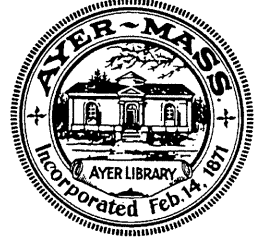


Town of Ayer

Department of Community & Economic Development

Town Hall ♦ One Main Street ♦ Ayer, MA 01432 ♦ 978-772-8221 ♦ 978-772-3017 (fax)



Minutes of July 10, 2020– Ayer Affordable Housing Committee

Location: Zoom Meeting, Ayer Town Hall

Members Present: Janet Providakes, Ron Morrison, Karin Swanfeldt, Ken Diskin

Also Present: Alicia Hersey, Committee Administrator & Community Development
Program Manager, Sara Withee from the public

Janet Providakes, called the meeting to order at 10:45 AM.

General Business

Approve the Agenda

Karin Swanfeldt made a motion to approve the agenda, Ken Diskin seconded.
Unanimous vote to approve the agenda. (4-0-0)

Approve Meeting Minutes 05-22-2020

Ron Morrison made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the May 22, 2020 meeting. Karin Swanfeldt seconded the motion.
Vote to approve the minutes. (4-0-0)

Public Comment

Sara Withee introduced herself and voiced her support for affordable housing within our community.

Housing Trust - CPA Funding Request

Janet Providakes reported that she and Alicia Hersey would be going to the July 14th BOS meeting with a request for support of two warrants for the Fall Town meeting. The first warrant would create an Ayer Affordable Housing Trust and approve the proposed bylaws. The second warrant would be for initial funding for the Housing Trust from CPC of \$30,000.

A motion was made by Ken Diskin to request \$30,000 from CPA funds for the Ayer Affordable Housing Trust. Seconded by Ron Morrison.
Vote to approve the request. (4-0-0)

Janet Providakes agreed to take an Ayer Affordable Housing Trust funding request in front of the Ayer CPC committee on August 19th at 7:00 pm. It was agreed that it would be good to have as many Ayer Affordable Housing Committee Members there as possible.

Janet Providakes reported that at the July 14th BOS meeting she would request that they reduce the size of the Ayer Affordable Housing Committee from 7 members to 5 members, with two alternates. This is due to the fact that Hilary Curtis and Stephen Quinn have resigned from the board for personal reasons and that it is hard to get a quorum.

Mass Emergency Rental Assistance Programs - Survey

Alicia Hersey distributed the MHP's "Massachusetts Emergency Rental Assistance Programs in response to COVID-19 Survey of Local Governments" report. She reported to the committee that Massachusetts Emergency Rental Assistance grant money would be distributed through the States RAFT (Rental Assistance for Families in Transition) program.

Community Development Block Grant Covid-19 (CDBG-CV)

Alicia Hersey reported to the Committee that they were still waiting to hear on the outcome of the CBDG-CV application.

Alicia Hersey – Housing Production Plan

No update currently.

Discussion

The committee had a general discussion on meeting times and Janet Providakes offered to reach out to Stephen Wentzell to see what would work for him. Ron Morrison reported that the current rental market was very tight with a recent one-bedroom listing having 75 applicants.

Meeting adjourned

Unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 am. (4-0-0)

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*Janet Providakes
Chair*