

TOWN OF RYE – BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Friday, November 22, 2019
10:00 a.m. – Rye Town Hall

Present: Chair Phil Winslow and Vice-Chair Keriann Roman

Others Present: Recreation Director Lee Arthur, Conservation Commission Chair Sally King, Heritage Commission Chair Bev Giblin and resident Anne Decker

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Winslow called the meeting to order at 10:13 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance

II. GOSS FARM OPEN HOUSE & FARMERS MARKET COMMITTEE UPDATE

Chair Winslow started the discussion by stating that the event at the Goss Farm on September 22nd was a great success. Do we want to do the open house & farmers market again? Is there something else the Town should do? Does Conservation even want to allow, social activities and events at the Goss Farm?

III. RYE DAY UPDATE

Vice-Chair Roman suggested that for Rye Day, they could hold town-wide events and Goss Farm could be one of them. Rye Day would be in the fall. Every area in town that has a board or commission could showcase what they do. For example, the Library could have a book fair in their parking lot. The Historic Museum could have tours. So, for the day, there would be a published schedule that the residents could follow, in order to visit and experience those venues and Rye as a whole. At some point during the day, preferably at the beginning or the end, there would be a parade ending at Parsons Field. Initially, the idea was that at the end of the parade, there would be a big town-wide party at Parsons Field; however, that is not feasible the first year. Instead, there is talk of having a picnic.

Mrs. King recommended having the exhibits open for the duration of the event, which will help with parking and congestion.

Vice-Chair Roman agreed. She added that if Conservation wanted to do a special demonstration at a certain time, in addition to the barn tours, the hours of the demonstrations could be highlighted on an event card.

Mrs. King stated this idea is a lot less pressure on each location. She thinks that it is a great idea. She added that she looked over the easement and it emphasizes education as well as agriculture. The barn is used very heavily from May 1st to around September 10th, so to use it for other events during the growing season is difficult. But doing an educational event in the spring or fall is doable.

Ms. Arthur pointed out that this Rye Day concept would not be overly taxing. The different commissions and boards are already doing events during the year. She used the example of the Historical Society doing the trolley tours.

Mrs. King also suggested highlighting the Town Forest. From Parsons Field, the trail could be marked to the recreation area. People could walk the trail to the recreation area and then to the Goss Farm.

Ms. Arthur suggested asking the Lions Club and the PTA to sponsor a pancake breakfast at the school. If the idea is to showcase Rye, it is important to bring the school into the event. They have the kitchen and the seating to pull this off. Ms. Arthur also, talked about events that the Recreation Department could do. She suggested an outdoor movie, music and games.

The Committee talked about a possible date as being on Sunday, September 20th.

There was also discussion regarding having a central person or people to organize the promotional piece.

Vice-Chair Roman stated that she and Alex Herlihy would probably work on it and welcome anyone that wants to help.

The Committee talked about costs and reaching out to potential sponsors early in the planning stage.

Ms. Giblin recommended doing two mailings. The first one would be a” Hold the Date”. The second one, closer to the day, would be the event cards.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS – None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Phil Winslow to adjourn at 10:57 a.m. Seconded by Keriann Roman. All in Favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger