

# **RYE HERITAGE COMMISSION**

**Thursday, March 2, 2023, 5:30 p.m.**

**Rye Town Hall**

**Commission Present:** *Chair Bev Giblin, Vice-Chair Gail Hughes, Treasurer Peter White, Alex Herlihy, and Selectmen's Rep Bill Epperson*

**Also Present:** *David Caswell, Rye Historical Society, and Eileen McCue, Sign Committee Chair*

## **I. Call to Order**

Chair Giblin called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m. and members introduced themselves.

## **II. Review of Previous Meeting Minutes – 2/02/23**

**Motion by Peter White to accept the minutes of February 2, 2023 as presented. Seconded by Alex Herlihy. All in favor.**

## **III. Business:**

### **• Rye Signage**

Eileen McCue spoke to the Commission about the work of the Rye400 Sign Committee. The Committee, which is made up of six members, has been meeting and working on the signs since April 2022. The members of the Committee are Lydia Tilsley, Jaci Grote, Andy Stecher, Peter White, and Eileen McCue. The design of the signs is now in the hands of the graphic designer, who will be submitting her work to the sign company soon. The goal is to have the signs installed within six weeks before the first trolley ride, which is on Memorial Day Weekend.

### **• Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer White reported that the cash position of the Commission is the same as it was in December; however, another donation of \$250 from the fundraiser has been received. The Commission has about \$40,000 and the disbursements for the sign project will now begin. He presented an invoice for Portsmouth Sign Company for a 50% deposit of the accepted quote of \$6,695.

**Motion by Alex Herlihy to approve payment of \$3,350 to the Portsmouth Sign Company out of the funds earmarked for the signs. Seconded by Bev Giblin. All in favor.**

Treasurer White requested a reimbursement to Eileen McCue who spent \$222.15 to have the signs go from digital print to the wallboards that were presented at the last Heritage Commission meeting.

**Motion by Alex Herlihy to reimburse Eileen McCue in the amount of \$222.15 from the money earmarked for the signs. Seconded by Gail Hughes. All in favor.**

- **Demolition Review Committee**

*No update as Member Choate was not present for the meeting.*

- **Meeting with Rye Beach**

Member Herlihy noted that he, Elizabeth Sanborn, Karin Nelson, and David Choate met with the Rye Beach Village District Commissioners to discuss the possibility of having Rye Beach under the Rye Heritage Commission. None of the Commissioners were against the idea and were very interested in the work of the Heritage Commission. The Commissioners are going to bring this subject up at the annual meeting in June. If people are agreeable, a warrant article will be brought forward for a vote at their annual meeting in June 2024.

- **Gazebo**

*No updates at this time.*

The Commission discussed the possibility of using social media to see if there is anyone that would be willing to take on the repairs of the gazebo. Selectman Epperson agreed to work on posting something.

- **Graveyard Adoptions**

**David Caswell** spoke to the Commission about the adoption of the Caswell Cemetery off Washington Road. He noted that he has already reached out to the landowner, who lives at 117 Washington Road. She does not have an issue with Mr. Caswell accessing the cemetery for maintenance and cleanup. Mr. Caswell explained the cleanup that is needed at the cemetery.

- **Rye Advocates**

Member Herlihy noted the Rye Advocates continue to meet the first week of the month. The group is continuing to work on the history for some of the houses and the workshops continue. A detailed report will be available for the next meeting.

#### **IV. New Business**

Member Herlihy talked about the Rye Civic League's March Newsletter. He has an article in the newsletter that has a link to what he's been working on. He would like the commission members to take a look, as it relates to the Heritage Commission.

#### **Adjournment**

**Motion by Peter White to adjourn at 6:19 p.m. Seconded by Bill Epperson. All in favor.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dyana F Ledger