

Town of Ayer
Community Preservation Committee

Town Hall * One Main Street * Ayer, MA 01432

Minutes for 11/5/2014 - Approved 12/3/2014

Location: Town Hall, 1st Floor, small meeting room

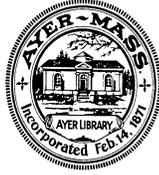
Members present: Janet Providakes (JP) [Housing]- Chair, Beth Suedmeyer (BAS) [At Large], Richard Durand (RD) [Parks & Rec.], Jess Gugino (JG) [ConsCom]- Clerk

Not present: Barry Schwarzel (BES) [Historical], Vacancy [Planning Board], Vacancy [At Large]

APAC taped: NO

6:00 PM – Open Meeting

- **Meeting Minutes Approval**
 - RD moved to approve the minutes for 10/1/14 as written; JG 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.
- **Accounts Payable**
 - The Sun: \$159.31, legal notices for the Public Hearings for the Kohler Place and Habitat for Humanity projects.
 - RD moved to approve payment of \$159.31; BAS 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.
- **Old Business**
 - Habitat for Humanity (HFH)
 - The warrant article for Fall Town Meeting (10/27/14) for \$100,000 in CPA funding for the construction of a HFH duplex on Central Avenue passed.
 - BAS asked about the status of the grant agreement discussed with Maggie Monroe-Cassel, Executive Director for HFH, at CPC's Public Hearing on 9/10/14.
 - JP will update the draft with BAS's previous comments and forward on to Ms. Monroe-Cassel.
 - If HFH has issues with the draft, they can be placed on CPC's next agenda.
 - Planning Board Representative to CPC
 - JP heard from PB Chair Jim Lucchesi that they will appoint a representative at their 11/6 meeting.
 - Fire Station Historical Photo Restoration Project
 - Fire Chief Robert Pedrazzi will appear before CPC at its December meeting (12/3/14) in order to submit a corrected proposal.
- **New Business**
 - Open Space and Recreation Plan

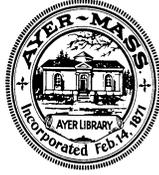


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- BAS said the Board of Selectmen (BOS), also meeting tonight, would be voting to form an 'Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Update Committee'.
 - The Committee will consist of 5 at-large volunteers as well as representatives from both the Parks & Recreation Department and the Conservation Commission.
 - Ayer's previous OSRP expired in 2009, making the Town ineligible for State funds for Open Space grants.
 - A new OSRP will need to be validated by the Department of Conservation.
 - The sum of \$30,000 of Ayer CPC funds was set aside for Open Space purposes, due diligence, and revision of an OSRP at Spring Town Meeting, 2013.
 - One possibility would be to work with the Conway School of Design, where students have in the past developed OSRPs for other towns as a student project / community work.
- **Committee Updates**
 - Parks & Recreation Department
 - RD described various actions and projects being discussed by Parks & Recreation, which include:
 - setting up the skating rink at the Town Beach;
 - solving the problem of where to store equipment now that the Old Fire Station is no longer available;
 - the DPW's planned dog park on Snake Hill Road;
 - Eagle Scout projects that include construction of picnic, barbeque, and camping areas at Pirone Park, and also a 2-ft. high fence to discourage geese from entering picnic areas.
 - Parks & Rec is also looking at applying for a Community Development Block Grant to replace the current playground.
 - Conservation Commission
 - JG said that 'beaver deceiver' devices have now been installed at the Long Pond Dam and at Rock Meadow Pond.
 - The purpose of these devices is to allow the unimpeded passage of water that circumvents the normal damming activity of beavers.
 - This reduces the amount of water impounded by beaver dams.
 - The blow-out of the beaver dam at Rock Meadow Pond in 2011 resulted in a portion of Oak Ridge Drive washing out.



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- JG said a beaver had gotten itself trapped inside part of the deceiver device at Long Pond over the previous weekend, but had been freed with the help of the Ayer Fire Department.
- **7:30 PM – Adjourn Meeting**
 - BAS moved to adjourn; JG 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.