

## **RYE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

### **Site Walk Minutes**

**Sunday, May 20, 2018**

Meeting was called to order by Chair King at 10:05 am.

RCC members present at all site walks: Chair Sally King, Members Jeff Gardner, Susan Shepcaro, Heather Reed and Mike Garvan.

#### **10:05 am: 77 Parsons Road, Tax Map 20.3 Lot 034**

Present: Owner Jane Gee and several abutters and members of the public.

The Rye Conservation Commission (RCC) conducted a site walk at 77 Parsons Road to evaluate a wetland buffer violation. Ms. Gee was served a Notice of Violation by Building Inspector Rowell on April 24, 2018. Ms. Gee had engaged Micum Davis, Cornerstone Tree care to look at several trees on her property. Mr. Davis advised her to remove a number of trees in the wetland buffer of which some 8-10 were greater than 4.5" diameter at 4.5' of height. This is a violation of the Rye wetland ordinance. She hired Matthew Stacy of Going Green to remove stumps, cut pine trees, remove debris and grade the area with heavy equipment which is a wetland buffer violation as well. She also engaged Steve Riker of Ambit Engineering to look at the site after being issued the violation notice by Peter Rowell.

Ms. Gee has hired Drew Lang, Lang's Landscaping, to create a restoration plan for the disturbance. This was submitted to Mr. Rowell on April 30, 2018. The plan calls for several plantings in the area along the property line with 71 Parsons Road and a few plantings near the wetland boundary.

The RCC members were concerned about the grading which may have flattened an existing swale and also noted an exposed section of pipe which does not appear to be part of the existing culvert or the neighbor's dry well. The last 20 feet of buffer has been cleared and scraped right up to the wetland in the back yard. Member Garvan gave Jane Gee a copy of the DES Native Plantings list.

Joan and John Provencher spoke in favor of the project which they believe is an improvement over the previous configuration. Ruth Mott also spoke in favor of the project saying that what happened was accidental and that the new landscaping will be an improvement. Abutters Janet and Rick Reir spoke against the plan. They complained that a great number of trees had been removed which has cost them much privacy and also removed much of their shade. They believe that their house will now be very hot in the summer.

Mr. Lang explained that the back yard would not be planted to lawn but would have ferns and shrubs in an attempt to have the yard transition naturally to the wetland boundary. Ms. Gee told Member Garvan that she was not going to construct more raised beds in the buffer. Chair King noted that there had been extensive disturbance in the wetland itself which could require restoration.

The RCC members present discussed the need for a more detailed plan and wish to see only trees and plants from the DES native plantings list used. They feel that there should be a one-for-one replacement in kind of the large trees which were removed. The current plan is vague regarding the back yard and doesn't have enough large trees included in the back and along the property line. Chair King will talk to Dennis McCarthy, Rye DPW and Peter Rowell to better understand the history of the property. Member Garvan will draft a recommendation letter within the week and will coordinate with Drew Lang about the plan.

**11:05 am: 146 Harbor Road, Tax Map 092 Lot 091-001, Owners Michael Travers and Nancy Braese**

Present: Owners Michael Travers and Nancy Braese

The Rye Conservation Commission then conducted a site walk at 146 Harbor Road to evaluate a proposal to construct a new deck on the front of the house. The entire house is in the 100 foot tidal buffer. The deck will be 5'4" wide and 15 feet long and will be attached to the landing at the top of the front steps. The deck will be supported by one or two posts and will be constructed of wood decking with spaces to let rain and roof runoff to infiltrate to the ground below. There will be no additional impervious surfaces and no change to storm water flow. The RCC members present didn't have objections to the project.

Motion to adjourn made by Member Gardner and seconded by Member Shepcaro. Motion passed.

Site walk meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Francis P. (Mike) Garvan II, Clerk