Please share with your Rye friends & neighbors  
2018 Citizens’ Handbook (click here)
RCL Monthly Meetings & Public Forum last Wednesday of the month RPL 7pm
RCL Facebook Page
Nov. 2018: RCL Rye the last 50 years, Next 50 years: Presentation Recorded Video

Town Center Charrette with Plan NH:
1. Plan NH May 31st and June 1st Click Here for more information
   a) A few more donations are needed to cover expenses (privately funded) Click Here
   b) A key step is sharing thoughts and ideas about what you would like to see for our town center in small groups. Click Here for information on the listening sessions
      Listening Session 1: Friday, May 31st 3:30pm to 5:00pm Rye Junior High Cafeteria
      Listening Session 2: Friday, May 31st 6:30pm to 8:00pm Rye Junior High Cafeteria
   Please help by signing up before hand Click Here What to expect: Click Here
   c) Plan NH Saturday morning work session can be observed by the public
   d) Saturday June 1st, 3pm RJH Cafeteria Plan NH Presentation to the public

April Highlights
1. Rye’s Rockingham Planning Commission Representative
   - RCL notes and history not to be ignored: Click Here
   - RCL summary of the Rye Representative role: Click Here
2. Major Developments at May 14th Planning Board meetings now at the RPL
   1215 Ocean Blvd (Driftwood/Atlantic Four Winds): Click Here for plans
   1244 Washington Rd - 20-units in four buildings - corner of Washington Rd./Rt. 1
   0 Ocean Rd (across from Goss Farm)
3. State repaving of Rt 1 North of Washington Rd. may delay Portsmouth extending sewer into Rye.
4. Dogs getting sick at Pirates Cove Beach may be from caffeine Click Here for Herald story
5. Select Board met with State representatives on April 26th to discuss coastline topics.
   Click Here for Smart Shores presented to Select Board April 8th.
6. Questions town should be discussing
   - Parson’s Creek Watershed pollution Click Here for December 2018 report
   - Another Open Space Bond (for buying easements only)
   - Town Center and Town Hall after the Plan NH Charette
   - 8th Grade Test Scores were only average Click Here, Lister Academy funding
7. Rye Day is being planned for August 24th.
8. Land Development Regulations are being modified. RCL has provided a summary for residents. Click Here
9. Open Volunteer Positions: Contact Select Board office e-mail
   Planning Board: 2 Alternates
   Zoning Board: 2 Alternates (3rd will also be open soon)
   Rye Heritage Commission 2 Alternates
   Rye Historic District Commission: 2 Alternate
   Rye Recycling Education 2 Member vacancies
   CIP Committee 1 Member Vacancy
   Conservation Commission 2 Alternates

General Announcements:
1. E-Waste Recycling Day May 3rd 8am-11am RJH This free recycling day has been coordinated by two 6th Graders.
2. Rye Recreation After School Program needs staff: Click Here
3. Rye Art Study Group: May 20th 9:30am to 11:30am Rye Congregational Church.
   Click Here for information on this month’s featured artist.
4. Rye Little League Opening Day - May 4th
5. Goss Farm Community Plots sign up Click Here
6. Swap shop is jeopardy of closing unless volunteers organize and step in. If interested
   e-mail
7. Rye Recreation Summer Programs Click Here
8. Rye Recreation Senior Program: 2018-2019 Active, Alive Click Here
Select Board Meeting April 29th

Town Meeting Minutes: Not available

1. Most of the beach permit applications were approved, although a few were delayed pending provision of missing information. Summer Sessions will be discussed next time (6:36:55 p.m.).

2. The Selectmen accepted all seven short-term recommendations of the Perkins Rd. Safety Committee and continued the committee's existence through the end of the summer so they can report on activities in the area. The Chairman indicated that $10K to $25K may need to be spent next year for traffic engineering and a survey before the long-term recommendations are implemented (7:01:14 p.m.)

3. Former Selectman, Craig Musselman of CMA Engineers, reported on a plan to create an easement on the land of Roger and Jan Philbrick to allow them to continue to use their well and allow monitoring the Grove Rd. Landfill from their property in the ground water protection district (7:18:10 p.m.).

4. A public hearing will be held on reinstating at least a portion of the leash law in the Town Forest. Abutters want leashes to be required on the entire green trail, while the Conservation Commission wants to delete a 180 ft. "leashes required" section (7:35:50 p.m.) Click Here for RCC letter and map for Select Board

5. The Selectmen approved $94K for repaving the eastern portion of Wallis Rd. from Grange Park to Sagamore Rd. (8:02:55 p.m)

6. A cell tower committee will be formed pursuant to a warrant article this year. The cost of a consultant is estimated at approximately $8000, which was not budgeted, but would be found in other surplus budget line items this year (8:16:10 p.m.).

7. The Plan New Hampshire Memorandum of Understanding was approved (8:25:02 p.m.)

Select Board Meetings April 26th

Meeting with the State: Video Recording: Click Here

Town Meeting Minutes: Not available

1. Discussion of lowering culverts near 2520 Ocean and/or 2125 Ocean to help drainage discussed prior to the arrival of state officials (14:45 elapsed).

2. With State Senator Tom Sherman and several State officials these issues were discussed (33:46 elapsed).
   a. Limiting parking of vehicles over 20 ft. long on Ocean Blvd. was discussed, but there was no commitment as DOT may not have that authority without legislation (35:11).
   b. Staffing of Jenness Beach parking lot (eliminated a number of years ago) will be looked into by the state (45:49 elapsed).
   c. The state agreed to provide information on the Route 1A right of way locations (70:23).
   d. Rye may need to help pay for expensive drainage improvements on the line from Perkins Rd. to Rye Harbor as it ties into the state culverts (72:53 elapsed)
   e. The state owns the land and buildings for the Seacoast Science center, but leases it to the private entity. Both the state and the Science Center would likely need to approve use of the site for elections. The state has contacted the Attorney General for a legal opinion (89:03 elapsed)
   f. The state will not delay Route 1 paving to accommodate a sewer line approved (at no cost to the taxpayers) by a warrant article this year, but not yet funded by developers. They would, however, look into allowing the line in the shoulder, provided an engineering design is furnished to them (92:15 elapsed).
   g. The state revealed that it is looking at installing parking meters near the Rye Harbor State Park entrance. That led to a discussion of meters vs. satellite parking. The DOT Director appears no longer to favor satellite parking due to cost, usage and other issues. (109:41 elapsed).
   h. The town was encouraged to implement a $5 (or $10 if a proposed bill passes) surcharge on vehicle registrations to help build a fund to pay for "complete streets" (separate facilities for pedestrians, bicycles, parking and vehicles) improvements, including on Route 1A. The state complained that improved vehicle mileage is leaving it with less gas tax revenues to pay for improvements (115:33 elapsed).

Select Board April 8th meeting

Video Recording: Click Here

Draft Town Meeting minutes: Click Here
1. Select Board planning for meeting with the State for assistance for beach operations. Click Here for 4-26 agenda. (0:31) Topics discussed: Jenness Beach parking watch staff request. (11:59), RV parking 1A (14:54), Trash Pickup (36:30), Seadoo purchase (37:10), Lifeguards (37:48), Implementation of paid parking (39:00)

2. Residents who abut the Town Forest by Parson's Field continue to request the town take action to keep dogs from running on their property. Click Here for submitted letter. Additional letter Click Here specific to Ordinance No. 35. Note- Town has not put these in the public domain. (1:04:28)

3. Public hearing on Central Road posted parking ordinance amendment. The Select Board voted to approve the amendment. (1:14:54)

4. Discussion on alternative election sites as safety concerns has the schools closed and it is impacting school scheduling with all the elections. (1:19:20)

5. Plan NH - additional funds are needed. Click Here (1:34:13)

6. DES Coastal Resilience Coordinator presentation. Click Here for Herald story. Click Here for the Smart Shores Project presentation (1:41:34),

7. BOS motion to enter a contract for the purchase of the $1M Ladder Truck. (2:12:20)

8. The BOS voted to extend the Beach Committee to March 2020 (2:46:12)

School Board Meeting: April 17th
Learn more about the Rye Schools: Click Here
Proposed 2019-2020 Budget: Click Here
Rye PTA Website: Click Here
Superintendent's Bulletin: March 2019 Click Here (no Jan, Feb or March notes)
Draft School Board Meeting Minutes: not available
Recorded Video: Click Here

1. Presentation from a group of staff that attended a professional development opportunity to support more learning opportunities at both RES & RJH moving forward.
2. Ann Gilbert was nominated as a finalist for NH Teacher of the Year
3. NH Representative Jaci Grote presented pending education legislation at the State Level. (time stamp 40:00)
4. Link to article regarding new grading system at Portsmouth High School Herald article Click Here
5. New IT Director for SAU 50, Brian Grattan, was hired in March at the SAU Joint Board Meeting. He will start on July 1.
6. Discussion about Rye Recreation Agreement continued.
7. Discussion continued regarding Parent Survey
8. Discussion about voting in the schools. Sub-committee will continue to explore other options
9. New curriculum were adopted (Music, Social Studies K-5)
10. Listening sessions between the Board & Staff to have an open dialogue a

Rye Districts Information:
Click Here for information on Rye Districts

2019 Budgets
Recorded Video of Budget Committee meeting: Click Here
Rye Water District Budget RBVD Budget JBVD Budget

Rye Water District April 3rd Meeting:
Draft meeting minutes: None posted

Planning Board meeting: April 9th:
Learn more about the Planning Board: Click Here
New FEMA maps have been posted: Click Here
Recorded Video: Click Here
Town Draft Meeting Minutes: Click Here
1. Non-Public session to discuss litigation
2. 1244 Washington Rd. (corner of Washington and Rt 1) Major Subdivision Tax map 10, lot 82 for 20 unit residential town houses, five buildings of four units each. Continued to May 14th.
3. 1215 Ocean Blvd.. Major Subdivision (tear down of Driftwood Cottages/Atlantic Four Winds). Design changes presented by the Architect.
4. 1215 Ocean Blvd. resident's lawyer is questioning the density (putting too much on the property). Resident pointed out that the four buildings will be a wall blocking the sound of the Ocean. Site walk will be May 8th at 5pm for the Planning Board.
School Budget: Here is a link to the Proposed 2019-2020 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

Rye PTA Webpage Click Here .

Rye Elementary School Click Here

Rye Junior High School Click Here

Portsmouth High School Click Here

Other Helpful Links:

Live Free or Die Alliance

Click Here for design plans. Town has yet to post documents and helpful information...

5. Rye representative Rockingham County Planning representative. Selectman Winslow is one representative, the other Rye representative position is open. Click Here for details and history not to be ignored. Click Here for information on the representative’s role

LRP Public Meeting (Master Plan) April 11th Meeting

What has happened since 2014: Click Here Additional 2016 information Click Here

Recorded video: Click Here

Draft meeting minutes: Nothing posted Click Here to see Durham's website and their master plan as reference.

1. Master Plan has been updated. Click Here to see Chapters

As the meeting minutes of the LRP meetings have recently "surfaced" the RCL is filling a gap by providing a summary - meeting by meeting - with key points of the LDR updates. Click Here

Rules & Regulations Committee:

Planning Board May 14th Agenda

Agenda for meeting: Click Here

1. Presentation from the State Specialist on climate change and its impact in protecting coastal land and water resources

2. Major Subdivision Application: 1244 Washington Rd - five 4 unit town houses special use permit - development is in Aquifer and Wellhead Protection area and Rye Groundwater Management area

3. Request to reopen case - O Ocean Blvd (bet. harbor and Locke five lot subdivision

4. Major Subdivision: 0 Ocean Blvd 5 lot subdivision

5. 1215 Ocean blvd. - Demo existing buildings and build four duplex town houses and new infrastructure. Allow land history tourist accommodations to become obsolete.

Zoning Board of Adjustment: April 3rd:

Recorded Video: Click Here

Draft Meeting Minutes: Click Here

1. 55 Harbor Rd. Approved 5-0 Eight variances for demolition and replacement of a non-conforming building Case 15-2019

2. 1248 Ocean Blvd Approved Zoning Ordinances variances 3-2 for expansion of non-conforming building. Approved Building Code variances 3-2 with three conditions. Case 3-2019

3. 160 Perkins Rd. Approved 5-0 side boundary variances for inground pool Case 19-2019

4. 103 Old Beach Rd. Six Zoning Ordinances variances approved 4-1 for destruction and replacement of non-conforming structure Case 18-2019

Zoning Board of Adjustment Agenda: May 1st:

Agenda: Click Here

1. 140 Harbor Rd. - expand non-conforming building on non conforming lot; remove privy and shower issues: tidal marsh and wetlands

2. 140 Harbor Rd. - add gravel driveway and parking area issues - in wetland buffer

3. 31 Breakers Rd. - add patio and shed issues: side setback and lot coverage

Conservation Commission (CC) April 11th

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

Draft Meeting Minutes: Click Here

RCL Meeting Notes: Click Here

Goss Farm Community Garden Plots sign up: Click Here

1. 175 Harbor Rd. Complete repairs to harbor front seawall damaged in March 2018 storms. Click Here for Site Walk minutes

2. Reviewed draft of the Town Forest Management Plan.

3. Commission will request Select Board to continue zone leash laws
4. 14 Fairhill Rd. Site walk, Site will be in compliance if planting plan is implemented  Click here for Site Walk minutes

**Recreation Commission Meeting  April 1st**
Learn more about Rye Recreation:  Click Here  
Click Here to see the Rye Recreation Master Plan  
Fall program Registrations:  Click Here  
2018-2019 Active, Alive and over 55 Programs:  Click Here  
Recorded Video:  Click Here  
Draft Town Meeting Minutes:  Click Here  
1. Signs approved to support the Plan NH Charrette on May 31st and June 1st.  
2. Select Board approved the design build contract for Multi-purpose storage facility.  
3. Draft lease has been provided to the Congregational Church for comment.  
4. Online After School Program system training complete, but not deployed yet.  
5. Field maintenance and usage was discussed.  
6. Skyler Mikolaities from Portsmouth Troop 164 will be proposing a project for the Recreation Area.

**Heritage Commission April 4th**
Learn more about the Heritage Commission:  Click Here  
Heritage Commission Facebook page:  Click Here  
Recorded Video:  Click Here  
Draft Meeting Minutes:  Click Here  
1. Demolition Committee reported on Driftwood cottage demolition and two properties on Woodland Road.  
2. New Exhibit at Rye Museum called "Fishing, Farming and Fun"  
3. Update on the Rye Day discussions - August 24th is the discussed day.  
4. Graveyard project should be address before June.

**Library Board of Trustees April 11th:**
Trustee Home Page:  Click Here  
Library 2018 Usage Statistics;  NEW  Click Here  #1 NH Library  Click Here  
Recorded Video:  Click Here  
Draft Meeting Minutes:  Click Here  
1. Board is still discussing a possible expansion and renovation.  
2. Jessica Ryan will be the Head of Youth Services, Lisa Houde is now Assistant Director/ Collections Manager  
3. New phone system will be coming, along with new copiers and printers  
4. New Fence should be installed later this Spring

**Sewer Commission Meeting March 12th:**
Draft Town Meeting Minutes:  Click Here  
1. Rt. 1A and East Atlantic Ave manholes were discussed.  
2. 8 Maple Ave sewer connection meets all conditions (note they are all listed in the meeting notes).

**Historic District Commission Meeting April 18th**
Learn more about the Historic District:  Click Here  
Recorded Video:  Click Here  
Draft Town Meeting Minutes:  Not posted

**Mosquito Commission Meeting: April 16th:**
Learn more about the Mosquito Commission:  Click Here  
Draft Town Meeting Minutes:  Click Here  
Draft of meeting:  Click Here  
1. Posters are available  Ticked Off  Wanted Not  Bug Them  
2. Planning schedule reviewed, Rye Day will be additional and there was discussion about activities for Goss Farm.  
3. Mosquito Control season starts April 8th. New Greenhead traps are being built, the storage at Goss Farm has worked well.  
4. Plans for hanging up the posters was discussed leveraging inventory from last year.  
5. Discussion of the "No Spray Registry"

**Rye Energy Committee Meeting: February 4th:**
Learn More about the Energy Committee: [Click Here]
Draft Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here]
1. January 22nd speaking event was well received. [Click Here] for video
3. Membership will continue in Clean NH Organization. Member Kalet will attend the Commercial Energy Summit.

**Rye Recycling Education Committee May 22nd**
Video Recording: Not available
Draft town meeting minutes: [Click Here]
1. Rye Food Scrap Collection Information [Click Here]
2. Rye Recycling Center Brochure [Click Here]

**Beach Committee January 19th:**
Facebook Page [Click Here]
Recorded Video: [Click Here]
Draft meeting minutes: [Click Here]
1. While Beach Committee meeting notes are on the town Website, all of the minutes and pictures presented to the Select Board are now posted on the Civic League website. [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:**
1. Rye's need for better planning: [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.

**Clean Water Issues:**
1. DES informs BOS that Parson's Creek is an impaired body of water. See more information on Parson's Creek. [Click Here]
2. Water in Rye Presentation from the RCL [Click Here]
3. CMA Engineers Grove Rd. Landfill presentation: [Click Here]
4. RCL video of the November 29th presentation: [Click Here]
5. Cancer Cluster Final Report September 2017 [Click Here]
6. August 23rd Governor's Task Force Coakley Landfill Subcommittee Presentation (full overview) [click here] Recorded Video: [Click Here]
7. NH Fish & Game restricts fishing in Berry's Brook. [Click Here]

Additional Information:
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]
RCL Water in Rye Presentation: [Click Here]
Grove Rd. Landfill CMA Presentation: [Click Here]
PFC's 101 from Rep. Messmer: [Click Here]
RWD presentation: [Click Here]

**Trustees of the Trust Funds August 22nd**
Draft Town Meeting Minutes: [Click Here]
Recorded Video: [Click Here]
1. Discussions of the current economic state and risks.
2. Reviewed and discussed the current allocations and cash positions
3. Decided to reduce J&J position based on possible negative impact of recent lawsuit
4. Next meeting will review ultra-short bond funds to support strategic liquidity

**Parson's Creek Pollution Committee November 15th 2016 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]
December 2018 Report: [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 discussed:
1. Election results and recount
2. School Deliberative
3. Plan NH update

**Other Town Activity**

**Rye Town Handbook from the Rye Civic League:**
NOTE: 2018 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 1,100 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:
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, is 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 envisioned a more effective capture of meeting summaries, a much better website and more dynamic communication.

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