

RYE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Site Walk Minutes

Monday, April 16, 2018

Meeting was called to order by Chair King at 4:30pm.

RCC members present at all site walks: Chair Sally King, Members Jeff Gardner, Susan Shepcaro, Heather Reed and Mike Garvan.

5:00 pm: 14 Fairhill Avenue, Tax Map 20.2, Lot 144

The Rye Conservation Commission (RCC) conducted a site walk at 14 Fairhill Avenue on April 16, 2018.

The owners wish to replace an existing home with a new house. The entire lot is in the wetland buffer. The new residence will be slightly smaller and will comprise 15.4% of the lot where the lot coverage is currently 15.5%. The septic system will be an enviroseptic design and will be installed on the other side of the house from the current septic. This will move the septic further from the wetland boundary. Fill will be required for the leachfield. There is a 4" pvc pipe originating on the abutting property to the southeast that crosses the Lampron's property and discharges into the marsh.

The plan calls for the existing paved driveway to be replaced by a new paved driveway which would be closer to the wetland. Both the new home and the new driveway would be closer to the wetland.

In discussion with Dennis Quintal, engineer for the owners, the Conservation Commission expressed its concern that the new house and garage were going to be even closer to the wetland marsh. The sensitive buffer between the marsh and the proposed home and garage is going to be only between 10 and 20 feet from the edge of the wetland.

The reason the Town of Rye and the State of NH have wetland buffers is to allow for the infiltration of runoff water and contaminants to help minimize such elements from draining or running off directly into wetlands. This infiltration process is vital to help protect our sensitive wetland resource. Because of the importance of infiltration and the short distance between the proposed construction and the wetland, the Conservation Commission discussed and recommends the following:

- 1) No lawn should be permitted on the wetland side of the project.
- 2) Native groundcover and native plantings, including some trees, should be installed along the edge of the wetland.
- 3) The path on the wetland side of the house should be pervious material.
- 4) No outdoor shower should be allowed on the wetland side of the project.
- 5) The new driveway should be made of pervious material.
- 6) No generator or propane tank should be allowed on the wetland side of the project.
- 7) The abutter whose property is being drained by the pipe running across the 14 Fairhill property and into the marsh should implement a storm management plan that deals with

stormwater on their own property as required by Rye ordinances. The pvc pipe should then be removed from 14 Fairhill Avenue.

Motion to adjourn made by Member Gardner and seconded by Member Shepcaro. Motion passed.

Site walk meeting adjourned at 4:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Francis P. (Mike) Garvan II, Clerk