

Town of Ayer
Comprehensive Plan Committee
Ayer Town Hall – 1st Floor Meeting Room
Ayer, MA 01432



Tuesday November 24, 2015
Meeting Minutes

Present: Jannice L. Livingston, John Ellis, Jane Morriss, Ruth Rhonemus, Harry Zane, Carolyn McCreary

Robert A. Pontbriand, Town Administrator
Carly M. Antonellis, Assistant to the Town Administrator
Mark L. Wetzel, Superintendent, Department of Public Works
Cindy Knox, IT Director
Kevin Johnston, Benefits and Payroll Director
Susan E. Copeland, Town Clerk and Tax Collector, Resident
Stephanie Gintner, Treasurer

Call to Order: R. Pontbriand called the meeting to order at 6:08 PM.

Organization of Committee: R. Pontbriand asked the Committee about their intentions to organize. J. Morriss and C. McCreary expressed interest in becoming co-chairs.

Motion: A motion was made by S. Copeland and seconded by H. Zane to appoint Ms. Jane Morriss and Ms. Carolyn McCreary as co-chairs of the Comprehensive Plan Committee. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Visioning Exercise: R. Pontbriand asked Committee members to ask where they see the town or what priorities they would like the Town to address in the next 1, 5, and 10 years. Committee members gave the following information:

Member Name	1 Year	5 Year	10 Years
M. Wetzel	Dog Park	Main Street Reconstruction	Community Center
J. Morriss	Train Station	Involved Community	Younger generation more involved
R. Rhonemus	Documenting History	Train Station	Community/Senior Center
H. Zane	Review of 21E sites	Review of split tax rate	Local economy vs. big box retail; Specialty retail downtown; Cheap sustainable power; breaking the "government molasses" by centralizing government functions
S. Gintner	Increased Community Involvement		

C. Knox	Downtown Parking	Street Scape Revitalization	Open Space; More Parks/Hiking opportunities
R. Pontbriand	Consolidation of the Budget Process	Town Manager Form of Government	Downtown/Train Parking
C. Antonellis	Downtown/Train Parking	Town Manager Form of Government	Revitalization of Park Street
C. McCreary	Downtown/Train Parking	Land Use Policies to promote open space	High Yield Aquafer; Increased diversity in Town staff; welcoming community for all
J. Livingston	Increase in use of policies/procedures; centralized form of government	Parking and improved roads	Dog Park
J. Ellis	Protection of Water	Address items in last comprehensive plan	Relationship with Devens
S. Copeland	Town Manager Form of Government	Water/Sewer Infrastructure West Main & Park Street	Public facilities

R. Pontbriand stated that he and Superintendent Wetzel will be working between now and the next meeting to finalize the facilitator/consultant RFP for the Committee to review.

R. Pontbriand asked committee members to expand upon their 1,5,10 year goal exercise and be prepared to discuss them in more detail at the next meeting.

Adjournment: A motion was made by J. Livingston and seconded by J. Ellis to adjourn at 7:18 PM.

Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes Recorded and Submitted by Carly M. Antonellis

Minutes Approved by Comprehensive Plan Committee on: 1/26/16

Co – Chair Signature Indicating Approval: 