

## **Town of Ayer Community Preservation Committee**

Town Hall \* One Main Street \* Ayer, MA 01432

Minutes for 12/7/2016 - Approved 1/4/2017

Location: Town Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

Members present: Janet Providakes (JP) [Housing Authority]- Chair, Barry Schwarzel (BES) [Historical Commission], Richard Durand (RD) [Parks & Recreation], Jess Gugino (JG) [Conservation Commission]- Clerk, Mark Fermanian (MF) [Planning Board], Julie Murray (JM) [At Large]

Not present: Beth Suedmeyer (BAS) [At Large]

APAC taped: NO

### **6:05 PM – Open Meeting**

- **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- MF moved to approve the minutes for 11/2/2016 as corrected; RD 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - Motion approved unanimously.

- **Correspondence and Bills**

- JP contacted Jason Mayo, Chair of the Parks Commission, for information on the status of a project to install a perimeter walking path at Pirone Park.
  - Mr. Mayo responded that he will keep both CPC and Ayer Housing updated when plans progress.

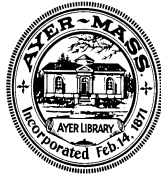
- **Old Business**

- CPC Application Revision

- JP added an edit to the latest draft, prepared after the 11/2 meeting.
  - If anyone has any additional edits, they should notify JP asap.
- JP will prepare a final draft using table formats and CPC will vote on its approval at the next meeting.

- Ayer Housing Authority (AHA) Generator Project

- AHA is hoping to install generators at two locations:
  - Pleasant Street School (now senior housing)
  - AHA's Pond Street facilities, including the Council on Aging
- Town Administrator Robert Pontbriand would like these generators to be funded by CPC.
- JP has spoken with Stuart Saginor, of the Community Preservation Coalition, about this.
  - Mr. Saginor indicated that, in his opinion, neither project adequately met the CPA criteria for funding.
  - The Pleasant Street School, for example, was not purchased with CPC money, although its renovation was done in part with CPC money for historical preservation.
- JP said she felt the installation of a generator at Pleasant Street School was warranted not only for its historical preservation, but also for safety issues.



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- She noted that the School could be used as an emergency shelter, but that in past power outages, its residents have had to be evacuated to another site.
  - Given the difference in views, JP will ask Administrator Pontbriand to consult with Town Counsel for their opinion on the legal use of CPC funds here.
- **New Business**
  - JP received an email from Administrator Pontbriand alerting CPC to a possibility for Open Space acquisition on Groton-Harvard Road.
    - More details to come as they unfold.
- **Committee Updates**
  - Historical Commission (BES)
    - The Commission is working on getting a plaque for the fountain in front of Town Hall.
      - The fountain was received as a donation from the Women's Christian Temperance Union in 1899.
  - Housing Authority (JP)
    - The Christmas party for residents the previous Sunday, at the Council on Aging, was well-attended.
    - The Housing subgroup for the Master Plan Committee has finished its portion of work.
  - Parks & Recreation (RD)
    - The Parks Commission will be meeting next week.
    - Winter activities, such as basketball, are going well.
    - The Commission is still in talks about building a new storage facility at Pirone Park now that storage at the old fire station will no longer be available.
  - Conservation Commission (JG)
    - ConCom is continuing work on updating its Wetland Bylaw.
  - Planning Board
    - MF said there was nothing to report.
  - Open Space & Recreation Plan Update Committee (BAS)
    - No report.
- **6:34 PM – Adjourn Meeting**
  - CPC's Next Meeting: January 4, 2017, 6 p.m.
  - BES moved to adjourn; MF 2<sup>nd</sup>.
    - Motion approved unanimously.