

TOWN OF RYE BEACH COMMITTEE

Wednesday, February 22, 2023

5:30 p.m.

Rye Town Hall

Committee Present: *Chair Mary-Ann Sullivan, Mary Connolly-Mitchell, Joan Zofnass, and Selectman Bill Epperson*

1. Call to Order

Chair Sullivan called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Public Comments

No public comments were heard.

3. Approval of Minutes – 1/18/2023

Motion by Bill Epperson to approve the minutes of January 18, 2023 as written. Seconded by Mary Connolly-Mitchell. All in favor.

4. Updates

a. 1st Civic Fest

The first Civic Fest was held at the Deliberative Session on February 4th. There were several committees who had displays. The Civic Fest was a success.

b. April Beach Cleanups, Stickers, and Gift Certificates

April beach cleanups are all set with the Blue Ocean Society. Gift certificates were purchased from Common Roots and stickers have been ordered. The Beach clean up dates have been added to the Rye400 list of events.

c. Bike Racks – Approved for Wallis & Cable

The bike racks for Wallis and Cable have been approved. Those will be put up mid-May.

d. Dog Waste Containers – Approved for Wallis & Cable

The dog waste containers are going to stay. Other places to locate the containers in accordance with the State will be considered.

e. Beach Parking Permits

Beach parking permits for 2023 are now available to purchase through the Town Clerk's Office. There has not been any pushback, thus far, on the revised beach parking permit policy.

f. Volunteer Survey on Parking Numbers in 2023

Selectman Epperson reported that he has not yet received a return call. No further information is available at this time.

g. Other

Selectman Epperson noted there are repairs going on for seawalls off E Street. The Building Inspector has visited the sites and confirmed that all permits are in place. Work is progressing and it will be finished as soon as possible.

5. New Business

a. Beach Walk with Fire & Police Departments

The Beach Committee discussed the possibility of holding a beach walk with the Fire and Police Chiefs. The purpose of the walk is to see if there are any safety concerns at the beaches that should be addressed.

Selectman Epperson noted there is beach access north of Sunrise Path. The steps at this access spot are going to be removed. The Town has no intention of replacing the steps. It is unknown who built the steps or when.

There was some discussion about beach access points that might be unsafe or "tricky" for people to access.

Member Zofnass noted that a platform to step down was built on F Street, as it's fairly steep.

Selectman Epperson commented that he will send the Committee a publication that shows all the beach access points for the Town.

The Beach Committee agreed it would be a good idea to look at the access points for safety and to be sure that nothing is blocking access. It's important to keep the access points open for safety personnel to access the beach with equipment, as well as just having it open for regular access.

- *Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 20th, 5:30 p.m., Rye Town Hall*

Motion by Bill Epperson to adjourn at 5:37 p.m. Seconded by Joan Zofnass. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted, Dyana F Ledger