

**Rye Public Library
Board of Trustees – Minutes
Public Organizational Meeting
June 21, 2021**

Present: Trustees Karen Oliver, Victor Azzi, Jeffrey Ross, Christine LeBlond, Michael Moody, and Director Andrew Richmond

The Board of Trustees held a public meeting, for any members of the Rye Community interested to participate in the process of creating a Public Park at the corner of Washington Road and Olde Parish Road, including how it relates to planning for potential future expansion of the Rye Public Library.

The Chair of the Board, Jeff Ross, welcomed those in attendance and gave a brief statement describing the purpose of the meeting. He then introduced Janet Davis, facilitator for the meeting who engaged the attendees with questions to generate suggestions for possible uses, activities, physical features, and other attributes that the community would like to see in the Public Park and its relationship with the RPL building. The suggestions generated at the meeting are attached.

The Board asked for participants who are interested in continuing to work on an advisory committee over the next six to nine months to guide the process of taking Monday's findings further into the design process. Periodic meetings will be held with members of the BOT and/or with the Architect and Landscape Architect who has been working with the BOT.

Director Richmond will reach out to those individuals who signed up to be on the advisory committee with details for the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine LeBlond
Secretary
June 30, 2021

Rye Public Library
Public Meeting Notes
6-21-21

Features

Covered pavilion
Playground items for kids
Something “Iconic”
Rotating Art Display
Geographic Layout of Pavers (in the shape of a wheel with spokes to the four corners)
Interactive Pavers for kids
Consistency of Lighting throughout Town Center
Pathway for a stroll
Solar Panels
Ice Sculptures
War Memorial (relocate)
Ice Rink
XC skiing (out back)
A “soft” location for info about activities/places around town
Grassy area for picnics and blankets
Performance Stage (Half-Shell)
Bike Rack
Water-Filling Station
Dog waste baggie distribution
Game area – checkers, chess, shuffleboard, molke, etc.

Landscaping/Green

Ensure non-resource intensive
Retaining Trees/Border Trees along Washington Road
Trees that mirror those across the street
Period Gardens (Historic District)
Native plantings
Fruit Trees – Cherry!
Natural landscaping
Water Feature
Shade!

Programs/Activities

Reading
Book exchange
Story walk
Story time
Speakers, poetry reading (outdoor classroom)
Historical demonstrations/reenactments
Movie Night
Star Watches/Astronomy
Kite Flying
Music
Group Fitness
 Yoga
 Activities for older adults

Art Classes/Sessions

Pottery/spinning

Farmer's Market

Gardening

Craft Fair

Winter Carnival/Holiday Fair

First Night Rye!

Destination for Field Trips

Junior High Gathering Place

Birthday parties

Parent/Guardian gathering while kids are in library

Getting a book when library is closed

Important Themes

Simplicity is Key

Friendly/welcoming

Parameters are important

Multi-generational

Cross Programming with other orgs.

Meeting place

Place for Rest/Meditation/Daydreaming

Refreshments

Hot Cocoa and Lemonade Stand

Food Trucks

Barbecue

Coffee

PARKING LOT ITEMS

Committee should include children and neighbors

Incorporate/coordinate with Parsons Field

Planning should occur in coordination with other projects

Consider infrastructure (parking, water, storage, etc.)

Link to town website

Create full- and part-time volunteer opportunities

Involve Driftwood Garden Club