

**Rye Heritage Commission
Meeting**

Thursday, June 2, 2022
5:30 PM – Town Hall

Members present: *Chair Bev Giblin, Vice Chair Gail Hughes, Frank Lagana, Peter White, and Alternate David Choate*

Members not present: *Alex Herlihy, Elizabeth Sanborn, Alternates Karin Nelson, Mae Bradshaw, Tim Durkin and Select Board Rep Bill Epperson.*

A. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Giblin called the meeting to order at 5.36 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance.

B. Introductions/Seating of Alternates

Chair Giblin seated Alternate Choate for Member Herlihy.

C. Approval of Minutes

- May 5, 2022

The following corrections were noted:

- Page 2, under Rye Advocates Update it should read: **Member Choate also reported that they plan to schedule a series of DIY Historical House research forms.**
- Bottom of page 4 should read: **She felt that they have a compelling story right now, in that the window project is frozen because of the lead paint remediation.**

**Motion by Peter White to approve the meeting minutes of May 5, 2022, as amended.
Seconded by David Choate. All in favor.**

- May 24, 2022

**Motion by Peter White to approve the meeting minutes of May 24, 2022 as presented.
Seconded by David Choate. Vote: 4-0 Abstained: Peter White**

D. Treasurers Report

Treasurer White noted that he does not have a treasurer's report this month, as it is early in the month and there is a lack of staff in the town's finance office. However, he reported that the

mailer for soliciting funds was sent out in May. He will have a report at the next meeting on the results of that mailing. There were no expenditures during May.

E. Demolition Review Committee Report

Member Choate reported that there is a property coming up for review. It is at 1220 Ocean Blvd. It consists of a teardown and rebuild of a garage. The plan is to have a hearing on it next week.

There was another property of interest on 139 Wentworth Road. This is for another garage. However, it was not old enough, so the committee did not meet on it.

F. Rye Advocates

Member Choate reported that he has not reached out to Tim Durkin or Karin Nelson yet to see if they would be interested in joining the Advocates. The Advocates will be meeting again on June 13th. The plan is to do a walking tour from the school up through the District, so that the members can become familiar with the structures within the District. Alex Herlihy will be doing a historical narration.

G. Heritage Committee Sign Subcommittee

Member White reported that the subcommittee currently has five members. Peter White and Alex Herlihy represent the Heritage Commission; Lydia Tilsley represents the Historic District Commission; Jaci Grote Represents the State of NH; and Eileen McCue is at-large. They have met twice and reviewed the materials presented. They have a graphic designer to design the signs and a manufacturer to build the signs. The signs will be approximately 32 x 24. They have identified six to eight historical locations and contextual topics. An example would be a sign at Goss Farm, which would talk about Goss Farm as well as agriculture in Rye. The plan is to present the prototype to the Select Board in July. The committee is also talking about self-funding the project. The goal is to have all the signs done, in place, and funded by the June 1, 2023.

H. Gazebo Update

Member Choate reported that he spoke to Ann Weidman of JSA Architects, who is their business development person. She mentioned an architect who may be interested in the project. She is going to talk to him and have him come down to look at the gazebo. Member Choate promised to follow-up with Ms. Weidman tomorrow. This would be for a master plan of the gazebo and the surrounding landscape. Selectman Epperson was going to be talking to Bud Jordan about the actual repairs.

I. Master Plan Update

Member Choate stated that Mae Bradshaw was the lead on the project for the Heritage Commission. However, Selectman Epperson has said that the Planning Board is hiring a consultant to rewrite the whole master plan document.

J. Graveyard Adoption Update

Member Choate reported that there has been no new activity.

Member White noted that there are sixty-seven graveyards, as identified by Louise Tallman. There have been six or seven that have been adopted.

K. Other Business

Member Choate stated that it is important for the Commission not to lose sight of the 79:D Discretionary Barn Preservation Easement that the Select Board adopted a few months ago. He doesn't know if anyone in Rye has applied for it yet. His concern is to just get the word out to the residents that this tool exists. The deadline for the application is April 15th each year. It is for a ten-year easement, which provides tax relief on qualified historic agriculture structures.

- Next Meeting: Thursday, July 7, 2022, 5:30 p.m. Rye Town Hall

Adjournment

Motion by Peter White to adjourn the meeting at 2:13 p.m. Seconded by David Choate. All in Favor.

Respectfully Submitted
Dyana F. Ledger