

Rye Beach Committee
Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 21, 2022
5:30 p.m. – Rye Town Hall

Members present: Chair Mary-Ann Sullivan, Cybele Grier, Joan Zofnass, and Selectman Bill Epperson

1. Call to Order

Chair Sullivan called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance. Alternate Zofnass was seated for the meeting.

2. Public Comment

None

3. Approval of Minutes – October 19, 2022

Motion by Bill Epperson to approve the minutes of October 19, 2022 as presented. Seconded by Anne Baker. All in favor.

4. Other Business

Note: *Taken out of posted agenda order (as shown in minutes)*

The Committee changed the dates for meetings in January and February due to conflicts with holidays. It was agreed to cancel the upcoming December 19th meeting.

- January meeting scheduled for Wednesday, 1/18/2023, 5:30 p.m.
- February meeting scheduled for Wednesday, 2/22/2023, 5:30 p.m.

5. Student Posters – Vote on final costs and design

The Committee reviewed the posters designed by Rye Elementary and Junior High Students. The project was organized by Member Anne Baker.

Motion by Joan Zofnass to approve the expenditure of \$129.40 for the posters. Seconded by Cybele Grier. All in favor.

6. 4 for 400 Beach Cleanup Plans

Chair Sullivan and Member Grier met with Andy Stecher, chair of the Rye 400 Committee, to discuss the idea of holding a beach cleanup event during 2023 as part of the Rye 400 Celebration. Four dates were chosen, which were based on the tides, timing, and the availability of the Blue Ocean Society. The beach cleanup dates are scheduled for the month of April. The dates are listed in the current Rye Town Newsletter and will be posted on Blue Ocean Society's website.

The Committee discussed the idea of holding a drawing at the end of the beach cleanup days for all who volunteered, as a way of encouraging people to attend the event. There was also discussion about the possibility of passing out a small gift, such as a sticker or wrist band, to everyone who volunteered to thank them for their participation. The Committee liked the idea of giving one larger prize at the end, (the winner to be chosen through a drawing), and a small giveaway item to all who volunteered. Chair Sullivan will check with Blue Ocean Society to see if they have something that may work. She will also look at options online.

7. Update on Shoulder Season Water Testing

Chair Sullivan noted that an update email on shoulder season testing was sent to all committee members. The testing during shoulder season is being done by the Surfrider Foundation with U.N.H. Jackson Lab. The results are posted on Surfrider Foundation's website. If there are any issues, NH DES is notified and results will be posted after their review. Any issues will also be reported to the Town's Emergency Management Team. More work needs to be done on notifications to the Beach Committee and the Select Board of any issues, so the beaches can be posted.

8. Recommended Placement for Bike Racks & Recommended Placement for Dog Waste Containers

Selectman Epperson noted that Public Works Director Jason Rucker has been notified of the Beach Committee's request for bike racks and dog waste containers. Director Rucker will notify the Beach Committee soon on the exact placements.

The Committee reviewed the list of their requested locations.

9. Update on Parking Survey 2023

Selectman Epperson has not had time to review.

10. Update on Parson's Creek Watershed Testing

Selectman Epperson will follow up on updates and report back to the Committee.

11. Open Member and Alternate Positions

There are currently five members with two alternates on the Committee. There could be one more member and one more alternate added, if someone is really interested. Alternate Zofnass expressed interest in becoming a full member.

Motion by Mary-Ann Sullivan to recommend to the Select Board that Joan Zofnass become a full member. Seconded by Bill Epperson. All in favor.

All were in favor of adjourning at 6:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Dyana Ledger