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Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2019 1:51 PM

To: philwins@gmail.com; Keri Roman - BOS; wepperson@town.rye.nh.us

Cc: Shawn Joyce <sjoyce@nerallc.com>

Subject: Request for Fair Appointment Process -Rye Conservation Commission

Dear Board of Selectmen:

Please see the attached letter dated April 24, 2017 regarding fair appointment process to the Rye Conservation Commission that was signed by 64 Rye residents in two days.

In that letter, Rye residents respectfully requested that the Rye Board of Selectmen (BOS):

1. Institute a policy that requires an accurate posting of upcoming openings (month and year) for the Rye Conservation Commission (RCC), so that all citizens of Rye are allowed the opportunity to apply to the BOS and serve on the RCC.
2. Publicly interviews and considers the background and experience of all applicants to ensure eligibility and diversity of the RCC membership.
3. Allows the RCC Chairperson to submit a recommendation letter for applicants. However, the BOS does not require that applicants have a recommendation letter to be considered by the BOS thereby ensuring that all applicants are afforded the opportunity to be considered.
4. Encourages the RCC to follow best practices as outlined by the Handbook for NH Municipal Conservation Commissions and adopt bylaws, procedures and practices, which ensure fairness and consistency for all Rye residents

None of these things have been done to date.

When RCC member terms are up, they are just reappointed without any opportunity for any other Rye resident to be considered regardless of their qualifications. RCC leadership continues to be allowed to shape the membership, discourage Rye residents with different perspectives from serving and not have written bylaws, policies and procedures that ensure fairness to all residents coming before the RCC.

The majority of past selectmen liked it the old way as it was beneficial to them personally. Other communities do not allow a handful of people to dominate a commission for decades. They qualify and appoint members and/or there are term limits. We respectfully request that the current Rye BOS do what is fair for all citizens of Rye, act on the four items above.

In summary, I respectfully ask that this email and its attachments be included with the minutes of the next BOS meeting that are sent out electronically and posted to Rye's website so Rye residents have the details with this request. If you have any questions or would like to see any supporting documents, please let me know. Thank you.
Shawn

Shawn Joyce

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