



Town of Ayer
Community Preservation Committee
Town Hall * One Main Street * Ayer, MA 01432
Minutes for 10/7/2020

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

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

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

APAC Taped and Broadcast Live

7:01 PM – Open Meeting

- **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- BES moved to accept the minutes for 9/2/2020 as amended; CK 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously by Roll Call Vote 6-0.
- JUM moved to accept the minutes for 10/1/2020 as written; CK 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously by Roll Call Vote 6-0.

- **Correspondence / Bills**

- Ayer Community Garden (\$41,000, STM 2019)
 - JP received an inquiry from Sheila Carman, for the Ayer Community Garden, saying she had applied for funding to build more raised beds from the State's Food Security Infrastructure grant program that would be awarded in late November.
 - She was asking if they could build more beds for next year now, before winter sets in, and then, if awarded the grant, repay into the CPA grant balance.
 - That way, they could use the CPA grant for some other garden projects, such as a semi-permeable driveway and gazebo.
 - JP replied the CPA grant can be used to build additional beds at any time.
 - There is, however, no mechanism to repay into a grant balance.
 - Further, while the existing CPA grant reasonably could be used for a semi-permeable driveway, it could *not* be used to fund a decorative structure like a gazebo.
- Select Board (SB) Meeting, 10/6/2020
 - JP remotely attended the Select Board meeting the previous night:
 - The Board appointed resident Sara Withee to the Affordable Housing Committee following the resignation of Steve Wetzel.
 - The Board reviewed the Town Warrant for Fall Town Meeting, October 26, 2020, on which there will be 9 articles.
 - Article 6, on behalf of the Affordable Housing Committee, seeks to create an Affordable Housing Trust.



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- Article 7 seeks approval to provide initial funding of \$30,000 to the Housing Trust if Article 6 is passed.
 - Article 8 seeks approval for \$187,340 in funding for Phase II Structural Restoration of the Sandy Pond Schoolhouse.
- **Committee Updates**
 - Historical Commission (BES)
 - BES is comparing inventory lists from 2002 and 2008 for the new Historical Resources Inventory (\$20,000 STM 2020).
 - Housing Authority & Affordable Housing Committee (JP)
 - They have reviewed their yearly budget, and are also now seeking to expedite the removal of a downed tree, from recent wind events, in the pocket park adjacent to the Pleasant Street School senior housing.
 - Parks & Recreation (JAM)
 - JAM said they have started up a limited soccer program, and Parks & Rec has now moved most of their office from Town Hall into the new building at Pirone Park.
 - Conservation Commission (JG)
 - The Commission continues to conduct its usual activities.
 - Planning Board (JUM)
 - The Board held a Public Hearing on their new Stormwater Regulations, and continues to review multiple projects.
 - Open Space & Recreation Plan Update Committee (BAS)
 - No update.
- JP asked for and received no public comments from viewers of the meeting.
- JP asked members to think about whether they might be willing to serve as Vice-Chair of CPC, to be discussed at CPC's next meeting in November.
 - JG cannot function as both Clerk and Vice-Chair, should the need arise.
- **7:22 PM – Adjourn Meeting**
 - CPC's Next Meeting: November 4, 7 p.m.
 - CK moved to adjourn; BES 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.

Minutes Recorded and Submitted by Jessica G. Gugino, Clerk

Date / Signature Indicating Approval: _____

10/14/2020 *Jessica G. Gugino*