

## Rye Conservation Commission April 2020

### Rye Civic League Notes

April 7 Natural Resource Inventory Workshop Draft Official Minutes [CLICK HERE](#)

April 14 Natural Resource Inventory Workshop Draft Official Minutes [CLICK HERE](#)

Both meetings were conducted via Zoom and as such no video streaming is available

Both April meetings focused on the ground work for a Natural Resources Inventory (see USDA.gov definition [here](#)) for the town of Rye under a future RFP from consultants. A base sections to be included as discussed at the April 7<sup>th</sup> Workshop are as follows:

#### **Water Resources, Watersheds, and Surface Waters**

A section related to water quality will be added to include tidal and ocean waters.

#### **Wildlife**

It was agreed the section should include as many maps and visuals as possible

#### **Agriculture and Forestry**

To be also considered in this section: haying, sugaring, apples, and fisheries

#### **Scenic Resources**

Rye Historical Society will also be consulted. The Isles of Shoals should be included potentially in its own section.

#### **Historical and Cultural Resources**

Rye Historical Society and Library will also be consulted

#### **Public, Conserved, and Recreational Lands**

Members were tasked at the **April 7** meeting to review other towns' NRI including Hampton, Epping, and Moultonborough.

A Steering Committee of town entities, resident, and others such as the Harbor Master and Isles of Shoals will be formed to work with the potential consultant preparing the Inventory.

#### **April 14<sup>th</sup> Workshop**

The CC discussed the Rye Master Plan's Chapter 7- Natural Resources which mirrors the Natural Resources Inventory proposed in many ways, has a lot of the data required and also includes a Climate Adaptation Chapter.

It was highlighted that the two should be unrelated with the NRI updated more frequently with new science as the Master Plan is not updated frequently and is more like enabling legislation or a policy document. As such with a new Natural Resources Inventory chapter the current Chapter 7 may be to detailed.

Tasks assigned at the April 7<sup>th</sup> workshop were discussed:

#### **Review of other towns NRI**

Epping NRI [CLICK HERE](#)

Members liked the conversational tone yet detailed approach with action items for each resource area as well as overall recommendations which included working with surrounding towns.

Section on storm water management, beneficial insects, invasive species, water threats, natural communities (plants and rare species), areas of high ecological value.

It was noted that in Epping a Natural Resource Inventory has to be done for subdivision or site plan approval.

**Campton NRI** [CLICK HERE](#)

Embedded maps and tables helpful

Included potential water contamination sources and management risks

**Moultonborough** [CLICK HERE](#)

Included an executive summary explaining what report is for and how it will be used.

Listed priority conservation

Had a residential stewardship and public education section

**Washington** [CLICK HERE](#)

Listed goals up front

Data for historical features

Value for each resource

Tax parcel overlay with developed and undeveloped areas

Member Reed presented draft goals for the NRI based on Washington NH approach.

Members to work on Purpose and Goals of the NRI and review Chapter 7 of the Rye Master Plan.