Rye Civic News
December 2020
from the Rye Civic League (www.ryecivicleague.org)

“Informing citizens, enhancing direct democracy and supporting the will of the voters”
“Two truths about democracy: you can have whatever you want, you get what you deserve.”

RCL Monthly Meetings & Public Forum last Wednesday of the month RPL 7pm (zoom now)
RCL Facebook Page New 2020 Citizens’ Handbook (Click Here)

November 3rd Election Rye

1. Post election note for Town Moderator: Click Here
2. 4512 votes cast (about 5400 registered voters). March's Town Election only had 1608. Almost three times the residents voted in November than in March on Town and School ballot items.
3. Click Here for details on how Rye voted.

Rye and COVID-19

1. Rye Schools are going well. Information Page. See Rye plan. PHS may have more in school days. PHS has had two positive cases, implemented contact tracking and went full remove for a single day.
2. Existing Rye Online Networking (FB = Facebook)
3. Rye Helping Hands & Covid Kindness FB Group

November Highlights

1) Select Board amended Click Here the TD Bank/Parsonage agreement. Parsonage has been torn down and Select Board is moving forward. The Library Trustees opposed the amendment as it impedes Library expansion plans. The contract referenced in March 2020 warrant Article 7 and Select Board public statements prior to the vote said the Parsonage would not be demolished. Click Here Q3
   Residents staged a protest on November 29th at the demolished Parsonage.
2) The Planning Board approved the Parsonage subdivision on November 10th and chose not to consider the entire property being impacted. NOD
3) Tax payments due December 17th. Click Here. Town tax rate up 4%, School and County down slightly, with overall tax rate staying the same. Details The public document has not posted from the November 13th meeting.
4) Recreation Storage Facility has opened. Click Here
5) Fire Chief is proposing expanding staff from two to three people per shift and then with additional management. Draft document Overview Presentation Detail Report Click Here
7) King Tide was in November. Click Here to see pictures of the water level at High Tide. No storms or rain, just a very high tide. King Tides can reflect future "normal" tides with sea level rise in the mix.
8) WBTSCC is looking at a 498’ sea wall to protect against sea level rise. At 500’ Army Corps of Engineers would need to be involved. 29,000 sq ft. permanent disturbance to wetlands requires an approximate $50K mitigation payment to state Aquatic Fund, hopefully spent in Rye.

Open Town Board Positions: Click Here
Town positions e-mail, Planning or Zoning positions: e-mail
Rye Historic District Commission .......... 1 Alternates Vacancies
Planning Board .................................. 2 Alternates Vacancies
Rye Heritage Commission I. ............... 2 Alternate Vacancies
CIP Committee | 1 Member Vacancy
Energy Committee | 2 Member Vacancies
Recycling Education Committee | 1 Member Vacancy

WANT TO SERVE? December and January is the time to make your decision. Click Here and look at the positions that end in 2021 (from the RCL Citizens' Handbook). Have questions about the commitment, the Civic League can help e-mail. Select Board incumbent is not running for the 3 year term.

General Announcements

1) Parent University presentation of Unchartered Territory: The Challenge & Hope of Parenting in the Age of COVID, is scheduled for Thursday, December 3, 2020 at 7:00 PM. Click Here
2) Budget Meetings in December and January
   - Dec. 8th School Budget Work session and warrant articles
   - Dec. 10th: Town Warrant Articles and unfinished business
   - Jan. 13th: School Budget Public Hearing
   - Jan. 14th: Town Budget Public Hearing
   - Budget Committee Nov 19th Video: Click Here. No meeting minutes or details of the Select Board all day budget workshop
3) Final Draft of the Capital Improvement Plan is completed and will be presented to the Select Board for acceptance in December. Summary Projects Projects with CIP Priorities
4) Concerned about our aging demographics?: Click Here for Communities & Consequences
5) Rye Firefighters Toy Bank Drive: Click Here
6) Rye PTA, Rye Education Fund and Civic League Presidents explain their groups Click Here
7) Seeking 20th century Rye stories for new history of Rye. Click Here
8) Steven Borne's Common Denominator Newsletter: November Newsletter provides civic and non-partisan group information. Sign up and share with other NH residents.
9) Assessment Data: Online views of town lots Click Here
10) GIS Town Mapping Software Presentation Video: Click Here
RCL Conservation Commission notes on finding locations with the GIS

Calendar of Upcoming Meetings

TOWN Meetings will be at the Town Hall unless otherwise noted.
During Covid-19 please go to the Town Agendas for the Zoom information or physical location
Rye Civic League Monthly Meeting last Wednesday of the month: 7pm Zoom
Nov. 30th School Board........................................Dec. 8th Budget Committee School
Dec. 1st. Energy Committee......................................Dec. 10th Budget Committee Town
Dec. 2nd. Rye Water District...............................Dec. 10th Conservation Commission
Dec. 2nd. Board of Adjustments.........................Dec. 14th Select Board
Dec. 3rd. Heritage Commission.........................Dec. 28th Select Board
Dec. 7th. Recreation Commission
Dec. 8th. Planning Board

Select Board

Meetings are 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month.
Public Comments: At the beginning of meeting, 5 minute limit.
Consent Agenda: Select Board will not discuss unless it is removed. Consent agenda is voted for a block.
Citizen's Handbook information: Click Here
Town Organizational Chart:.....Click Here
Organizational Flow Diagram: Click Here
Town Facebook Page: ............ Click Here

Select Board Meeting November 23rd

Video Recording: Click Here
Draft Meeting Minutes: Not Available
1) Board chose not to discuss residents request about update to the 2020 Parson's Creek pollution testing or pandemic related plans for the Deliberative meeting.
2) Rye Town Center Committee charter will not be addressed until the TD Bank property is owned by the town.
3) A Historic Gazebo will be moved to the Town Hall property and will be maintained by the Heritage Committee.
4) Police Chief request for a training coordinator position was approved.
5) Board feels the Trolley Barn/Old Police Station appraisal was low and that the Town should look at demolishing the building. There will be no sale until the town owns the TD Bank building.
6) State DOT wants Rye to sign a letter of understanding that the Rye Beach Village District will maintain sidewalks on Rt. 1A, but the Select Board can't sign for the RBVD.
7) Goss Farm Lane developer wants the town to accept the road at the March election and to change the process to move ownership of new roads to the town sooner.
8) PHS Sophomore made the case to create leash free dog areas in Rye. One goal is to make social interaction easier.
9) 2021 Capital outlays will be around $271K, close to the 2020 level.
10) Fire Chief presented analysis in support of moving Rye from two to three person shifts and additional management. Overview Presentation Click Here for the full Draft analyses.

Select Board Non Public Meetings

November 18th: Personnel
November 6th: Personnel and Litigation
November 5th: Personnel and Litigation

Select Board Meeting November 13th Tax Rate Setting

Video Recording: Click Here
Draft Meeting Minutes: None
1) State forms are not posted or available to the public. Editors Note: Editor asked twice for these to be posted for the Civic News
2) Summary Click Here Town tax rate up 4%, School and County down slightly, overall tax rate stays the same

Select Board Meeting November 9th

Video Recording: Click Here
Draft Meeting Minutes: Click Here
1) Many people spoke out against the Select Board's amended agreement for the TD Bank/Parsonage swap that will have the Parsonage demolished and does not have the support of the Library Trustees.
2) Rye Energy Committee reported that they are moving forward for RJH Solar panels.
3) New Flood Insurance Maps were approved. See Report that is effective January 29th
4) Select Board provided rationale for the amended agreement to acquire TD Bank for Town purposes. Click Here. This was not shared with the Library just prior to the November 10th Planning Board meeting.

Select Board All Day Budget Workshop; November 5th:

Recorded Video: Click Here
Draft meeting minutes: None

Rye Schools

Meets 3rd Wednesday at RJH

Covid-19 Return to School Plan: Click Here
Most current Covid-19 Plans: Click Here
School Policies: Click Here
Rye 2020-2021 Budget Details: Click Here
Rye PTA: Click Here
SAU50 Superintendent Bulletin: none this Fall
Rye Education Foundation: Click Here
Citizen's Handbook information: Click Here
Introduction to PTA, REF and RCL: Click Here

School Board Meeting: November 18th

Recorded Video: None
1. Board reviewed second revision of budget reflecting a net increase of $219,364.00 over original proposed budget based on School Board input from November 2nd budget meeting.

2. The Rye School District to receive $109,600 through state’s Supplemental Public-School Response Fund

3. Board accepts letter of resignation from Ann Hoyt, Technology Coordinator with regret

4. Parent University presentation of Unchartered Territory: The Challenge & Hope of Parenting in the Age of COVID, is scheduled for Thursday, December 3, 2020 at 7:00 PM [Click Here]

5. Special meeting to be held on Monday, November 30th to follow up on budget revisions and discuss holiday academic calendar

**School Board Meeting: November 2nd**

Recorded Video: None
Draft Meeting Minutes: None

1. Review of initial SAU proposed budget of $14,495,665.00
   - Initial gross budget is an increase of 0.34% over 2020/2021 budget

2. Board requested additional staffing in next version of budget for (3) para-educators and (2) FT substitute teacher positions based on assumed continuance of COVID protocols.

**SAU 50 Joint Board Meeting: November 18th**

Recorded Video: None
Draft Meeting Minutes: None

1. Initial proposed SAU50 gross budget for 2021-2022 is $1,955,442.
   - The proposed increase of $181,308 (11.6% increase) compared to the current budget

2. Major appropriation increases in the proposed 2021-2022 operating budget are:
   - Salary and benefits for .8 FTE Facilities Manager $106,891
   - Salary and Benefits for 1 Financial Assistant $87,731
   - Raises for staff $31,262 Changes to health insurance/GMR 4.3% $8,527
   - Increase in NHRS rate to 14.06% $26,727
   - Health insurance premiums for 2021-2022 are projected in the budget to increase 4.3%

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**Rye Water District and Sewer**

RWD: meets 1st Wednesday of the month 9am at 60 Sagamore Rd.
Rye Water Citizen's Handbook information: [Click Here]
Sewer: Meets 2nd Tuesday of the month
Citizen's Handbook Sewer information: [Click Here]

2019 RWD Rate Schedule: [Click Here] 2017 RCL Water in Rye Information: [Click Here]
RWD 101 Information: [Click Here] 2019 RWD Quality Report: [Click Here]
PFAS Testing updates page: [Click Here] Conservation Tips: [Click Here]
2020 Budget: [Click Here] 2020 Projects presentation: [Click Here]
2017 Infrastructure Report Card: [Click Here] Imagine a day without water: [Click Here]

**Rye Water District November 4th**

Draft Meeting Minutes: Not posted
Wallis Rd. and Garland Well project overview. [Click Here]

**Sewer Commission Meeting: November 10th**

Draft meeting Minutes: [Click Here]
1. Installers license issued for the sewer at 32 Gray Court.
2. 2021 Budget is an increase of $18K
3. The $471K for the Rye portion of the Hampton sewer plant upgrades will not be seen until 2023.
4. Discussion of a new pump station and moratorium on expansion.

Planning Board
LRP Public (Master Plan)

1. During Budget Sessions in November - Select Board and Budget Committee — approved Planning and Zoning Administrator’s “printing budget” allocating funding for a “Visioning Session” in the Spring.
2. Dominique Winebaum, Rye resident and commentator/contributor during past Master Plan updates, provides a summary with added guidelines on the process of planning for updates of the Master Plan. Click Here

Technical Review Meeting: None

Planning Board meeting: November 10th

Recorded Video:  Click Here.
Town Draft Meeting Minutes: Click Here
1) 575 Washington Rd. Parsonage waivers granted unanimously with 6 conditions. PB NOD #9 2020
2) Planning Board would only discuss the waivers submitted and not the impacts to and of the entire lot. Many residents spoke out against allowing the waivers for the amended agreement.
3) Key points from the discussions:
.....Select Board says they communicated the lot lines to the Library at the TD Bank meeting, but did not respond to three formal requests from the Library Board of Trustees about where the lot lines would be. .....2020 Warrant Article 7 referenced contract and statements from the Select Board said the Parsonage would not be demolished (Click Here Q3. Amended agreement called for demolition of the Parsonage.
4) Goss Farm Land acceptance of the road, should not be until construction completed.
5) Stoneleigh Subdivision - Planning Board continues to spend effort as developer has not been complying to the conditions.
6) 2021 Ordinances discussed, this was not a public hearing. (see more information below)

Rules and Regulations: Nov. 16th

Draft meeting minutes: None
Recorded Video: Click Here
2021 Proposed Zoning Amendments: NOW during the Public Discussions is the only opportunity for the Public to comment on Zoning and Building Ordinances. They can't be modified at the Town Deliberative Meeting.
Z 2021-01 HDC: Adds wording to what should be reviewed for demolition review
Z 2021-02 Demolition: Clarifies what is out side of the Historic District
Z 2021-03 Demo Abutter: Closed loop for notifications
Z 2021-5 Rye Harbor Business Districts: Changes area to residential
Z 2021-6 Breakers: Changes from business to residential
Z 2021-7 Pervious: New definition
BC 2021-01 Flood references: Changes reference description
LDR 2021-1 Special Provisions: Flood plain requirements
LDR 2021-2 Mistake correction: Omitted by mistake from combined LDR approved in March
LDR 2021-3 Mistake correction: Wrong information was included in final document
1 Michael Cuomo from RCCD provided input/guidelines regarding inconsistencies between Zoning Ordinance (ZO) and Land Development Regulations (LDR). Wetlands discussion, including adding a time frame on wetlands delineation. Letter Graphic 1 wording
2. ZO Amendment 2021-01 HDC was put on hold.
3. ZO Amendment 2021-03 Demo Review abutter mailings. It was decided that a certificate of mailing would suffice to notify abutters.
5. LDR Amendment 2021-01. Adding “land” to development.
6. LDR Amendment 2021-04. Impervious Cover/ adding pervious coverage. Going back to Planning Board for discussion/approval.
7. Stonewalls/retaining walls. Much discussion the past months regarding the goal of this amendment. Step1: to suggest language based on function. Step 2: how to incorporate that language within the ZO definition for structure.
8. Parking size Proposed Zoning Amendment 2021-08. Motion made to accept changes.
9. LDR Waiver Amendment 2021-05. Justification for a waiver to add “and” for requirements, so they both meet spirit and intent + unnecessary hardship.

Planning Board December 8th Agenda

Agenda for meeting: Not posted online, but legal notice sent to the Herald
1) 400 Washington Rd Accessory Dwelling Unit
2) 60 Wentworth Rd. WBTSCC expanding patio, pedestrian walkway, awning and moving practice green
3) Zoning and Building Ordinances (see above for changes)

Zoning Board of Adjustments:
Meets 1st Wednesday
Citizen's Handbook information: Click Here
Town of Rye Code Book: Click Here
Rye Beach Village District Zoning is independent of the Rye ZBA. Click Here
GIS Information: Click Here

Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting Minutes: November 4th

Recorded Video: Click Here
Draft Meeting Minutes: pre-draft: Click Here
1) 1-3 Cable Rd. Variances approved for lot coverage, height, freeboard and boundaries.
2) 61 Parsons Rd. Variances approved to reconstruct and expand shed. Variances also approved for garage addition.
3) 35 Frontier St. Expanding non-conforming building variances approved.
4) 1459 Ocean Blvd. Cupola above the height limit, was not accepted to be heard

Zoning Board of Adjustment: December 2nd

Agenda: Not published on the website, but the information was submitted to the Portsmouth Herald as a Legal Notice
1) 4 Washington Rd. Request for a rehearing and reconsideration.
2) 3 Merrymeeting Lane: Multiple wetland variances
3) 4 Washington Rd. Multiple wetland variances and more for a demolition and new non-conforming building. Special exception request for additional wetlands encroachments.

Rye Library

Library Strategic Plan page: Click Here
Library Usage Statistics: Click Here
Friends of RPL: Click Here
RPL Facebook page: Click Here
Citizen's Handbook information: Click Here

Library Board of Trustees: November 10th Meeting

Draft Meeting Minutes: Click Here
Recorded Video: Click Here
1 Library reported that they are ready for the next phase of re-opening.
2 LBOT of trustees were still waiting for the November 6th document prior to the planning board meeting
Parsonage Related LBOT meeting

November 17th Special Meeting:
Recorded Video: [Click Here]

November 13th: Meeting:
Recorded Video: [Click Here]

November 9th Meeting:
Draft Meeting Minutes [Click Here]

Reference documents:
1 Library Nov. 1, 2020 Statement. [Click Here]
   Library Trustees June Public Statement. [Click Here]
2. Letter to Select Board May 11th. [Click Here]
3. Letter on the Maintenance May 22nd [Click Here]
4. June 5th Library legal letter to the Select and Planning Boards. [Click Here]
   Survey Plans. [Plan A-1, Plan A-2, Plan B-1, Plan B-2]
   Parsonage Condition Report from 2015. [Click Here]
   Real Estate Appraisal [Click Here]
5. August Agreement posted by Select Board [Click Here]

Conservation Commission
Meets third Thursday of the month
Citizen's Handbook information: [Click Here]
Maps of Rye Conservation Maps [Click Here]
Conservation Parcels: [Click Here]
GRANIT Conservation Properties: [Click Here]
Goss Farm Information: [Click Here]
Land Conservation for Wetlands: [Click Here]
Town Forrest Management Plan: [Click Here]
Town Forrest Map: [Click Here]
Town Forrest trails: [Click Here]

Conservation Commission (CC) November

Recorded Video: [Click Here]
Draft Meeting minutes: Not available Agenda
4 and 10 Washington Rd. Site Walk agenda
RCL Meeting notes: [Click Here]
1) 60 Wentworth Rd. WBTSCC. 498 ft. long wall to protect against sea level rise. If it was 500ft. the Army Corps of Engineers would need to be involved. Estimated $50K impact mitigation payment to state Aquatic Fund.
2) 4 Washington Rd. Complex project as 71% of the parcel is in the wetland buffer.
3) 2420 Ocean Blvd. Paving stones to replace gravel, fencing and lawn proposed.
4) 2425 Ocean Blvd. New addition to home with two car garage, lot is in the wetlands buffer.

Rye Recreation
First Monday of the month
Citizen's Handbook information: [Click Here]
Program Flyers: [Click Here]
Online Registration page: [Click Here]
Recreation 2011 Master Plan: [Click Here]

Recreation Commission Meeting: November 2nd

Recorded Video:
Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here]
1) Administrative and Programs Assistant has been assisting the Town Clerk/Tax Collectors office.
2) Recreation fields were voted to be closed until the Spring evaluation.
3) Click Here to see the Ribbon Cutting for the new Storage Facility.
4) Rye After School lost the RES space and is looking at possibly using Seacoast Science Center space for working parents.
5) Investigating ways of having some winter basketball programs.
6) Recreation playground equipment was damaged. Investigating how to repair.
7) Fall Soccer program went well.

Heritage, Historic & Demolition

Citizen's Handbook: Heritage
Citizens Handbook: Historic District

Rye Heritage Merchandise: Click Here
Heritage Commissions donations: Click Here
Heritage Facebook Page: Click Here
Historic District Booklet #4: Click Here
Demolition Review Procedure: Click Here

Heritage Commission: November 12th and 19th

Draft meeting Nov. 12th minutes: Click Here
Recorded Video Nov. 12th: Click Here
Recorded Video Nov. 19th: Click Here
1) Three HDC and Demo Review changes were vetted with the Planning Board.
2) Discussion of the 2012 State Law addressing small graveyards and that the Select Board has designated the Historic Commission to be responsible.
3) LCHIP and Friends of Rye Town Hall money is ready to update the windows. Hopefully this work can be completed this Spring.
4) Town Hall has been added to the National Register of Historic Places.
5) Working with Friends of Pulpit Rock Tower to identify repairs to be completed before a second assessment is completed.
6) Mae Bradshaw will be the next recipient of the Louise Tallman award for preservation.
7) Commission investigating taking ownership of the historic gazebo at the Ocean Wave Hotel property.

Historic District Commission Meetings November 24th

Recorded Video: Click Here
Draft meeting minutes: Click Here

Demolition Review: Demolition November 2nd and 23rd

November 23rd Video: Click Here
November 2nd Video: Click Here
Draft meeting minutes Nov 2nd: Click Here
1) 100 Parsons R. not architecturally significant
2) Plan to reach out to new home owners so they are aware of the significance of their new homes.

Rye Town Center Committee

Select Board wants to acquire the TD Bank before updating the charter for this planning group.

Energy & Recycling

Rye Energy Reports: Click Here
Recycling Brochure: Click Here
Food Compost Program: Click Here
Zero Waste Presentation: Click Here
Rye Energy Committee Meeting: Nov. 10th

Recorded Video: Click Here
Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Click Here
1) School Board approved the PPA agreement and it is in legal review. Installation is planned for late Spring or the Summer.
2) RES Energy Management System is old and RJH does not have an Energy Management System. RJH HVAC system is 24 years old.
3) Research will continue on a Community Power plan.
4) Eversource asked for a 24% increase in distribution charges, but was only allowed a 4.6% increase. This works out to a $0.50 per 100 KWh per month.

Rye Recycling Education Committee February 18th

1. Plan for 2020 discussed
2. International Composting week discussed
3. Virtual Swap shop discussed

Mosquito

Mosquito Complaint Form: Click Here
2020 Mosquito Control Notice: Click Here
Dragon Mosquito Program Overview: Click Here

Mosquito Commission Meeting: Oct. 20th

Recorded Video: Click Here
Draft meeting minutes: Click Here
1) Rye has a Stink Bug and Seed Bug infestation. The Stink Bugs will stink if you crush them and the Seed Bugs will stain things.
2) Portion of the catch basin program is organic and portions of the larvaciding of the marsh is organic but Dragon Mosquito Control does not recommend an all organic program.
3) The majority of what Rye uses is VectoBac at $2.00 a pound and 10 pounds are needed per acre.
4) A residual product could be $8.50 to $10.50 or more and increase the budget by $20K to $25K per year.
5) Discussion of a name change as the Commission looks at more than mosquitos. Also, the Commission is not set up for alternates.

Beach Committee

2018 Beach Committee Report: Click Here
Parking Assessment Study: Click Here

Beach Committee November 18th meeting

Recorded Video: Click Here
Draft meeting minutes: Click Here
1) Selectman Epperson presented a list of past and ongoing issues (see minutes)
2) Members took pictures of eel grass plantings that consume pubic beach
3) Asked why all past members quit. Editors Note: Editor believes Committee was not provided the answer.
4) Beach testing was discussed.
5) Committee will engage with RJH and RESs Principal about Student activities.
**Budget, CIP and Trust Funds**

CIP Plans: [Click Here]

Town 2020 Budget:

Town 2020 MS-7:

Town 2020 Budget Sheet:

RWD Budget: [Click Here]

RBVD Budget: [Click Here]

JBVD Budget: [Click Here]

School Budget: [Click Here]

RCL Budget Analysis:

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**Capital Improvement Plan Nov 19th**

Draft Meeting Minutes: None

Recorded Video: [Click Here]

1 Meetings being held, but no meeting minutes available

2) Older minutes are also not available

3) 2021-2026 Final Draft of the CIP is available [Click Here]

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**Trustee of the Trust Funds Oct. 14th meeting**

Draft Meeting Minutes: [Click Here]

Recorded Video: [Click Here]

1 Funds are tracking the S&P Value Index, so down about 11%, while the S&P Index is up 5% due to its high tech exposure

2) Shares were liquidated and other purchases were made. See the minutes for details

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**Rye Related Activities**

Your copy should address 3 key questions: Who am I writing for? (Audience) Why should they care? (Benefit) What do I want them to do here? (Call-to-Action)

Create a great offer by adding words like "free" "personalized" "complimentary" or "customized." A sense of urgency often helps readers take an action, so think about inserting phrases like "for a limited time only" or "only 7 remaining!"

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**Rye Related At Home Activities**

These are some activities with a Rye connection.

1. Library has online services [Click Here] Scroll down from home page also RPL News Letter e-mail to be added. Will be weekly while library is closed.

2. Take care of some Town Hall business online. Property, Car, Dog, Beach Stickers

3. Zoom into Town Meetings. Zoom help. Go to meeting agendas for each meeting. Note, TownHall Streams is capturing the Zoom recordings and you can participate.

4. Rye Historical Society Activities
   a) Download the Rye Beach Walking Tour and take an isolated walk
   b) Have an interesting Rye Story - record a story core
   c) Go to Resources Page for even more.
   d) Sunday 5pm reading of L.B. Parson's History of Rye. Facebook Streaming. They are posted on YouTube afterwards. [Click Here]
   e) Access Rye History Image Catalog

5 Explore Rye Trails (at a safe distance) [Click Here] for trails and where to park.

6. Find people you know who don't get the Rye Civic News by sending them the Civic News or the Link to sign up. Residents must request to be on distribution.

Note, this should include college students who can and should vote locally

7. Read up on Rye - for very interesting information
Free sections of Alex Herlihy's draft New History of Rye book
History Information from Alex H: Concerns in Rye, History of Rye Housing, RCL Tools: Parson's Creek, Rye Last 50/Next 50 years Water in Rye, Skim the Citizens' Handbook and more. Also - if groups are interested in topics, the RCL will schedule Zoom video calls.

Town Reference Documents on the Town Web Site

Rye History Museum: Click Here
Rye Police Home page: Click Here
Fire Department Facebook: Click Here
Rye Beach & Jeness Beach District Information: Click Here
NH's Citizen's Count: 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

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:

Other Town Activity

Rye Town Handbook from the Rye Civic League:
NOTE: 2020 Update is available at the Library, the Lazy Bird, Native 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.
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 partly 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...
- 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, RPL 7pm
- 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](http://www.ryecivicleague.org) or by mail to Rye Civic League P.0. 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.