RYE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Site Walk Minutes Tuesday, June 23, 2020

Meeting was called to order by Vice Chair King at 10:00 am.

RCC members present at the two site walks: Sally King, Vice Chair; Mike Garvan, Clerk; Members Danna Truslow, Karen Oliver, Jaci Grote and Susan Shepcaro.

10:00 am: 1311-1315 Ocean Boulevard, Tax Map 17.3 Lot 001, Owner: Ocean Wave, LLC

Present: Bob Gray, Gray Construction; Mark Olson, Landwright, LLC representing the owner.

The Rye Conservation Commission (RCC) conducted a site walk at 1311-1315 Ocean Boulevard to inspect the planting plan at the site which did not conform to the approved building plan. The planting bed of native plants which was supposed to be 93 feet long along the edge of the marsh was only 70 feet long and was 6 feet from the edge of the marsh. The area between the edge of the marsh and the planting bed had been left unmown as stipulated in the previous site walk on May 16, 2019.

Member Garvan noted that not mowing in that area could not be effectively monitored. A discussion ensued and it was suggested that the beds could be extended to the proper length by curving the ends so that the beds ended at the marsh. If that were done, the area behind the beds by the marsh would be left uncut. The new bed areas should be planted with native, salt tolerant species. Bob Gray suggested that the wetland boundary be marked with the "Wetland Boundary – Do Not Disturb" signs available at the Rye Building Department. The RCC members present and Mr. Gray and Mr. Olson agreed on those two solutions.

10:25 am: 1611 Ocean Boulevard, Tax Map 23 Lot 6, Owners: Cheryl and David Sullivan

The Rye Conservation Commission (RCC) conducted a site walk at 1611 Ocean Boulevard to inspect the planting plan at the site which had never been completed. The bricks and stones along the marsh had not been removed as required by the RCC recommendation letter of June 25, 2019. The planting plan submitted by landscaper Matt Barton and approved by the RCC was not followed completely. The plan called for 8 Joe Pye weed plants and only 2 were planted. The plan also called for 12 New England Asters to be planted and only one was in the planting bed. Of additional concern was the health of the plants in the bed. Most were wilting indicating they had not been watered, endangering their survival. Several of the new plants weren't planted flush with the ground and had partially exposed roots. The soil around many of the new plants had eroded or washed away, perhaps due to an abnormally high tide.

The RCC members present agreed that the requisite number of plants needed to be planted and that many of the existing plants needed additional care or they would not survive. It was also agreed that the bricks and stones along the edge of the marsh must be removed and taken out of the 100 foot tidal buffer.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 am by Vice Chair King.

Respectfully submitted,

Francis P. (Mike) Garvan II, Clerk