking for a small trail along the side so it would be safe. At that time it was discussed about the protected species along the road edge. In May Paul was present at our meeting and he stated that we would need special permits to do any widen of the road or extra mowing.

We met with the special people from the different groups that would have some say in how we approach the mowing/widen issue of Ridges Road. There are concerns for the Dwarf Lake Iris plant, Hine's Emerald Dragonfly, along with about 14 other endanger species.

Cathy suggested that to help with the Dragonfly we could put up a sign to recommend driving 15 miles per hour, speed bumps or humps, and a sign stating sensitive area. This would only have to be up from June to September. That would help for the town doing their part in preserving the dragonfly. There was a study done on the dragonfly and it stated if a car was only going 15 miles per hour the dragonfly could avoid the car.

Bob explained what type of mower was used for the cutting. Bob had the following concerns along Ridges Road. Safety, Walking path, mowing/ how many times, plants remove and replant, trees, and if they could walk along the beach.

Paul explained that he wants more trees trim back along the road. There are several that are dead and the low hedges that are no use to the area should be removed. He will work with the town on which ones that should be taken out.

We returned to the town hall and continued the meeting. Steve reported about the number of species along the road. We are planning to have the survey updated to go back 5 feet. Pat Robinson is going to check if the DNR could do it or if we have to hire someone to do it. We also need to do a study around Hidden Brook and Vogel Creek for the dragonfly and where they lay their eggs.

Cathy and Pat both stated the least amount of gravel that would be put down the better it would be.

We cannot do anything with the road or the sides until we have received the permits from the different agencies. They are willing to work with the town to try and solve the problem along Ridges Road. They will also attend any meeting that we would like to have them come to. Pat did bring along the maps from the study that was done for the sewer line being installed in 1987.

Motion made/second Barb/Bob to adjourn at 11:30 AM. Carried.

These minutes are subject to correction at the next monthly town board meeting.

Town Clerk, Jane Pluff