

Rye Civic News

from the Rye Civic League

August 2014

"Informing citizens, enhancing direct democracy and supporting the will of the voters"

RCL, PO Box 971, Rye, NH 03870 RyeCivicLeague.org

Please share with your Rye friends & neighbors

[Citizens' Handbook \(click here\)](#)

The Rye Civic League was re-formed to promote public awareness by informing residents about the town's business and its responsiveness to its citizens. The organization also offers townspeople an opportunity to bring issues forward for discussion and unbiased resolution. Its primary purpose is to help residents of Rye, NH to act as informed citizens and thereby improve and develop our community.

Next RCL Meeting: August 27th 6:30 pm RPL

(meetings are the 4th
Wednesday of the month)

2014 Citizens Handbook is
now updated. [Click Here](#)

Please see the new
Opinion Section and the
"Public Forum Discussion"
section.

Upcoming Town Meetings and Events

August 5th: Town Hall
Committee Public
Discussion 6:30 pm Public
Safety Building

August 5th: Rye Energy
Committee 6:30 pm.

August 6th: Zoning Board
of Adjustment. 7:00 pm

August 7th: Heritage
Commission 6:30 pm

August 11th: Board of
Selectmen 6:30 pm.

August 12th: Sewer
Commission 8:00 am

August 12th: Planning
Board 7:00 pm.

August 14th: CIP 6:30 pm

Town Hall Preview: August 5th 6:30 pm Rye Safety Building

Come see what the architect & committee are proposing: [Click Here](#)

General Announcements:

FEMA Maps Public Discussion: Aug. 14th 6:30 pm RPL [Click Here](#)
FEMA Maps [Click Here](#)

Rye Recreation Fall Program Sign Up: Sept 4th 6pm to 7pm Rye Rec.

Staff needed Rye Recreation After School Program: [Click Here](#)

Rye Senior Serve: 2013-2014 Active, Alive and over 55 [Click Here](#)

Rye Open Positions and Alternates [Click Here](#)

Rye History Trolley Tour: August 30th 10am: [Click Here](#)

Sanders Poynt Update: Wentworth was granted a continuance

RJH Soccer Coach Needed: [Click Here](#) to e-mail the AD

Public Forum Discussion Topics: [Click Here](#)

Board of Selectmen Meeting July 28th:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

RCL Meeting Summary: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting minutes: not available yet

1. Site walk scheduled to review discretionary easement for James Philbrick. [More Detail](#)

2. Jessica Downing sworn in as firefighter/paramedic providing 24/7 coverage. [More Detail](#)

3. Paving contract awarded. The rest of Washington Rd. and parts of Central Rd. and Brackett Rd. will be paved. Paving at the Parsonage Apartments and the Congregational Church are discussed. [More Detail](#)

4. Beach permit suspended for "The Shack" over insurance issue. Issues with regard to large event planned the prior weekend are discussed. [More Detail](#)

5. Oldest resident apparently found. Boston Post Cane to be awarded. [More Detail](#)

Board of Selectmen Meeting July 14th:

Video Recording [Click Here](#):

RCL Meeting Summary: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. Records retention policy approved. It appears that documents have been retained for longer than necessary and that there will be a lot of shredding in the first year. [More Detail](#)

2. Decision on permit for yoga on the beach deferred as applicant has State

August 14th: New FEMA Maps Public Meeting 6:30 pm

August 19th: Rye Recycling Education Committee 6:00 pm

August 21st: Conservation Commission 7:00 pm

August 25th: Board of Selectmen 6:30 pm

August 27th: Preparing for Climate Change #4 6:30 pm RJH

August 28th: CIP 6:30 pm

Town Reference Documents on the Town Web Site:

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) [Click Here](#) This plan is updated annually and is a great way to see what the Town is planning for future capital expenditures

Town of Rye Master Plan ([click here](#))
2014 FEMA maps: [Click Here](#)

Rye Rec Master Plan ([Click Here](#))

Town Budgets
2014 Town Budget [Click Here](#).
2014 Budget Executive Summary [Click Here](#)
RCL Budget Presentation [Click Here](#)

Rye Water District Budget: [Click Here](#).

Rye Beach Budget: [Click Here](#).

Jenness Beach Budget: [Click Here](#)

School Budget:
Here is a link to the full 2014-2015 School Budget.

permit in hand for Jenness Beach. [More Detail](#)

3. Repairs to Neptune Rd. following Rye Water District water main replacement discussed. Paving of several dirt roads in the area is deferred due to the high cost and need to repave existing paved roads first. [More Detail](#)

4. Signs will be posted near Parsons Creek warning of high bacteria levels at low tide. [More Detail](#)

5. Decision on "no parking" areas near driveways deferred pending comment from consultant performing parking assessment. There are 29 such driveways, the policy needs to be consistent, and there is a question as to whether a 20 foot no parking area is needed, Selectman Musselman said. [More Detail](#)

6. The grant for a Ladder Truck was denied, so the town will not be using the Federal Program to fund a Ladder Truck.

Town Hall Committee meeting July 29th:

Final SMP Report: [Click Here](#)
[Click Here](#) for the Facebook page
RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)
Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

1. Paul Goldman was elected Chairman and Lucy Neiman Vice Chairman following the resignation of Victor Azzi as Chairman. [More Detail](#)

2. SMP Architecture presented an option for a rectangular building, which together with the existing building, would provide 12,595 sq. ft. The Committee decided to pursue this option, with two members expressing concern that this option created a building that was too long lengthwise compared to the existing building. [More Detail](#)

3. The increase in the size of the Selectmen's Meeting Room to 75 seats, compared to 45 seats presented at the prior meeting, was questioned, particularly in light of the availability of the Great Hall for larger meetings. [More Detail](#)

4. Please come see the design and comment:

Tuesday April 5th 6:30 pm at the Safety Building

Town Hall Committee meeting July 15th:

Final SMP Report: [Click Here](#)
[Click Here](#) for the Facebook page
Video Recording: [Click Here](#)
Town Meeting Minutes: Not available yet
RCL Discussion page for Town Hall: [Click Here](#)

1. Geothermal heating to be expanded for the addition. Net Zero is not possible even with Solar Panels. Engineers suggested leaving the building solar ready if solar becomes economically feasible in the future.

2. Architect presented conceptual drawings with the placements of the departments.

3. Architect will modify the roof lines to match the existing building

4. A second conceptual plan will be created to create a large rectangular addition rather than the current L-shape.

5. The latest drawings show an addition of 5,704 sq. ft, plus the 6,635 sq. ft of the existing building.

School Board July 23rd Retreat:

Learn more about the Rye Schools: [Click Here](#)
Minutes not posted yet. Agenda for July 23rd [Click Here](#)
No August Meeting date posted yet

Planning Board meeting: July 8th:

Rye Trust Fund

Summary:

[Click Here](#)

Rye Library Strategic Plan:

[Click Here](#)

Other Helpful Links:

[Live Free or Die Alliance](#)

Learn more about the Planning Board: [Click Here](#)

New FEMA maps have been posted: [Click Here](#)

Town meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

1. Marty Chapman discussed work-force housing with the Planning Board. [Click Here](#) for town meeting minutes.
2. 511 Wallis Rd. Rand Lumber RCD requesting an amendment to the conditional use permit so that all 20 units can be the expanded 2,160 s.f. and to allow the basements to be finished and for the decks to be converted to 3-season rooms. If all are allowed this would mean 3,000 s.f. condominiums with 2 car garages. One request is also for a walk-in basement (dog house) vs. a bulk-head entrance.
 - There are 16 pages of notes on this discussion
 - While two members appeared to be supportive of the builder's request, the applicant asked for a continuance.
3. 60 Elwyn Rd subdividing into two lots. Board asked for a continuance to hear the concerns of the Conservation Commission.
4. 26 Ordiorne Drive. Exterior changes had been made to the unit without going to the Board. Older owners of condominiums are not aware that the Planning Board needs to approve any exterior work to a condominium. The owner received building permits but was unaware of the Planning Board requirement. All approved the amendment for the condo conversion.
5. 901 Ocean Blvd. Request to move the roof line to match the other units was approved.
6. 561 South Rd (Yellow Rye Farm) conceptual consultation. Property is to be divided into 5 lots. Discussion of Lot 5, a much larger lot, to be used for an RCD. Note: as only 51 are allowed, there are only 10 more RCD units that can be built. A new road would be built similar to the Marjorie Way development.
7. Member Tweedie reported that the rules changes have gone into effect.

Technical Review Meeting July 29th:

RCL Video [Click Here](#)

Agenda: [Click Here](#)

1. Major Site Development: 243 Central Rd. Build 2 story office building
2. Major Site Development: Webster at Rye 49 bed expansion

Planning Board August 12th Agenda:

Next Planning Board Meeting: [Click Here](#) for Agenda

1. 511 Wallis Rd (Rand Lumber RCD) Expanding the living space
2. 60 Elwyn Rd. Lot subdivision
3. 243 Central Rd (Skin care building) Major Site Development to build a new 2 story building
4. 795 Washington Rd (Webster at Rye) 49 bed expansion
5. Rules of Procedure Discussion

Zoning Board of Adjustment : July 2nd:

Learn more about the Zoning Board: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

RCL Meeting notes with time stamps: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1. 250 Locke Rd. Remove building. New building 11 ft. from wetlands and septic 40 ft. from wetlands. Approved
2. 1064 Washington Rd. Special exception for a preexisting apartment. Approved
3. 31 Myrica Av. New construction rear setback variance. 24 ft. granted

4. 3 Love Lane: Administrative Appeal. (Note: Entertaining video starts at 1:24)

Zoning Board of Adjustment : July 23rd :

Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

RCL Meeting notes: [Click Here](#)

1. 25 Appledore Ave: New Building set back variance. Approved
2. 26 Odiome Drive: Deck expansion. Approved
3. 25 Mountain View Terrace: New Shed setback. Approved
4. 5 Grove Rd.: Accessory Apartment Moved to table application
5. 60 Elywn Rd.: Lot subdivision Frontage Variance. Granted

Zoning Board of Adjustment : August 6th

Meeting Agenda: [Click Here](#)

1. 3 Love Lane Administrative appeal: Is a construction business being run from the property
2. 3 Love Lane discussion of board decision of variance
3. 5 Grove Rd. Variance for accessory apartment
4. 16 Arbor Rd. Variance for lot division
5. 18 Neptune Drive. Variance for septic system and for parking spaces
6. 39 Pine St. Variance for accessory apartment
7. 39 Pine St. Special Exception for accessory apartment
8. 33 Gray Court Variances for new garage and a deck
9. 402 Wallis Rd. Administrative Appeal Second dwelling
10. 28 Cable Rd. Administrative Appeal Second dwelling
11. 56 Cable Rd. Variance for generator

Conservation Commission Meeting July 17th:

Learn more about the Conservation Commission: [Click Here](#)

Current Town Meeting Minutes: Not Available

RCL Meeting notes with Time stamps to RCL video: [Click Here](#)

RCL Video of the meeting: [Click Here](#) (See the elapsed times in the video, to skip forward to these specific discussions)

1. 511 Wallis Road 11 Acre Easement for the Rand Lumber RCD (3:15)
 - Public Hearing. Residents spoke up that Liberty Common residents had not been protected by the Planning Board and that this may be the last chance to do so by the town.
 - Questions about the builders mortgages (12:12) and the Selectmen's (A to P) process were raised (33:23)
 - Conservation Commission votes in favor of accepting the 11 acres in the RCD. Commission did not want to delay the builder and that the builder could find another group to accept the conservation easement. (42:20)
2. 561 South Rd (Yellow Rye Farm) 5 lot subdivision with the possibility of an RCD on the larger lot 5. Site walk scheduled for July 30th
3. Between 385 and 401 Washington Rd. Converting a lot to be buildable (56:00)
4. 306 Pioneer Rd: New proposed building. Site Walk July 30th (1:09:00)
5. 60 Elwyn Rd. Driveway proposal approved. Note the owner maintains a large parcel of land as open space. (1:20:00)
6. 243 Central Rd: Commission did not receive timely notification about this activity from the other town boards (1:39:28)
7. Discussion about how communication between boards and the public could be improved (1:44:00)

Beach Committee July 1st:

Learn more about the Beach Commission: [Click Here](#)

NOTE: The BOS has suspended the Beach Commission and appointed a "Beach Committee" with a final report due December 16th.

Those residents with "Beach Concerns" should be attending these committee meetings.

RCL meeting notes: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. Parking was discussed, but issue was tabled pending completion of the parking study.
2. Committee will be observing the ice cream trucks
3. Discussion with Chief Walsh about filing fees for permits.
4. Discussion of movable chairs for Rye Lifeguards.
5. Stand Up Paddle Boards were discussed along with safety requirements.
6. Trash and recycling was discussed.
7. Resident requests more public communication from the Beach Committee

Climate Change Workshops: June 16th

Next meeting is August 26th:

Town Page with reference documents: [Click Here](#)

New FEMA maps: [Click Here](#)

June 12th Coastal Adaptation Workshop: [Click Here](#)

May 5th: Information [Click Here](#) Group Flow Chart [Click Here](#)

RCL Open Discussion: [Click Here](#) for online discussion

Town Summary of April 1 Workshop results; [Click Here](#)

May 5th town summary: Not available

June 16th Meeting Notes and documents: Not available

[Click Here](#) for workshop overview and timeline

[Click Here](#) for informational handouts from April 1st workshop

[Click Here](#) for presentation from Prof. Cameron Wake

Demolition Review Committee last mtg: May 9th

Demolition Review Procedure: [Click Here](#) to review

April 3rd and 21st Meeting notes: [Click Here](#)

1. 206 Washington Rd. The barn was to be converted to home use for an expanding family, but would have been inefficient and cost prohibitive. The owners were most cooperative to allow photographing and salvage of any historic details which would not be incorporated into their own reconstruction. The permit was unanimously granted.

Heritage Commission Meeting Last Meeting June 5th:

Learn more about the Heritage Commission: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Rye Energy Committee Meeting July 8th:

Learn More about the Energy Committee: [Click Here](#)

Rye Energy Committee has an opening. [Click Here](#) to contact REC.

Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. Ron Freeze from Rye Congregational Church attended the meeting to learn what the Church could do to improve energy efficiency.

Historic District Commission May 6th

Learn more about the Historic District: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. Reviewed plans for renovation to the Oceanic Hotel on Star Island. Particularly, two new skylights will be added to the dining room to brighten the interior and the current skylight will be modified. Safety precautions on the roof were agreed upon and were approved by those members present.

Mosquito Commission Meeting July 21st

Learn more about the Mosquito Commission: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting Minutes: Nothing posted

Agenda: [Click Here](#) This is very informative

Vacancy on Commission: If interested call Nine six four - five five two three

Recreation Commission Meeting July 7th:

Learn more about Rye Recreation: [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting Minutes: Nothing posted since April

[Click Here](#) to see the Rye Recreation Master Plan

Capital Improvement Plan Committee July 10th and 24th:

Learn more about the Capital Improvement Plan: [Click Here](#)

To see the current CIP [Click Here](#)

Town Meeting minutes: May 22nd [Click Here](#)

Rye Opinions:

The Rye Civic League Website posts opinions and discussions for Rye.

These opinions reflect the views of residents, **NOT** the Rye Civic League.

The purpose is to help residents share their views and to have an online discussion between residents. We encourage you to share your opinions in the online discussions or sending an e-mail to the RCL [e-mail](#)

Recent posted opinions:

- Is 511 Wallis Rd. Sea Glass Lane growing beyond the intent of an RCD?

[Click Here](#)

- Will the current size of the Town Hall pass in 2015? [Click Here](#)

Rye Public Forum Discussion Topics:

Once the RCL monthly meeting concludes, there is a public forum discussion about some of current topics in town. All are welcome to join this discussion and introduce town related topics. Topics from the June 26th discussion were: [Click Here](#)

- Planning Board Rules of Procedure - what happened to the 2009 changes
- Size of Town Hall proposal
- 511 Wallis Rd - RCD Rand Lumber
- 561 South Rd. Development
- 234 Central Rd Site Development and process

Topics for the August 27th discussion may include the above and other topics residents raise for discussion.

Town Budgets

The Town Executive Summary is also very helpful. [Click Here](#)

Neither the Town nor the Budget Committee provide the "story" about the increasing budgets, so the RCL has created this overview: [Click Here](#)

As of December 2013 the town has **\$3,389,508** in Trust Funds, Capital Reserves. [Click Here](#) for the town document.

The November 14, 2013 RCL notes provide the most detail to the different Town budget discussions. [Click Here](#) for the .pdf of the RCL notes

Other Town Activity**How Good is our Library?**

2012 Our Library has done a great job quantifying the huge value we get from our annual investment. [Click Here to see the details](#)

Have you seen the Library Strategic Plan: [Click Here](#)

Rye Library Events Page [Click Here](#)

Rye Town Handbook from the Rye Civic League:

NOTE: 2014 Update will soon be available at the Library, the Hungry Horse and other locations. All sections are also posted on the Rye Civic League website

The Rye Citizens' Handbook has been created by the Rye Civic League ("RCL") to provide a consolidated resource to assist citizens in interacting with the various employees, board and commission members of the Town. It contains a description of each of the positions and groups, together with the contact information for each. It provides a road map to assist citizens in interacting with each function. The document is fluid. The intention of the RCL is to revise the Handbook at least annually in response to changes in staff, board and committee memberships, and the laws.

Special thanks to **Mae Bradshaw** who created and maintains the handbook.

[Click Here for a PDF version of the handbook](#)

About the Rye Civic League and the Civic News

The Rye Civic League (founded in 1968 by Frances Holway, Joan LaFrance and Marjorie Miller, disbanded in 1992 and revived in 2009) is a voluntary association that educates and motivates people to act as informed citizens of Rye.

To receive Town News via bcc go to the [Rye Civic League Website](#) and enter your name and e-mail.

All articles are written by the RCL editors. Questions or comments feel free to contact the RCL at civicnews@ryecivicleague.org

An Invitation to membership in the Rye Civic League

WE ARE ALL CONCERNED CITIZENS. We all share the goal of making our town the best it can be. We want our kids to have a great education. We want our community to be safe, beautiful and thriving. We want to balance our budget and to see our tax dollars spent wisely. We benefit from an open town government, and we depend on it to keep things running smoothly. In turn, we owe it to our government and our fellow citizens to be informed and to get involved for the benefit of our community. This is why we are inviting you to participate in the Rye Civic League (RCL). This is your opportunity to engage in a positive way, to do your part as a Rye resident, and to keep our town acting for the good of us all.

[Click Here](#) to make an online payment.

[Click Here](#) to read the invitation and complete the membership form

Contact Info

Rye Civic League: civicnews@ryecivicleague.org

Forward email



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7/30/2014

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Rye Civic League | PO Box 971 | Rye | NH | 03870