

**Rye Heritage Commission
Meeting
Thursday, April 7, 2022
5:30 PM
Rye Town Hall**

Present: Chair Phil Walsh, Vice-Chair Gail Hughes, Peter White, Frank Lagana, Alex Herlihy, Selectmen's Rep Bill Epperson, and Alternates Elizabeth Sanborn and Karin Nelson

I. Welcome/Call to Order

Chair Walsh called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. and led the introduction of members.

Alternate Elizabeth Sanborn was seated for Bev Giblin.

- **Approval of March Meeting Minutes**

Motion by Gail Hughes to approve the minutes of March 4th and March 24th as presented. Seconded by Bill Epperson. Vote: 6-0-1 Abstained: Phil Walsh

- **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Peter White noted there was very little activity during the month of March. The cash balance is basically the same as February 28th. There is a total of \$7,912 for Town Hall restricted funds. Gazebo restricted funds are \$6,160. Unrestricted funds are \$5,177 leaving a total account balance of \$19,250. There is 92% of the budget left for 2022. He pointed out that there is \$4,500 available for the L-Chip Grant effort that the Heritage Commission is going to pursue.

Chair Walsh pointed out that Alternate Bradshaw is in the process of drafting the language of the L-Chip application.

Motion by Elizabeth Sanborn to approve the Treasurer's report for April. Seconded by Bill Epperson. All in favor.

- **Demolition Review Committee Update**

Alternate Sanborn noted that 999 Washington Road came up; however, they have already taken down part of the building. The Demolition Committee felt there was no sense in meeting on it.

Member Lagana pointed out that the committee had decided that the structure had no historical significance.

- **Rye Advocates Update**

Member Herlihy reported that the digitizing is being done. When that is completed, they will have to decide how to inform the public. He pointed out these are the pre-1901 houses. There are approximately 317 houses.

- **Fundraising Subcommittee Update**

No report

II. Old Business:

- **Gazebo**

No updates

- **Rye Signage Subcommittee**

Member Herlihy reported that there are five people on the Signage Committee. He will have a full report at the next meeting.

- **Town Hall Monumental Windows Update**

Selectman Epperson noted that the windows are being done three at a time. The first three are on site. The old windows will be removed and the sashes will be repaired. It has been challenging for the work to be done during the day when the Town Hall is open. The firm who is doing the work has agreed to come on Saturdays. The painting is going to be done by the Town, so that work will be taken off the contract, as it was not to exceed \$20,000.

- **Town Masterplan Follow-up**

The Commission reviewed the section in the Master Plan relating to the Heritage Commission and discussed edits and changes. It was agreed that each member would review the section on their own and make edits and revisions by the end of April. The changes will be sent to Chair Walsh who will compile the suggestions into a working document to be reviewed and addressed at next month's meeting.

Selectman Epperson noted that new members have been selected for the Long Range Planning Committee. The committee had a meeting on April 5th. They came up with a format to reconstitute the committee and a plan to hire a consultant to come up with an RFP for a budget to rewrite the Master Plan. This will be presented to the Select Board for a warrant article in 2023. At this time, updating and rewriting the Master Plan is a work in progress.

III. New Business:

Chair Walsh noted that the Heritage Commission has been asked to help staff the table for food and beverages at the Memorial Day Ceremony, which is the first live ceremony to take place in the last two years. He assumes that the Commission would like to do this again, as this is a role they have taken in the past. He will reach out to Alternate Bradshaw who has been the lead on this in the past.

Member White commented that they can also try to sell some merchandise at the event.

- Next Meeting to be held on May 5th, 5:30 p.m., at the Town Hall.

Adjournment

Motion by Bill Epperson to adjourn at 6:15 p.m. Seconded by Alex Herlihy. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger