

Rye Civic News August 2017

from the Rye Civic League (www.ryecivicleague.org)

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

Please share with your Rye friends & neighbors [Citizens' Handbook \(click here\)](#)
[RCL Facebook Page](#)

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

Meetings (at Town Hall unless indicated)

Aug 1st:
Rules & Regs. Committee
7:00am

Aug. 1st:
Energy Committee
6:30pm

Aug
2nd: Zoning Board of Adjustment
7:00pm

Aug. 2nd:
Rye Water Distinct 60 Sagamore Rd
9:00 am

Aug 3rd:
School Feasibility
8:30am

Aug. 3rd:
Heritage Commission
6:30pm

Aug. 7th:
Recreation Commission
6:00 pm

Aug. 8th:
Sewer Commission
8:00am RBVD

Aug. 8th:
Planning Board 7:00pm

Get Involved: Monthly RCL meeting and Public Forum last Wednesday of the month 6:30pm RPL. **Only 10% of people who open the Civic News are dues paying members.**

The Rye Civic League is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and such organizations are only as good as their membership base whether that is through paid dues, gifts in kind and active participation. What RCL really needs at this time, in addition to regular \$12 dues, are more active members who can assist with RCL tasks relating to the writing of the Civic News and other activities.

- Summarize a town meeting for the Civic News
- Editing the Civic News content
- Helping with Candidates Night and other civic events
- Social Media savvy person
- Website and help to fulfill our "digital transformation" vision. We envision a more dynamic capture of meeting summaries, a much better website and more dynamic communication.

Pay Dues/Donate: [Click Here](#) or mail to P.O. 971 Rye NH 03870

July Highlights:

1. Property Reevaluation in process. Make sure there are no mistakes on your property. [Click Here](#) for how to access the information online. Must contact assessors by **Aug. 4th**.
2. High PFOA and PFOC (carcinogens) found in the Garland Well aquifer protection zone (our old Grove Rd. Landfil). [Click Here](#) (scroll below the picture) Recent report: [Click Here](#)
3. BOS spending town money in support of the Wentworth proposal to not fully restore Sanders Poynt per Court orders. See presentation by resident. [Click Here](#) See Plan B diagram [Click Here](#)
4. Jenness Beach Bathhouse Public input session August 9th 6pm RPL [Click Here](#)
5. New Fire Chief hired with no public comment or discussion in the process. [Click Here](#)
6. Planning Board and ZBA both denied 421 South Rd. development requests
7. Town Organizational Chart (Draft) is now available. [Click Here](#)
8. Wallis Rd. Extension Beach closed week of July 24th due to high fecal matter bacteria (Parson's Creek pollution).
9. Aquarion Water is not protecting Well 5A in Rye [Click Here](#)

General Announcements:

1. Historic Rye Beach Talk August 10th 6:30pm RPL [Click Here](#)
2. Rye Travel Soccer: [Click Here](#)
3. Portsmouth Youth Flag Football: [Click Here](#) and go to "Nearest League"
4. Portsmouth Youth Tackle Football: [Click Here](#)
5. Resident is interested in the Green Lawn program: [Click Here](#)
6. Open Appointed and Alternate Positions: [Click Here](#)
Historic District and Heritage Commission Alternates, Members fo, Energy, Heritage and Recycling,
7. Water Restriction: No irrigation between 8am and 6pm
8. **Rye Recreation Senior Program:** 2016-2017 Active, Alive and over 55 [Click Here](#)
9. **Rye Recreation Summer Programs Registration (new):** [Click here](#)
10. **Assessment Data:** Online views of town lots [Click Here](#)
11. **GIS Mapping** Software Presentation Video: [Click Here](#)
12. Rye Family in need information and request for help. [Click Here](#)

Board of Selectmen Meeting July 24th:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)
Draft Town Meeting minutes: Not Available
RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

1. The State will hold a meeting on the scaled-down Jenness Beach Bathhouse on August 9 at the Library. [More Detail](#)
2. Residents expressed strong objection to the Town's Attorney now siding with the Wentworth-by-the-Sea Country Club on the plan to reconfigure Sanders Poynt to abide by

Aug. 10th:
CIP 6:30pm

Aug. 14th:
Board of
Selectmen
6:30pm

Aug. 15th:
Mosquito
Control
5:00pm

Aug 15th:
Recycling
Education
Committee
6:30pm

Aug. 17th:
Budget
Committee
6:30 pm

Aug 17th:
Conservation
Commission
7:00pm

Aug. 24th:
Library
Trustees RPL

Aug. 24th: CIP
6:30pm.

Aug. 28th:
Board of
Selectmen
6:30pm.

Aug. 30th:
School Board
RJH 5:00 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

- the court order. [More Detail](#) See presentation: [Click Here](#) See Wentworth [Plan B](#)
3. A resident complained that the posters presented at the July 10th BOS meeting on water quality testing were not being made publicly available. These are allegedly the property of CMA Engineers, Selectman Musselman's firm, and were apparently retained by his firm, allegedly placing them beyond the reach of the right-to-know law. [More Detail](#)
 4. The Town will proceed with an RFP for solar panel installation, even though many candidate sites are in the Historic District, where solar panels visible from the street are prohibited. [More Detail](#)
 5. Mike Cotreau has been appointed as the new Fire Chief without any public input or discussion. He is currently Fire Chief in Concord, Massachusetts. [More Detail](#)
 6. Rye Water District Commissioner Art Ditto was appointed as the Rye representative to the Seacoast Drinking Water Commission formed by new State legislation. State Representative Mindi Messmer had also sought appointment. [More Detail](#)
 7. Additional Grove Road Landfill testing confirmed PFC (carcinogen) levels above the State maximum. [More Detail](#)

Board of Selectmen Meeting July 10th:

Video Recording: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting minutes: Not Posted yet

RCL Meeting Notes: [Click Here](#)

1. Town Hall employees will be receiving training in conflict resolution. [More Detail](#)
2. The Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment will be asked to change their rules to emphasize that members should not individually help applicants or those speaking with regard to applications. [More Detail](#)
3. After denying any knowledge of ash deposited at the Breakfast Hill Landfill, Selectman Musselman now acknowledges that ash from Pease had been deposited there. [More Detail](#)
4. Selectman Musselman reported that, in the 1970s, trash was deposited up to 13 feet below the ground water level at the Grove Road Landfill. A recent test showing PFC levels of twice the maximum drinking water standard resulted in a visit by a DES engineer within two business days. The landfill is only about 1000 feet from the Garland Well, which supplies 60 percent of Rye Water District water. [More Detail](#)
5. Selectman Musselman, whose firm, CMA Engineers, has been doing the sample gathering and analysis at the Breakfast Hill and Grove Road Landfills, declined to release information in the CMA files relating to work paid for by Rye taxpayers, asserting that summary level information provided to the town was all that was relevant. [More Detail](#)
6. Portsmouth appears to be unwilling to pay to relocate the intersection between Lang Rd. and Route 1 to improve safety, despite State willingness to pay half of the cost. [More Detail](#)

School Board June 19th Workshop Meeting:

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

2017-2018 School Calendar: [Click Here](#)

Rye PTA Website: [Click Here](#)

Superintendent's Bulletin: [Click Here](#) (note nothing posted)

RCL Video of School Board Meeting; Click Here: [Part 1](#) [Part 2](#) [Part 3](#)

Draft School Board Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

See concise Summary from the RCL: [Click Here](#)

1. Un-assigned fund balance will be in excess of \$400,000. Most will be returned to the town.
2. New boiler will be about \$200,000 for RJH.
3. Video recording should be coming by September.
4. World Language Teacher Jessica Casassa handed in her resignation.
5. Community Preschool program will move from Greenland to RES as Greenland is adding a kindergarten class.
6. RJH Math curriculum changes to be discussed at the August meeting
7. Discussions of how the STEM functions will be integrated with RJH science curriculum.
8. Rye no longer qualifies as Rural and will lose \$47,000 of grant funding.
9. Only six families responded to the RES interviews/survey on why their students will not be going to RJH.
10. Only 30% of parents responded to the parent survey.
11. A Schoology learning management system was discussed and approved New Castle and Newington are deploying the system

School Building Feasibility June 15th Meeting:

Recorded Video; [Click Here](#)

Next meeting is Aug. 3rd at 8:30am

for future capital expenditures

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

Rye Rec Master Plan (Click Here)

Town Forest Management Plan (Click Here)

2015 Beach Report Click Here

GIS Parcel Data: Click Here

Transfer Station and Recycling Flyer: Click Here.

Town Budgets Budget Analysis: Click Here

Town Budget Worksheet: Click Here.

MS-7 Reporting document: Click Here

Rye Water District Budget: Click Here.

Rye Beach Budget: Click Here. RBVD Treasurer's Report. Click Here

Jenness Beach Budget: Click Here

School Budget: Here is a link to the Proposed

Draft School Board Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#) (lists the members)

RCL Notes: [Click Here](#)

1. School Board member Paula Tsetsilas and Budget Committee member and former School Board member Peggy Balboni were elected Co-Chairmen. [More Detail](#)

2. A disagreement arose between parents on the committee and Selectman and Member Craig Musselman on whether this is a school or town committee, and on the importance of meeting possible town needs vs. maintaining educational quality. [More Detail](#)

3. Research tasks were assigned, including enrollment data, site plans of the two schools, and data on other SAU 50 school enrollments and space use. [More Detail](#)

Rye Districts Information:

[Click Here](#) for information on Rye Districts

Rye Beach Village District Budget: [Click Here](#)

Jenness Beach Village District Budget: [Click Here](#)

1. Hampton & N.Hampton are organizing to oppose the proposed additional well. [Click Here](#) to see Herald Article.

2. Citizen action to get aquifer protections on well 5A is being met with government resistance. Click Here for location. Note there is no AQUIFER Protection District for this well. [Click Here](#)

Rye Water District July 5th:

Draft Water District Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Rye Water Testing Data: [Click Here](#) Note no analysis included

July 2017 PFOA and PFOS Testing: [Click Here](#)

Rate Increase Letter: [Click Here](#) Report is not yet posted for the public.

1. Wright Pierce estimate for searching for a new well \$150,000.

2. Meeting was held before BOS announced the high PFC (carcinogens) found at the Grove Road Land Fill. Click to see: [Info and Aerial](#) [Aerial View 2](#) [2nd Reading image 1](#) [2nd Reading image 2](#) Most Recent Report [Click Here](#)

Cancer & Water Issues:

NHDHHS Confirms CDC-defined Pediatric Cancer Cluster [Click Here](#)

Community Facebook page for the Cancer Cluster: [Click Here](#)

Full USGS 2009 Study of Seacoast Ground Water Resources: [Click Here](#)

Draft Subcommittee Recommendations to Task Force: [Click Here](#)

Google Drive of documents related to subcommittee's work; [Click Here](#)

Coakley-Greenland Cancer Fact Sheet: [Click Here](#)

NHDHHS confirms uptick in pediatric brain cancers in cluster: [Click Here](#)

This continues to get more complex. Here is a brief summary.

1. Coakley Landfill is leaching PFCs into ground water, Little River and Berry's Brook through surface run-off. Coakley Landfill Group has been compelled by EPA to put up warning signs about levels of PFCs in 4 locations adjacent to Coakley Landfill PFCs in monitoring wells around the Coakley Landfill increased, some as much as almost doubled, over last year. CLG will monitor PFC levels in 19 private wells in North Hampton and Greenland in 2017 and 2018. NHDES confirmed that they will sample two private wells in Greenland in the September. Rye will be compelled to sample private wells in Rye for PFCs.

2. Rye's Breakfast Hill Landfill received incinerator ash and this also leaches into Berry's Brook. PFCs were detected in monitoring wells around the landfill.

3. Rye's Grove Road landfill has recently been tested for PFOA and PFOS and has had readings twice the state minimum.

4. Aquarion's well 5A has no aquifer protections

5. Rye Water District and Aquarion are both looking at adding wells

Planning Board meeting: July 11th & 18th:

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

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

RCL Recorded Video July 11th: [Part 1](#) [Part 2](#)

Recorded Video July 18th: [Click Here](#)

Town Draft meeting minutes: Not available

1. Wentworth Country Club Driving Range nets: Planning Board is still deliberating on whether to reduce the allowed net height to 75-80 feet from the 90 ft. requested, or require a height reduction from the 90 feet only at the far end of the Driving Range.

2. The current proposal for 421 South Road was denied.

2017-2018 School
Budget.

Rye Trust
Fund
Summary:
Click Here

**Rye Library
Strategic
Plan:**
Click Here
How good is
our Library
Click Here

**Rye Police
Homepage**
Click Here
Facebook:
Click Here

Rye Beach
Committee
Facebook
Page [Click
Here](#)

**Other
Helpful
Links:**

Live Free or
Die Alliance

LRP Public Meeting (Master Plan)

NO CHANGES, MEETINGS, UPDATES SINCE THE OCTOBER 2016 CIVIC NEWS

[Click Here](#) to see the history of the meetings and activities in 2016.

Three Chapters are being updated for Climate Change impacts, Land Use, Transportation and Natural Resources

[Click Here](#) for the current Master Plan 2013.

Rules & Regulations Committee & Zoning Amendments July 19th:

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes: not posted as of July 28th

Planning discussion about potential 2018 zoning amendments

Planning Board August 8th Agenda:

Agenda for meeting: [Click Here](#)

1. Breakers Condominium - replace the existing deck
2. WBTSC 60 Wentworth Road: Decision on accepting 90ft Driving Range fence poles
3. Zoning Amendment 2018-1: Temporary Permits for Mobile Homes or House Trailers
4. Building Code Amendment 2018-1: Septic Systems in the Wetlands Buffer

Zoning Board of Adjustment: June 21st:

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town meeting minutes: Not Posted

RCL meeting notes: [Click Here](#)

Zoning Board of Adjustment: July 5th:

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

- 1/2. 421 South Rd - Major subdivision: Request for rehearing of denial of variances related to wetlands issues. Denied 5-0
3. 11 Fairhill Ave Expand non-conforming building issues: leach field, septic tank, wetlands
Approved 5-0
4. 30 La Mer Dr. Demo existing building/ build new structure and driveway issues:wetlands
Approved 4-1
5. 620 Wallis Rd. Build new shed issues: setback Approved 5-0
6. 531 Bracket Rd Continued to August
7. 11 Surf Lane Continued to August
8. 780 Ocean Blvd. Build solar array issues: setback Approved 5-0
9. 784 Ocean Blvd. Replace deck issues: setback Approved 5-0
10. 2 West Rd. Continued to August
11. Non Public - Rehearing and Reconsideration for 740 Washington Rd.

Zoning Board of Adjustment: August 2nd & 8th Agenda:

[Click Here](#) for agenda for August 2nd

1. Public Hearing Closed for 740 Washington Rd Rehearing and Reconsideration
2. 531 Bracket Rd. Allow 8ft fence where 8 ft. is allowed
3. 11 Surf Lane Variances for expansion of a non-conforming house
4. 2 West Rd. Variances for a porch
5. 236 Sagamore Rd. Allow a Pest Control Business office with vehicle storage
6. 300 Pioneer Rd. Garage and Breezeway in the tidal wetlands buffer
7. 7 Robin Rd. Build a ramp to a non-conforming building
8. 610 Central Rd. Variances for expansion of a non-conforming building
9. 51 Central Rd. Variances for expansion of a non-conforming building
10. 24 Park Ridge: Variances for a shed within the setback
11. 320 Bracket Rd. Administrative Appeal
12. 48 Straw 's Point: Variances for expansion of a non-conforming building

August 8th: Agenda 5pm [Click Here](#)

1. 0 Big Rock Rd Requesting a rehearing
2. 421 South Rd. Requests a rehearing of July 5th Special Exception denial
3. 421 South Rd. Requests a rehearing of July 5th Variances denial

Conservation Commission (CC) July 20th:

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

Conservation Land Maps: [Click Here](#)

Wetlands Map [Click Here](#)

Town Forest map: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Town Draft Meeting minutes: Not available

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

1. There was a non-public session on property acquisitions.
2. Properties discussed:
 - a. 300 Pioneer Rd. Deck and garage expansion. Site walk scheduled for August 2.
 - b. 129 Wentworth Rd. State following up on wetlands compliance issues.
 - c. 2250 Ocean Blvd. State following up on wetlands compliance issues.
 - d. 1083 Old Ocean Blvd. State following up on wetlands compliance issues.
 - e. 18 Straws Point. State following up on wetlands compliance issues.
 - f. 7 Elizabeth Ln. Wetlands buffer restoration. Site walk scheduled for August 2 to follow up.
 - g. 245 Pioneer Rd. Wetlands buffer restoration. Site walk scheduled for August 2 to follow up .
 - h. 335 Washington Rd. Pond removal not complete yet. Will continue to monitor.
 - i. 25 Appledore. Wetlands buffer restoration. Owner is not taking responsibility for state-required restoration and has failed to respond to a letter from the state which will be sending a second letter. Building Inspector will likely also issue a notice of violation.

Recreation Commission Meeting July 10th:

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

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

Spring program Registrations: [Click Here](#)

Summer program Registrations: [Click Here](#)

Active, Alive and over 55 Programs: [Click Here](#)

No Recorded Video:

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. Ralph Morang field drainage, fence and guard rail will be funded through the Rye Recreation revolving fund and not taxation (so from the people who utilize fee based Rye Recreation activities).
2. Two people have expressed interest in the one commission seat available. There was discussion about creating an alternate position.
3. Recreation is looking to get incremental facilities projects completed to provide storage and renovate the washrooms.
4. Funding approved for a land use master plan.

Heritage Commission Meetings July 6th.

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

Recorded Videos: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting minutes: Not available

Mosquito Commission Meeting July 25th:

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

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Video of meeting: [Click Here](#)

1. Posters are available [Wanted Not](#) [Bug Them](#)
2. Recent testing, still no Zika in Rye.
3. Vendor on track for dealing with August bugs.
4. Ticks seem to be a growing concern among residents. Residential spraying for ticks is recommended.

Rye Energy Committee Meeting: June 6th: No July meeting

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

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. [Energize 360](#) Energize 360 (a consortium with five other seacoast communities to help residents with energy efficiency) held a well-attended event.
2. ReVision Energy will donate a solar panel and hardware for each Rye residential installation.
3. Town municipal energy report is almost concluded

4. No July meeting
5. There are 3 vacancies on this committee.

Rye Recycling Education Committee June 20th No July meeting

Video Recording: Not available

Draft town meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

Openings for three new members.

1. Composting table was set up at the library
2. Transfer Station Survey: [Click Here](#)

Library Board of Trustees July 25th:

Trustee Home Page: [Click Here](#)

Draft Library Meeting minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: technical issue

1. BOS was notified of the completed salary work.
2. Request to the Town to release Emergency Repair fund dollars to repair/replace the sign at the entrance of the parking lot.
3. Funds were released to repair the failed HVAC unit.
4. Hedge planted between the Parsonage and the Library.
5. Piscataqua Region History video: [Click Here](#)

Sewer Commission Meeting July 11th

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

1. Drop-inlets will be repaired
2. Sewer fund balance reported to be just over \$500,000.
3. Secondary usage water meters requested for 1 Cable Rd and 40 Old Beach Road
4. Portsmouth Sewer rates will increase 4%

Historic District Commission June 8th Meeting

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

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Not Available

1. Hearing on barn renovation at 2 Lang Road. Approved.

Capital Improvement Plan July 27th:

Approved CIP presented on 11-28-16: [Click Here](#)

Current: [Click Here](#) for a summary of the projects.

Current: [Click Here](#) for a list of all of the projects

Recorded Video: Technical issue

Draft Meeting minutes: Not available

Beach Committee June 29th:

Facebook Page [Click Here](#)

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recorded Video: [Click Here](#)

1. Charge car counting was discussed.
2. Concern over stand up paddle business operating in the harbor with commercial and recreational boats. Dangerous in the a.m. hours. Chief Walsh will contact harbormaster or state.
3. Cooking on the beach gas and charcoal grills being used. Chief Walsh says this can only be done with permit issued by the FD and may only be issued to Rye residents.
4. Trash pick-up suggestions once again that the state pick up on town beaches since they're already making the rounds at state beaches Jenness and Wallis. Chief Walsh says it's the town's responsibility and that the State assists with grading. Committee noted that there is still a lot of Seaweed if they are grading.
5. Kiosk meters where are we? Chief Walsh had nothing concrete for an update.
6. Dog bites this year, Chief Walsh says dog advocates are policing.
7. Police Department checking at night for drug users. So far no needles found.

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:

1. Camden Green Lawn Program: [Click Here](#)

There is helpful information included in the sections for commissions and committees that are not actively meeting. Opinions, Public Discussion and additional content are also included below.

Trustees of the Trust Funds January 24th

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here](#)

Recoded Video: [Click Here](#)

1. Audit report was submitted and reviewed by the Trustees
2. Discussed the Library's Excess Liquidity Investment Guidelines that they helped develop.
3. Reviewed and discussed economic conditions and the most prudent investment strategies.
4. Trustee's voted to move away from a fund that had done well in the past but has been recently trending in the opposite direction.

Parson's Creek Pollution Committee November 15th Final Report:

Organized Additional Information: [Click Here](#)

Information from the Planning Department: [Click Here](#)

Committee Charge from the BOS: [Click Here](#)

RCL Discussion Page: [Click Here](#)

Summer Pollution Testing Results: [Click Here](#)

RCL Notes of 9-28 Final Report: [Click Here](#)

Video Recording Sept 6th: [Click Here](#)

RCL Meeting Notes:

Septic System Presentation: [Click Here](#)

NH Storm Water Management Guide: [Click Here](#)

Committee Final 11/28 Report to Selectmen [Click Here](#)

1. Owners of only 36% of septic systems in the Parsons Creek Watershed have reported last pump out dates, despite 2016 ordinance requiring all to have reported by now.
2. Process to date has discovered 5 or 6 decades old temporary holding tanks
3. Committee recommending a septic system inspection ordinance for the watershed when homes are sold.

Parsonage Apartments Committee Final Report Completed:

Committee Charge from the BOS: [Click Here](#)

Final Report submitted to BOS on October 12th: [Click Here](#)

See RCL memo to the BOS: [Click Here](#)

Opinion piece on Parsonage Apartments and RCD: [Click Here](#)

Additional Information on the report from the RCL: [Click Here](#)

Committee Recommendations:

1. The Town should neither sell the Parsonage nor enter into a long-term lease with The Housing Partnership (THP), or any other entity.
2. The number of units at the Parsonage is not to be increased (on site).
3. The Town should hire Plan NH to conduct a design charrette for the future of the Rye Center.
4. The Town should lease the Parsonage to THP or someone else following the expiration of the lease, for a term not to exceed twenty-years, with a number of conditions attached.
5. The Town should explore potential alternate Town-owned sites for low income/workforce housing.
6. Additional information on the report from the RCL [Click Here](#)

Current Topics & When and Where can you help Rye?:

When a topic is being discussed at Town meetings, let us know if you would like to be notified, so you could attend so that the town can benefit from your inputs, guidance or support. The RCL will need to develop an automated system so please [e-mail](#) the RCL with topic(s) on which you may wish to be notified.

In order to promote dialog, the Civic News has an "Opinion" section where views can be expressed, Please send us any other suggestions to help you stay educated, informed and engaged..

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 discussed:

1. Town Hall and the Board of Selectmen
2. South Road stressing the land
3. Maine town that posts where the Chemical Free lawns are.

Other Town Activity

How Good is our Library?

2016 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: 2016 Update are 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

While the Civic News is free (distributed to over 1,000 people), the Civic League does have annual costs that are covered by members (people who contribute \$12 or more each year).

Our annual costs are: Note only about 10% of the people who open the Civic News are members.

- Website hosting and URL registrations
- Civic News E-mail distribution software (Constant Contact)
- NH Attorney General's fees for being a 501-C and NH Secretary of State filing fees
- Printing and other expenses
- Post Office Box

Members receive:

- Invitation to annual meeting in the Fall where members may discuss anything about the organization including the Civic News. Voting for directors, policy, etc... (NOTE, moved to the early Fall).

- Invitation with agenda to each end of the month RCL meeting at the library where RCL business is discussed followed by an open public forum (no longer an RCL meeting).

Meetings are the last Wednesday of the month.

- The knowledge that you are participating in raising citizen awareness of, and promoting participation in Rye's important civic affairs.

Become a member or renew!!!!

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

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

Membership and donations can be made by credit card via our Paypal link at www.ryecivicleague.org or by mail to Rye Civic League P.O. Box 971 Rye, NH 03870.

Get Involved:

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- Summarize a town meeting for the Civic News
- Editing the Civic News content
- Helping with Candidates Night and other civic events
- Social Media savvy person
- Website and help to fulfill our "digital transformation" vision. We envisioned a more dynamic capture of meeting summaries, a much better website and more dynamic communication.

We would be happy to discuss these opportunities with you at you if you so desire.

Contact Info

Rye Civic League: civicnews@ryecivicleague.org Steven Borne - President

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.

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

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