

February 10th, 2022 Rye Conservation Commission Meeting
RCL Notes

Draft Official Minutes: [CLICK HERE](#)

Meeting Video Stream: [CLICK HERE](#)

Highlights

Discussion of prohibited and allowed uses for Jim Raynes Forest and Brown Lane Farm: hunting, trails, impacts on endangered Atlantic White Cedar swamp

Leashes will required on the 62 acre conservation portion of the Town Forest from March 15- July 15th as they were in 2021

Wetlands

1641 Ocean Blvd, Tax Map 13, Lot 21 Owner: Mary Ellen and Jack Madden

Alex Ross: Ross Engineering

Second story deck and pervious patio within the 100' wetland setback to the tidal marsh

A 10' x 11' deck (expanded) and small pervious patio in the 100' buffer is proposed, at 38' from the wetland. It was noted that mowing of the buffer was occurring and owner will propose some plantings. A site walk was scheduled.

691 Brackett Rd., Tax Map 17, Lot 34 Owner: Reaney

Corey Colwell: TF Moran and Justin Macek Barn renovation in the wetland buffer zone

Home was renovated in 2012 but barn was not and is planned to be (without plumbing). There is no inside parking and owners would like to have an addition to the side of the barn (428sq ft) for parking as well as a small deck. 38% of the addition would be in the wetland buffer with total new impervious area 925 sq ft. There are 2 wetlands on the 9.6 acre property including an adjacent seasonal stream. The addition would be 60 feet from the wetland and 2500 sq feet of lawn would be removed with 1500 sq feet of new landscaping is proposed. A swale is proposed with 15-16" of stone is proposed for storm water infiltration. Some concerns were expressed about driving over the stone to access the barn.

A site walk with swale and driveway staked was scheduled.

46 Appledore Ave., Tax Map 19, Lot 47 Owner: Alan Cumings Jr.

Window replacement with dormers within the Shoreland Protection Area

After the fact application. The owner was replacing windows and realized rafters were rotten and while replacing put in dormer and egress windows. While the work appears within the building foot print the Building Inspector for consistency sake as the property is within the Shoreland Protection Area asked that the owner come before the CC. CC members will visit site and confirm no expansion of footprint.

Prohibited and allowed uses for Jim Raynes Forest and Brown Lane Farm

While hunting is allowed on the adjacent CC Cedar Run property it is not allowed and neither is access on the Nature Conservancy's also the contingent Atlantic Cedar Swamp property. Should hunting be allowed in the Jim Raynes Forest was discussed. The owner of the Brown Farm has requested no hunting on those lands.

It was said that when lands go from private to public it is more difficult to restrict and with the influence of social media hunting tends to increase. Many lands are appropriate for hunting (such as adjacent Cedar Run property) and the Rye deer population is large. It was generally agreed that the White Atlantic Cedar swamp portion of the Forest should be carved out from hunting and public access to protect it and that a plan should be developed for the various access and for hunting.

Discussion of leashes required on the CC portion of the Town Forest from March 15-July 15th

Last year as a trial, leashes was required on the 62 acres during "nesting and breeding" season. While there is not as much data on the impacts of this policy, the area is wet, deer look for food there late in winter and 62 acres undisturbed can benefit wildlife. The rec (middle) trail will remain closed. The commission voted to continue to require leashes in 2022.