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TOWN OF AYER  
TOWN CLERK

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**Town of Ayer**  
**Community Preservation Committee**  
Town Hall \* One Main Street \* Ayer, MA 01432  
Minutes for 7/1/2020

Location: Remote Meeting via Zoom, accessible to public, due to Pandemic State of Emergency

Members present on-line: Janet Providakes (JP) [Housing Authority]- Chair, Beth Suedmeyer (BAS) [At Large], Barry Schwarzel (BES) [Historical Commission], Jason Mayo (JAM) [Parks & Recreation], Jess Gugino (JG) [Conservation Commission]- Clerk

Not present: Julie Murray (JUM) [Planning Board], Colleen Krieser (CK)[At Large]  
APAC Taped and Broadcast

**7:00 PM – Open Meeting**

- **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

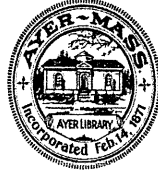
- BES moved to accept the minutes for 6/3/2020 as amended; BAS 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - Motion approved unanimously by Roll Call Vote 5-0.

- **Correspondence / Bills**

- Ayer Community Garden (\$41,000, STM 2019)
  - JP has approved several invoices for ongoing Community Garden costs, now in their second year expansion, totaling \$467.72
    - She will forward the exact charges to JG for inclusion in the minutes.
    - [Added later:
      - Reimbursed to Herbert Iburg, Home Depot, potting bench: \$195.29
      - Moison Ace Hardware, brass hose w/ shutoff, \$16.99
      - Moison Ace Hardware, spray wand, masks, O-Connect, \$69.96
      - Staples Connect, \$31.99
      - Cataldo Nurseries, annuals and perennials, \$30.97
      - Great Road Farm & Garden, ground cover, rake, broom, rain gauge, \$80.96
      - Moison Ace Hardware, rope, markers, first aid, \$41.56]
  - The Community Garden may also need to purchase a lawnmower, although JAM said he would look into whether this was something Parks & Rec could assist with instead.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- **Sandy Pond Schoolhouse Restoration and Preservation Project PHASE II (asking for \$208,870, Fall Town Meeting 2020)**
  - JP confirmed the Public Hearing for this project will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 2, 2020.

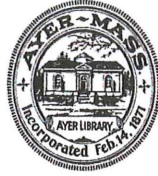


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- Ayer's senior housing has maintained good control during the pandemic and so far only had one COVID case, a gentleman transferred from Littleton Life Care, and who was removed within a day once his infection was known.
- The Affordable Housing Committee will be meeting next week, on July 19, and are working on their application for a CPC grant to create a Housing Trust.
- Parks & Recreation (JAM)
  - JAM is now officially the CPC representative for Parks & Rec.
  - Regarding the Town Beach:
    - The local Ayer Board of Health (BOH) has refused permission for Parks & Rec to open the Sandy Pond Town Beach this summer, due to the pandemic.
      - In addition, other Parks & Rec spring programs were cancelled, though there is a possibility that perhaps in mid-July, some summer programs could run.
    - JP asked why Mirror Lake, in Devens, is open while Sandy Pond's beach is not.
      - JAM explained that the decision is made by the local BOH. Mirror Lake is under either Harvard's or Deven's BOH jurisdiction, not Ayer's.
    - In addition, each local BOH has their own agent assigned from the Nashoba BOH.
      - Ayer's local BOH and its Nashoba BOH agent felt the health risks were too high to open the Town Beach, even though Parks & Rec had developed what they felt was a good plan.
    - Discussion included observations that residents were simply walking up the road (Snake Hill) past the Town Beach instead to swim, where traffic, broken glass, discarded fishhooks, etc. presented their own dangers.
      - JAM stressed that this decision was by the BOH, not by the Parks & Recreation department.
    - The next meeting of the Ayer BOH is at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, July 10.
      - If residents wanted to express their views and urge the BOH to reconsider, this would be an opportunity.



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- JG said she would post something on Ayer's community Facebook page letting people know of this meeting time and date.
  - Planning Board (JUM)
    - No report.
  - Conservation Commission (JG)
    - The Commission continues to meet regularly via remote Zoom, reviewing applications, enforcement orders, and developing regulations under its new bylaw.
  - Open Space & Recreation Plan Update Committee (BAS)
    - Nothing to report.
- **CPC Reorganization**
  - BAS suggested a future agenda item to discuss reorganization and the official appointment of Chair and Clerk, if anyone was interested in taking on these tasks.
- **7:46 PM – Adjourn Meeting**
  - JAM moved to adjourn; BES 2<sup>nd</sup>.
    - Motion approved unanimously.

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

**Date and Signature Indicating Approval:** 8/19/2020 Jessica T. Gugino