

Town of Ayer

Department of Community & Economic Development

Town Hall ♦ One Main Street ♦ Ayer, MA 01432 ♦ 978-772-8220 ♦ Ext.142



Minutes of August 6, 2021, 10:00 A.M. – Meeting of the Ayer Affordable Housing Committee (AAHC)

Location: Select Board Room, Ayer Town Hall

Members Present: Janet Providakes, Ken Diskin, James Stephen & Ron Morrison

Also, Present: Alan Manoian, Director AOCED

Janet Providakes, called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.: Ms. Providakes asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

Agenda: James Stephen made a motion to approve the agenda, Ron Morrison seconded it. Unanimous vote to approve the agenda. (4-0-0)

Minutes:

Review & Vote on Meeting Minutes of May 27, 2021.

Motion to Approve: Ken Diskin, Ron Morrison seconded it.

Vote to Approve Minutes of May 27, 2021, Unanimous. (4-0-0)

Open Seat on Ayer Affordable Housing Committee:

Discussion of Open Seats on AAHC.

Janet Providakes inquires if there are any prospective candidates proposed.

Suggested individuals include – James O’Conor & Bonnie Tillotson.

James Stephens inquires if there would be a conflict of interest for Town Moderator James O’Conor?

Janet Providakes responded that she will check with Office of the Town Manager as to any potential “conflict of interest” issues with Town Moderator serving on the AAHC.

Ken Diskin suggested Jonathan Kranz; it was confirmed that Kranz is interested in appointment.

Issue of concern: Appointing Jonathan Kranz would result in two members of the Ayer Planning Board (Diskin & Kranz) serving on the AAHC.

Janet Providakes suggested reaching out to the Ayer Fire Dept. and/or Ayer Police Department to identify prospective candidates – who reside in Ayer, people with a long-term relationship with the Town of Ayer.

Janet Providakes suggested former Chief Robert Pedrazzi.

Janet Providakes will reach-out and contact Robert Pedrazzi, James O’Conor and Jonathan Kranz.

Ron Morrison inquired “What’s the process?”

Janet Providakes responded that she will check with Town Manager Pontbriand, and that the new AAHC members will be appointed by the Ayer Select Board.

James Stephens stated that the Town of Ayer Volunteer Application Form should be reviewed.

Ken Diskin stated that an "Alternate Member" will need to be appointed to assure a quorum.

Ken Diskin also stated that the AAHC should seek out younger people as new members as well.

Janet Providakes stated she will confer with Community Development Program Manager Alicia Hersey on the prospective outreach and appointments to AAHC including Robert Pedrazzi, Jonathan Kranz, James O'Connor and Christopher Herrstrom.

Open Seats on the Ayer Affordable Housing Trust

Ken Diskin made a motion to recommend James Stephens, as the representative from Ayer Affordable Housing Committee to the Town of Ayer Affordable Housing Trust for a 2-year term, Janet Providakes seconded it.

Vote: Unanimous (4-0-0)

Ron Morrison made a motion to recommend appointment of Pat Lattimer Bagni, as a citizen representative, to the Ayer Affordable Housing Trust. It was seconded by James Stephen.

Vote: Unanimous (4-0-0)

James Stephen engaged in discussion of tenant succession planning and rotating out of publicly assisted housing; consider a 7-year maximum.

James Stephens suggests – a series of financial literacy workshops for tenants.

Old Business:

Janet Providakes suggests conducting an "Affordable Housing Informational Public Forum".

Ken Diskin suggests inviting Brady & Sullivan to come before/attend a meeting of the Ayer Affordable Housing Committee.

Ken Diskin suggests inquiring/reviewing the possibility of a UDAG and/or Omnibus Budget line-item funding for the Town of Ayer Housing Trust.

Meeting Adjourned

James Stephen made a motion to adjourn, Ron Morrison seconded it.

Vote: Unanimous (4-0-0)

Janet Providakes

