

RYE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Site Walk Minutes

Tuesday, September 28, 2021

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Chair Suzanne McFarland. Chair McFarland seated alternate Karen Oliver to replace member Danna Truslow.

RCC members present at the site walks: Chair Suzanne McFarland, Vice Chair Sally King
Members Mike Garvan, Susan Shepcaro, and Karen Oliver.

4:00 pm: 1 Rands Lane, Tax Map 19 Lot 7-1 Owners: Chris and Meaghan Barretto

Present: Owners Chris and Meaghan Barretto and Bill MacDonald, Artisan Grounds Landscaping.

The Rye Conservation Commission (RCC) conducted a site walk on September 28, 2021 at 1 Rands Lane to assess a proposed project to construct a bluestone patio on the property. The property abuts a wetland and much of the lot appears to have been created by adding fill. All of the project is in the 75 foot wetland buffer and ranges from 22 feet to 50 feet within the buffer. The patio will be 500 square feet in size and will be made with permeable bluestone. There will also be a walkway from the house to the patio that is partly in the buffer.

Functionally there is no other place to site the patio and have it be usable for the owners. The lawn below the patio runs between the driveway and the wetland boundary all the way to Rands Lane. This portion of the lawn is extremely wet whereas the patio location is raised and dry.

Because of the difficulty in constructing the patio anywhere else on the lot, the RCC would not object to the project as proposed as long as there is significant mitigation to protect the wetland. The Conservation Commission discussed mitigation with the Barrettos and Mr. MacDonald and they were amenable to adding a significant number of plants along the wetland border. Adding a border of native plants will aid in intercepting and filtering potential contaminants before they reach the wetland. The vegetative border will also help absorb and uptake water from the lot.

The RCC is not opposed to the project as long as the following conditions are met:

- 1) The edge of the lawn/ wetland is planted with a vegetative buffer of native plants to a depth of five to ten feet with the average depth being no smaller than seven feet.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25pm by Chair McFarland.

Respectfully submitted,

Francis P. (Mike) Garvan II, Clerk