February 2021

RCL Facebook Page 2020 Citizens' Handbook (Click Here) www.ryecivicleague.org SIGN UP



### January 2021 Highlights

SIGN UP

1) New Election Dates:

June 1st: School Deliberative Town Meting

.June 5th: Town Deliberative Meeting

.July 13th: Voting Day

2) Town Warrant Click Here. All but the Zoning Ordinances can be changed at the Deliberative Town Meeting.

School Warrant:: Click Here

Table of who is running for offices: Click Here

#### **Warrant Articles of note:**

#5) Town Budget \$10,754,667. MS7 (no summary sheet) School Budget #1) \$14,860,999

#6) TAP Grant for sidewalks \$300K from the Town, ,\$500K from the State

#7) \$350K for the building of the Salt Shed (\$350K used in 2020)

#8) \$300K for a Mini Fire Pumper

#9) \$200K for backhoe/front-end loader

#13) Establish a Conservation Maintenance Fund with \$45K

#19) Allow the Select Board to sell the Parsonage Land if the swap does not go through

#21) Changes to the Parsonage Swap/Exchange agreement

- 3) Final candidates for the full time Finance Director will be interviewed. We will then have a full time Town Administrator and Finance Director. Still looking for part time building inspector
- 4) New Flood Plain maps are effective as of January 29th. Seespecial Civic News
- 5) Town Attorney effort to change the zoning for the Breakers on Ocean Blvd (business to residential) was dropped from the ballot after residents lawyers defended the residents who were never consulted about the change. Discussion starts at 25:00 on video. A similar zoning change for Rye Harbor area remained on the ballot even though similar arguments hold.
- 6) ZBA denied the Library Board of Trustees request for Administrative Appeal for the Parsonage property Notice of Decision.
- 7) Historic Commission reviewed the current plans for the private development on the Parsonage property. January 5th Recorded Video, ... Section of minutes Click here, Captured Images: Click Here January 7th Recorded Video: Click here.....January 19th Recorded Video: Click Here.....January 26th recorded video: Click Here
- 8) Beach Committee did not know how severe the Parson's Creek Watershed pollution is Click Here for

#### 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 ... 2 Alternates Vacancies
Board of Adjustment. 2 Alternates Vacancies
Rye Heritage Commission I. 1 Alternate Vacancies
CIP Committee I. 1 Member Vacancy
Energy Committee I 2 Member Vacancy
Recycling Education Committee I 1 Member Vacancy

#### **General Announcements**

- 1) Covid-19 Vaccination Information: Click Here Covid FAQs Click Here
- 2) Two major site developments. TRC February 3rd and Planning Board February 9th
  - .a) 4 Lot Subdivision at 850 Washington Rd.
  - .b) 3,496 sf Farmstead at 33 Sagamore Rd (roundabout)
- 3) Kindergarten and Grade 1 Registration is now open. Please use this <u>Registration Link</u> and if you know others with children that age, please share this as it is crucial for the school planning. <u>More Information</u>
- 4) Pulpit Rock Tower volunteer contractors needed. Star Island Builders has stepped up, who else can? E-mail if you can help.
- 5) Rye Library Trustees will be holding and information call in the next few weeks to communicate recent activities related to the Parsonage land.
- 6) Resident opinion on the Master Plan. Click Here
- 7) Rye PTA, Rye Education Fund and Civic League Presidents explain their groups. Click Here
- 8) Assessment Data: Online views of town lots Click Here
- 9). 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 <u>Town Agendas</u> for the Zoom information or physical location

Rye Civic League Monthly Meeting last Wednesday of the month: 7pm Zoom

Feb. 2nd. Energy Committee
Feb. 2nd. Budget Committee.
Feb. 3rd Rye Water District
Feb. 3rd Rye Water District
Feb. 11th : Conservation Conservation

Feb. 3rd Rye Water District
Feb. 3rd TRC

Feb. 11th : Conservation Commission
Feb. 11th Heritage Commission

Feb. 3rd. ZBA . Feb. 22nd Select Board

Feb. 3rd RTCC.

Feb. 8th Select Board . Feb.. 11th. Select Board

#### Rye and COVID-19

- 1) State vaccine information. Click Here
- 2. Existing Rye Online Networking (FB = Facebook)

Town of Rye FB, Rye Police FB, Rye Civic League FB, Library FB, Rye Schools FB, Historical Society FB, DPW FB, NextDoor/Rye

3. Rye Helping Hands & Covid Kindness FB Group



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 January 25th**

Video Recording: Click Here

Draft Meeting Minutes: Not Available

1) Meeting was only 18 minutes long.

- 2) Finalized that the Town Deliberative Meeting and the Town Vote will move under the Governor's order.
- 3) Yes, that is all. Meeting was only 18 minutes

### Select Board Non Public Meetings

January 25th: Personnel

### **Select Board Meeting January 20th**

Video Recording: Click Here
Draft Meeting Minutes: Click Here

- 1) Worked out the wording for a warrant article that will allow the Select Board to sell the Parsonage land if the swap/exchange does not move forward. Number 19 on the warrant.
- 2) Continuing interviewing for the Finance Director Role. Difficulty finding a part time Building Inspector.

# **Select Board Meeting: January 11th**

Recorded Video: Click Here
Draft meeting minutes: Click Here

- 1) Rye will work with the Portsmouth led effort to hire a lobbyist to fight the return of Donor Town payments for schools. Note: This never went away, the State just stopped collecting. Read Portsmouth Herald story. Click Here
- 2) Accepting the Highway Safety Grant for driver behavior through signage, educati0on and enforcement.



# Rye Schools

Meets 3rd Wednesday at RJH

Covid-19 Return to School Plan: Click Here
Most current Covod-19 Plans: Click Here

School Policies: Click Here

Rye 2021-2022 Budget Details: Summary Details

Rye PTA: Click Here

SAU50 Superintendent Bulletin: <u>January 2021</u>
Rye Education Foundation: <u>Click Here</u>
Citizen's Handbook information: <u>Click Here</u>
Introduction to PTA, REF and RCL: <u>Click Here</u>

#### **School Board Meeting: January Meetings**

Recorded Video: None Draft Meeting Minutes: None

**\$14,860,999** 2021-2022 Budget Summary Budget Detail

2021 School Warrant Articles: Click Here

- 1) Board votes (5-0) to approve Article 01 setting the 2021-2022 Operating Budget at \$14,860,999
- **2)** Board votes (5-0) to approve Article 02 establishing a Technology Expendable Trust Fund for the purpose of funding future technology needs in Rye School District Article
- **3)** Board votes (5-0) to approve Article 03 to increase the retention of unused portion of the year-end unassigned general fund to 5% of the current fiscal year's net assessment.
- **4)** Board votes (5-0) to approve Article 04 to enter into an easement agreement with ReVision Energy to install roof-mounted solar systems at Rye Elementary School and Rye Junior High School, and further to authorize the School Board to enter into a Solar Purchase Agreement
- 5) January 20th, Budget Committee supports Articles 1, 2 & 4 10-0

## **SAU 50 Joint Board Meeting:**

No update



#### 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

RWD 101 Information: Click Here

PFAS Testing updates page: Click Here

2020 RWD Quality Report: Click Here

2020 Projects presentation: Click Here

2021 Infrastructure Report Card: Click Here

2021 Report Click Here

2020 RWD Quality Report: Click Here

### Rye Water District January 6th

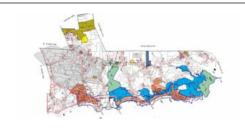
Draft Meeting Minutes: NOT POSTED

Wallis Rd. and Garland Well project overview. Click Here

- 1) Two Right to Know requests
- 2) 2021 Budget discussion

# Sewer Commission Meeting: No January meeting

No meeting



#### **Planning Board**

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month Citizen's Handbook Information: Click Here

Master Plan: Click Here

Master Plan since 2014: Click Here and Here FEMA Floodplain presentation: Click Here

Rye Code Book: Click Here

Parson's Creek Pollution Information: Click Here

GIS Information: Click Here

# Long Range Planning (aka Master Plan)

- **1.** Visioning Sessions that were discussed were removed from draft planning agenda and topic has not been discussed in public.
- 2. Dominique Winebaum, commentator/contributor during past Master Plan updates, provides a synopsis of the status of the Rye Master Plan and comments on how the Town could proceed with the next update of the Master Plan. Click Here

### **Technical Review Meeting: January 27th**

Record Video: Click Here

Draft Meeting minutes: Not available

- 1) Long John Rd property drainage issues and other technical matters for making 3 lots fit into this property.
- 2) Fertilizer impact discussion with Danna Turslow

#### <u>Technical Review Committee: February 3rd Agenda:</u>

Draft Agenda. Click Here (added posted Feb. 1st)

- 1) 850 Washington Rd. Major 4 lot sub-division
- 2) 33 Sagamore Rd. (roundabout) Major Site Development 3,496sf Farmstead building and parking
- 3) 146 Perkins driveway on the lot line

## Planning Board meeting: January 12th

Recorded Video: Click Here

Town Draft Meeting Minutes: Not posted (again)

- 1) Long John Road subdivision continued, but Technical Review scheduled for January 27th
- **2)** Cable Road lot merger did not have a mortgage cleared before the lot merger. Board granted a conditional approval.
- **3)** Breakers residents push back on re-zoning of their properties as they were never consulted by the Town Attorney prior to his pushing this forward. Video starts at 25:00. This was removed from the Warrant, but a similar article for the Rye Harbor area was left on the ballot.
- 4) All other ordinances placed on the ballot.
- **5)** Stoneleigh Rd. (420 South Rd. Development) Planning Board and Conservation continue to work with the developer as conditions were not met and other actions happened.
- **6)** Planning Board member notes how the Zoom meetings helps with looking at drawings and keeps everyone focused on the same drawings. Note: As "packets" are not posted online this has been the only way the public can see the same information

### Rules and Regulations:

**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.

1) Zoning and Ordinances can no longer be changed and must be votes as is. See the first few pages of the Warrant to see what is on the ballot: Click Here

Z 2021-01 HDC: No longer posted.

Z 2021-02 Demolition: Clarifies what is outside of the Historic District. Now Article 3 Amendment 1

Z 2021-03 Demo Abutter: Closed loop for notifications Now A3 Amend 2

<u>Z 2021-5 Rye Harbor Business Districts</u>: Changes area to residential (impacted people may not know). A2 Amend 3

Z 2021-6 Breakers: Changes from business to residential (residents were not consulted) REMOVED

Z 2021-7 Pervious: New definition A3 Amend 4

Z 2021-8 Parking Spaces: Corrects mistake from years ago. Width now 9 feet Article 3 Amend 5

<u>Z 2021-9 Wetland boundary</u> disputes should not first go to Planning, not start with the ZBA Article 3 Amend 6

Z 2021-10: Wetlands and Vernal pools (seasonal water) to be identified by a wetland scientist A3 Amend

7

<u>Z 2021-11 Wetlands definition</u> working change and updates reference document A3 Amend 8 <u>BC 2021-01 Flood references:</u> Changes reference description Article 4

These are not on the Ballot and have been enacted.

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

LDR 2021-4 Impervious and pervious definitions.

LDR 2021-5 Allows another way for the Planning Board to waive site plan review

### Planning Board February 9th Agenda

Agenda for meeting: Click Here

- 1) 711 Long John Rd. Subdivision of lot into three lots.
- 2) 850 Washington Rd. Major 4 lot sub-division with a road
- 3) 33 Sagamore Rd (at the Roundabout) farmstead building and parking. Note on Portsmouth Sewer
- 4) 146 Perkins Rd. Driveway variances

# Code of the Town of Rye

COUNTY OF ROCKINGHAM

NEW HAMPSHIRE

## **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: January 6th

Recorded Video: Click Here

Draft Meeting Minutes: pre-draft: Click Here

- 1) Board voted unanimously to dismiss the Library Board of Trustees request for Administrative appeal of allowing 500 Washington Rd (Parsonage property developer) to skip the site plan, to use grandfathered set backs and not require variances for parking requirements. <a href="Case #03-2011 NOD">Case #03-2011 NOD</a>
- 2) 0 Merymeeting Lane. Site walk January 16, 2021 Continued to February 3rd along with the discussion if the Protective Covenants of Parsonage Woods remain un-amended, valid and enforceable (and if so by whom).
- 3) 314 Brackett Rd. Granted 5-0 special exceptions (with 7 conditions) for driveway in the wetlands and buffer. <u>Case #1-2021 NOD</u> Land is being conveyed to the Conservation Commission.

# Zoning Board of Adjustment: January 6th

Agenda: Click Here (posted online Feb 1st)

- 1) 2 Merrymeeting Lane New house construction, in wetland buffers and tree removal
- 2) 2257 Ocean Blvd. Requests equitable waiver of dimensional requirements
- 3) 18 Park Ridge Ave. Lot 10 replace an existing deck
- 4) 795 Washington Rd. Webster at Rye. requesting a two year extension to the Special Exception from 2019
- 5) 27 F Street: Installing a propane tank
- 6) 1367 Ocean Blvd. Expansion of a non conforming building



### 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 (LBOT): January 5th

Draft Meeting Minutes:: <u>Click Here</u> Recorded Video: <u>Click Here</u>

- 1) Library Director reports continued use of the browsing appointments, computer sessions and foyer services
- 2) Staff is training for the new Koha Operating system, that the State and other local libraries are migrating to.
- 3) Library is discussing if the Conservation Commission can help acquire lands associated with the Swap

### Parsonage Related LBOT meeting

#### January 12th Special Meeting:

Draft Meeting Minutes: Click Here

1) Trustees met to discuss a <u>November 11th letter</u> from the 500 Washington Rd. Developer posted. Note, while this says confidential, but the author posted on Facebook

#### Reference documents:

- 1) December 28th Statement to Select Board. Click Here
- 1 Library November 1st Statement. <u>Click Here</u> Letter from 500 Washington LLC. <u>Click Here</u> Library Trustees June Public Statement. <u>Click Here</u>
- 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) January 12th

Recorded Video: <u>Click Here</u> Draft Meeting minutes: not posted

1) January 21st Site Walk: Whitehorse Drive, end of the cul-de-sac, to assess the entrance to the

conservation land trail

2) Two Non Public Sessions were also held during the month per RSA 91-A:3, II (d) Acquisition

Minutes Meetings and Site Walks: Draft minutes not available at press time



#### **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: No December meeting

No Meeting information



#### Heritage, Historic & Demolition

Citizen's Handbook: <u>Heritage</u>
Citizens Handbook: <u>Historic District</u>

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: January 14th**

Draft meeting: Click Here

Recorded Video January Click Here

- 1) Gazebo Fundraising was discussed, about \$10K is the estimated need.
- 2) Commission will re-engage with LCHIP about future grants
- 3) At least one local contractors (Star Island Builders) has stepped up for one project more are needed for the Pulpit Rock Tower
- 4) If passed, House Bill 164 will have the Historic and Heritage involved prior to municipal buildings being demolished.

# **Historic District Commission Meeting January 5th**

January 5th Recorded Video: <u>Click Here</u>
Draft meeting minutes: <u>Click Here</u>

January 7th: Recorded Video: Click Here
January 19th: Recorded Video: Click Here
January 26th Recorded Video: Click Here
Drawings captured for these Zoom: Click Here

#### January 5th are the only draft meeting minutes:

1) As the plans for what 500 Washington LLC has planned for the Parsonage lot were to be discussed, two members were moved to "advisory" as they had participated in a suit to prevent the demolition of the

Parsonage building.

- 2) Detailed discussion of the current plans for the Parsonage property development.
- ....a) Just those pages from the minutes. Click Here
- ....b) Images cut from the Zoom call Click Here
- 3) Certified Local Government education program will be the Summer of 2021
- 4) Historic Structure Task Force will begin meeting

#### **Demolition Review: Demolition January15th**

Recorded Video: Click Here

### Rye Town Center Committee January 4th

Recorded video: <u>Click Here</u>
Draft meeting minutes: <u>Click Here</u>

- 1) New Charter reviewed and discussed. Click Here for charter
- 2) The TAP grant article (same as last year) is on the warrant with the same efforts required.



### **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: January 5th

Recorded Video: Click Here

Draft Town Meeting Minutes: Click Here

- 1) Good description of what a Solar Power Purchase agreement in theminutes
- 2) Eversource funded energy review showed that all that can be reasonably be done, has been done.

When systems need to be replaced that is when they can become more energy efficient.

- 3) Everosource distribution changes are going up and offsetting lower rates.
- 4) New lights for the Library and Transfer station have been ordered and are expected to reduce energy costs by 20%.
- 5) 2021 Plans are to:
  - a) continue to support the School Solar PPA project
- . b) continue to research Community Power and work with Select Board to establish a committee to create a plan
  - c) invite representative Jaci Grote to discuss energy initiatives and legislation
  - d) invite Rye building inspector to understand building codes relating to efficiency
- e) provide short educational presentations to Rye residents on topics such as heat pumps, NHSaves incentives, LED lighting and solar

# **Rye Recycling Education Committee:**

No meeting information

#### Mosquito

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



### **Mosquito Commission Meeting:**

No January meeting



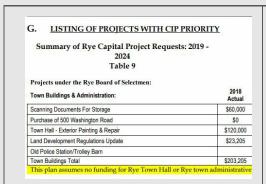
#### **Beach Committee**

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

## **Beach Committee January 6th**

Draft Meeting Minutes: Click Here
Recorded Video: Click Here

- 1) RJH and RES are interested in engaging with the Beach Committee around an Earth Day clean up
- 2) Working with Steve Jones at UNH and Surf Rider about beach testing during the shoulder seasons
- 3) Members should review the Ogunquit River Water Action Alliance website
- 4) Steven Borne was the guest speaker focusing on the polluted Parson's Creek
- a) The town said 1/2 the money from beach stickers could go to beach monitoring, tis was never repealed and should still be available for that purpose
- . b) Contamination is getting worse and members admitted that they did no realize it was this bad. Over 104 is a risk, can't count above the 24,000 number. See 2017, 2018 and 2019 numbers. State stopped testing in 2020 and the Town did not step in to keep this going
- c) Selectman Epperson pointed out animals can be a contributor and more state funded work on that will be done this summer.
- d) Borne pointed out that the State told Rye in 2017 that regardless of animals Parsons's Creek has almost twice as many leach fields as the land can support. Click Here



#### **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:

# Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

1) Click Here for notice of Public Hearing, but the discussion was never opened up for public comment.

### 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 theminutes for details

#### Budget Committee: January 7th, 13th and 14th

- 1) Account Balanced are to be e-mailed to committee members. Resident also requested these but they have not been provided.
- 2) \$350K for the Salt Shed approved 8-1, will be 9-0 if DRA will change wording.
- 3) Goss Farm articles asked to be combined



#### Rye Related Activities

# Rye Related At Home Activities

These are some activities with a Rye connection.

- Library has online services <u>Click Here</u> Scroll down from <u>home page</u> also RPL News Letter <u>e-mail</u> 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. <u>Facebook Streaming</u>. They are posted on YouTube afterwards. <u>Click Here</u>
  - e) Access Rye History. Image Catalog.
- 5 Explore Rye Trails (at a safe distance) <u>Click Here</u> 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 <u>Link to sign up</u>. 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: <u>Parson's Creek</u>, <u>Rye Last 50/Next 50 years</u> <u>Water in Rye</u>, Skim the <u>Citizens' Handbook</u> and more. Also - if groups are interested in topics, the RCL will schedule Zoom video calls.

#### **Additional Town related Web Sites**

Rye History Museum: <u>Click Here</u>
Rye Police Home page: <u>Click Here</u>
Rye Police Facebook Page: <u>Click Here</u>
Rye Police Facebook Page: <u>Click Here</u>

Fire Department Facebook: Click Here

Rye Beach & Jeness Beach District Information: Click Here

NH's Citizen's Count: 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.

<u>Click Here for a PDF version of the handbook</u>

#### 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 <a href="mailto:civicnews@ryecivicleague.org">civicnews@ryecivicleague.org</a>

#### 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).

<u>Our annual costs are:</u> 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!!!!

The Rye Civic League is a non-profit 501 c3 organization

Click Here to make an online membership donation via Paypal including via a credit card.

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 <a href="https://www.ryecivicleague.org">www.ryecivicleague.org</a> 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.