

RYE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Site Walk Minutes

Wednesday February 16, 2022

Meeting was called to order at 3:20 pm by Chair Suzanne McFarland.

RCC members present at the site walks: Chair Suzanne McFarland; Vice Chair Sally King, Members Mike Garvan, Danna Truslow and Susan Shepcaro. Alternate Karen Oliver was seated in place of Member Jaci Grote.

3:15 pm: 2320 Ocean Boulevard, Map 5, Lot 54, Karen Borgia, owner.

Present: Steve Riker, Ambit Engineering, representing the owner.

The Rye Conservation Commission (RCC) conducted a site walk at 2320 Ocean Boulevard to look at a proposed project to repair and replace an existing seawall. Steve Riker showed the commission the damage done to the steps of the seawall. The cheek walls did not overlap the steps and consequently the steps had been loosened.

The new seawall will be constructed in the same footprint as the current wall using the existing stones and boulders. The new wall will be the same height as the existing wall. The Conservation Commission members had no objection to the project as proposed and Chair McFarland signed the application for a minimum expedited project.

3:45 pm: 1641 Ocean Boulevard, Map 13, Lot 21, Mary Ellen & Jack Madden, owners

Present: Alex Ross, Ross Engineering, representing the owners.

The Rye Conservation Commission (RCC) conducted a site walk at 1641 Ocean Boulevard to assess a project to add a second story deck and a small patio and walkway to an existing residence. All of the current residence and proposed additions are within the 100 foot tidal buffer from Awcomin Marsh.

The second story deck would be 10 ft. x 30 ft. and would use the existing stairway to the second floor. A new 10 ft. diameter pervious paver patio and 3 ft. x 5 ft. pervious walkway would be added from the stairway to the patio. At its closest point, the deck will be 38.1 ft. from the wetland and the patio would be 26.2 ft. It should be noted that the wetland delineation includes the first 30 feet of lawn from the marsh.

There is a landscaped area in the southwest area behind the house to which the owners would add additional native plants. The owners would plant along the southern property line all the way to the wetland delineation. There is another smaller landscaped area on the north end of the property which would remain. The owners have proposed to allow the first 25 feet from the posts on the marsh to return to its natural state and would never mow it. This no mow area would provide an effective buffer between the lawn and the marsh. Extending the landscaped area on the southwest side would also create a strong buffer. These two improvements should mitigate any impact from the deck, walkway and patio. The Conservation Commission had no objections to the project as proposed.

4:15 pm: 691 Brackett Road, Map 17, Lot 34, Christopher and Susan Reaney, owners.

Present: Chris Reaney, owner; Corey Colwell, TF Moran.

The Rye Conservation Commission (RCC) conducted a site walk at 691 Brackett Road on February 16, 2022, to look at a proposal to partially rebuild an existing barn, add a patio to the barn and add a garage to the barn. The existing driveway will be expanded to provide access to the new garage. Almost all of the project is within the two 75-foot wetland buffers

The property is 9.3 acres with 60% wetland. It has a stream near the southern boundary and a large wetland on the north side of the lot. Consequently, much of the existing house and almost all of the existing barn, proposed garage and proposed driveway are within the buffers.

The new driveway would be constructed from pervious pavers. The plan calls for the removal of 2,500 square feet of lawn. A drainage swale would be constructed on the stream side of the project to deal with stormwater. The area between the wooded area and the proposed driveway would be landscaped with several native trees and shrubs. It will be maintained as a natural buffer with no mowing. One large maple tree in the buffer will be cut to construct the driveway. The new deck on the back of the barn will have a stone substrate for stormwater management. The north side of the house will have a stone drip edge to infiltrate storm flow.

The RCC was concerned with the original planting plan which called for minimal planting along the wetland border on the north side of the property. More plants should help protect the wetland as well as clearly define the edge of the wetland. There is some debris in the wetland which needs to be removed as part of the project.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:49 pm by Chair McFarland.

Respectfully submitted,

Francis P. (Mike) Garvan II, Clerk