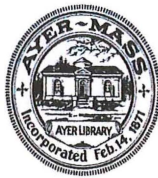


RECEIVED  
JAN 13 2020

TOWN OF AYER  
TOWN CLERK

2:34 pm *lf*



**Town of Ayer**  
**Community Preservation Committee**  
Town Hall \* One Main Street \* Ayer, MA 01432  
Minutes for 12/4/2019

Location: Town Hall, 2nd Floor Great Hall

Members present: Janet Providakes (JP) [Housing Authority]- Chair, Barry Schwarzel (BES) [Historical Commission], Jason Mayo (JM) [Parks & Recreation], Jess Gugino (JG) [Conservation Commission]- Clerk, Julie Murray (JM) [Planning Board], Colleen Krieser (CK)[At Large]

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

APAC taped: NO

**7:05 PM – Open Meeting**

- **Approval of Meeting Minutes**
  - BES moved to accept the minutes for 11/6/2019 as written; CK 2<sup>nd</sup>.
    - Motion approved unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **CPC Signs**
  - JP spoke to J & S Business Products, in Ayer, about producing two types of signs for CPC to have displayed for projects that are being funded by CPA, in whole or in part.
    - JP wants an 'election-campaign-sized' sign stating CPC funding as well as a placard for permanent display.
  - JM did research on signs used by other CPA communities for suggested wording.
    - One possibility for the placard could use wording to the effect that "This project has been funded in part by the citizens of Ayer through the Community Preservation Act."
    - A possibility for the larger temporary sign could read "Your Community Preservation Act funds at work."
  - JP will secure samples from J & S to bring to CPC's next meeting on Jan. 8, 2020.
- **Historical Commission – Inventory Update**
  - George Bacon, Chair of the Historical Commission, presented a Preliminary Application for CPA funding from the "Historic Preservation" category.
    - The CPA funding request is for \$20,000, out of a total project cost of \$35,000.
    - The Historical Commission will also be seeking matching funds from the Massachusetts Historical Commission.
  - The Inventory project is ongoing and has been done in phases.
    - In 2002, \$10,000 in CPA funds was used to complete a preliminary historic resource Survey plan to identify approximately 170 properties in town deemed of historical significance and needing documentation.
    - In 2007-2008, \$10,000 in additional CPA funds (plus \$10,000 in matching grant funds) were used to complete the first phase of the Inventory.
      - Approximately 120 buildings and areas in Ayer considered to be of historic interest were documented in the initial inventory.

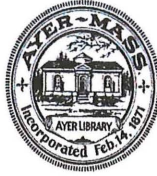


**Town of Ayer**  
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- Buildings and areas had to have been built more than 50 years ago and selected from the Community-wide Preliminary Historic Resource Survey Plan of 2003.
  - The Preliminary Application notes that Ayer has many historically significant resources: municipal buildings, private residences, commercial and institutional buildings, archeological sites, farms, and cemeteries.
    - In addition, these resources cover a range of periods: Native American, Federal, 19<sup>th</sup>-century industrial, and early-mid-20<sup>th</sup> century.
    - These resources were also noted in the 2010-2014 Town of Ayer Community Preservation Plan.
      - A number of the resources are at risk due to lack of funding for preservation and restoration.
    - An accurate Inventory is key to compiling documentation of the nature and extent of historic resources in Ayer, and creates the opportunity for community awareness, education and support.
      - It is only then that the focus can turn to determining which resources are both in need of preservation and most important to preserve.
  - This next phase, if funding is approved, will inventory approximately another 50 buildings and properties.
    - Looking at the calendar in advance of Spring Town Meeting 2020 in May:
      - The formal application will be submitted to CPC's February 2020 meeting.
      - A Public Hearing will then be held at CPC's March meeting.
  - CK moved to approve acceptance of the Preliminary Application; JM 2<sup>nd</sup>.
    - Motion approved 5-0 (BES recused himself, being a member of the Historical Commission).
- **Committee Updates**
- Historical Commission (BES)
    - The Commission continues working on its 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary plans.
  - Housing Authority (JP)
    - Budgets are being reviewed.
    - An Ayer Housing residents get-together is being planned for St. Patrick's Day next March.
  - Parks & Recreation Commission (JM)
    - The second phase of the Pirone Park Perimeter Path has now been paved.
      - This spur path was not paid for by CPA funding.



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- The Parks Commission is also planning on doing a study to see what can be done about constructing a retaining wall by the embankment adjacent to Ayer Housing.
  - This could enable connecting this new spur path to the main path.
- Following an email from a resident, the Commission is looking into repurposing one of the courts at Pirone Park into a dual purpose hockey rink – for deck hockey in the summer and ice hockey in the winter.
- Conservation Commission (JG)
  - ConCom's new Chair is Jon Schmalenberger, following in the wake of George Bacon's excellent chairmanship.
  - The Commission has two applicants for its new vacancy and will probably begin scheduling interviews soon.
    - Others interested should apply while they can.
- Planning Board (JM)
  - Norwood Avenue and Nashua Street Extension have both been released by the Planning Board, setting them up for Town Meeting votes for street acceptance.
  - The Board is still working on its revision of subdivision rules and regulations.
    - DPW Superintendent Mark Wetzel recently attended a conference and now has many edits and suggestions from the conference to contribute to the document.
    - A lot of the conference suggestions will not just attend to present needs but anticipate future needs of rules and regulations that take into account climate change, land availability, and more.
- Open Space & Recreation Plan Update Committee (BAS)
  - No report.
- **7:52 PM – Adjourn Meeting**
  - CPC's Next Meeting: January 8, 2020, 7 p.m.
    - (Note, this meeting will not be held on the first Wednesday of the month, given that it would fall on New Year's Day, January 1.)
  - JM moved to adjourn; CK 2<sup>nd</sup>.
    - Motion approved unanimously.

**Minutes Recorded and Submitted by Jessica G. Gugino, Clerk**

**Date Minutes Approved by Community Preservation Committee:** 1/8/2020

**Signature Indicating Approval:** Jessica G. Gugino