

April Rye Town Center Committee
Rye Civic League Notes

April 1 Meeting Draft Minutes [CLICK HERE](#)
April 7 Meeting Draft Minutes [CLICK HERE](#)
April 1 Meeting Video Streaming [CLICK HERE](#)
April 7 Meeting Video Streaming [CLICK HERE](#)

Highlights

1. Trolley Barn: Committee concludes that they will not recommend to the Select Board to hold on selling Trolley Barn until more discussion can be had.
2. TD Bank Building: Expected to be fully occupied by October however funds from Trolley Barn sale are required to complete renovations
3. Speed Limits: Committee agrees to send letter to Police Chief and Select Board recommending lowered speed limits and other traffic easing measures in Town Center

Details

Trolley Barn

The Committee discussed the possibility of asking the Select Board to hold on selling the Trolley Barn. With property values rising and available property decreasing some members expressed concern that there would be no available locations for storage. Two issues: 1. The Trolley Barn request for bids has already been sent out. The property will be sold to highest bidder. 2. The members of the committee did not agree that taking on the disposition of this property is something they want to pursue. The committee members do agree that they need to focus more on the plan and vision for town center.

TD Bank

The bank building is not beautiful. There are a few simple exterior changes that would make it fit in better with the character of the town center. No vote was taken on this item. If the exterior of the bank building is to be changed that would go before the Historic District Commission. Everyone agrees the committee needs to focus on planning.

Town Center Traffic

The speed limit through the center of town on Washington Road and continuing onto Central Road is 30 mph. You would never know it if you lived in this area or walk, run, or bike the roads. Cars and trucks speed through this corridor putting pedestrians and cyclist in harms way. While waiting for the results of the TAP grant the committee has come up with a proposal to make this area more livable. The proposal includes lowering the speed limit, removing the right turn lane from Lang Road onto Washington Road, and painting the shoulder in front of Town Hall and the Congregational Church to make it clear it's not a travel lane. A letter was drafted by the committee chair and sent to the

Select Board and Chief of Police. The Chief sent an email response to the committee essentially saying no to all proposals. As of this writing the response of the Select Board is unknown.