

TOWN OF RYE – BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Rye Home Day Committee
Thursday, March 07, 2019
3:00 p.m. – Rye Town Hall

Present: Vice-Chair Phil Winslow and Selectman Keriann Roman

Others Present: Conservation Commission Chair, Sally King, Historic District Commission Chair, Mae Bradshaw, Heritage Commission Chair, Bev Giblin and Historic District rep, Alex Herlihy.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice-Chair Winslow call the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chair Winslow started the meeting by explaining that this idea came up at a previous budget meeting back in September or October. The thought was that the Town has a great facility at Goss Farm and maybe it could be used to bring the Town's folks together. After the confrontation at the deliberative session regarding the dogs, the Town Hall and the cell tower, this would be a great time to bring everyone together right after the election. He added that the Town is a great community and should make use of its facilities.

II. Determine if a Town wide BBQ would be workable

Mae Bradshaw, Sally King and Keriann Roman all agreed that the plan was doable.

Alex Herlihy stated that in the 70s this type of event was held. He explained they used to have it on the Fourth of July, however, it can be held on any Saturday during the warm weather. He added that food was a main part of the event. All three meals were planned to be served either outside or inside. The Lions Club were there with their food truck to do the lunch. He also spoke about the program in the 90's that School Principal, George Cushing, brought into the schools called "Our Town". It was a school event, which ended up as a town wide event. Mr. Herlihy stated that there could be a parade, and other entertainment during the day, that can't be done during the Christmas parade because it's too cold. He pointed out that there are a lot of people that would bring out their antique vehicles to show. He stated that he talked to Lt. Chuck Gallant at the Fire Department and he was on board with the idea.

III. Find a location for the event and possible date

Conservation Commission Chair, Sally King recommended that if it was going to be held at the Goss Farm, having it later in the summer would be better. That way produce from the farm could be used. She reported that she has talked to some of the farmers who lease at the farm and they were very enthusiastic about the idea.

Selectman Roman suggested having a sit down dinner using the barn or barns around town and featuring some local budding chefs.

Alex Herlihy recommended calling the event “Our Town”. After a short discussion, the group agreed to tentatively use the term “Rye Home Day”.

There was discussion about people parking across the street on the State owned property. There was also discussion about parking elsewhere in town and having trolleys transporting people to the farm.

There was discussion of shutting down part of Harbor Road and having food trucks, restaurant stations and the Lions Club there. There should be a tent for people to get out of the sun.

After discussion, Saturday, August 24, 2019, was picked as the target date. Rain Date; Sunday, August 25, 2019.

There was discussion regarding charging a fee for the event.

Recreation Director Lee Arthur talked about getting donations and sponsors for the food. She stressed that there needs to be food and entertainment.

Vice Chair Winslow suggested talking to the local restaurants.

IV. Draft a rough schedule for the day.

The group talked about the time. It was tentatively decided 11:00 to 4:00.

V. Develop a possible list of subcommittees necessary to carry out the event

Vice Chair Winslow recommended that Police Chief Walsh be on a committee because he will be responsible for crowd control and safety.

There needs to be a core committee to coordinate all the efforts of the other sub-committees. Alex Herlihy volunteered to lead this committee.

There needs to be a sub-committee for food. (Sponsors, Donations, Food Trucks, etc.)

Selectman Roman recommended having a sub-committee of children to get their ideas.

Lee Arthur suggested doing an event card to advertise things that are happening during the day. Using the existing activities and organizations in Town to build on this event. The Library could have a speaker or a program. The historic Museum could be open or a cemetery tour could be done. Maybe the community churches would do a breakfast. She pointed out that the “Our Town” event planners do not have to worry about the outside events, as they would happen outside the main event.

Alex Herlihy suggested having the trolley tour that usually runs on Labor Day on this day. He also suggested having an art show featuring Rye artists.

Mae Bradshaw recommended getting the schools involved. The group agreed to pick one student from the sixth, seventh and eighth grades. Also, the Rye Senior Serve may be a good source for assistance.

Vice Chair Winslow stated that he would like to take the lead in talking to the schools. He also suggested getting some of the kids from Rye that are in high school involved.

Committees:

1. Promotion Committee

- a. Promotion
- b. Publicity
- c. Advertising
- d. Signage

Possible people:

- Doug Abrams
- Bob McGrath
- Connie Olson
- Ann Arnold
- David Caswell

2. Facilities and Safety Committee

- a. Crowd Control
- b. Port-a-Pottys
- c. Table and Chairs set up

Possible people:

- Chief Walsh – Police Department
- Chief Cotreau – Fire Department
- Dennis McCarthy – Public Works Department

3. Entertainment Committee

- a. Music
- b. Games
- c. Raffles and Drawings
- d. Crafts
- e. Dog Show
- f. Surfing at Dawn

Possible people:

- Bruce Valley
- Tom Sherman
- Paul Mackey
- Kerri Burnette
- Ryan and Tyler McGill

4. Food Committee

Selectman Roman will check with Primex about serving beer and wine.

5. Finance Committee

- a. Corporate Sponsorships
- b. Web Page – Buy tickets page
- c. Web Page – Donations page

6. Student Committee

- a. Will be involved with the games and entertainment

VI. Schedule a next meeting date and list of invitees for the meeting (all meetings are open to the public and public input and participation is encouraged)

The group agreed to meet next week. Friday, March 15th at 3:00 p.m.

VII. Other business -None

Motion by Phil Winslow to adjourn 4:17 p.m. Seconded by Keriann Roman. All in favor

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F Ledger