

Town of Ayer Community Preservation Committee

Town Hall * One Main Street * Ayer, MA 01432

Minutes for 11/7/2013 - Approved 1/8/2014

Location: Town Hall, 1st Floor

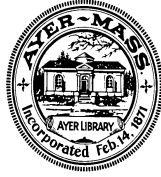
Members present: Janet Providakes (JP) [Housing]- Chair, Jason Mayo (JM) [Parks & Rec.], Barry Schwarzel (BES) [Historical], Jess Gugino (JG) [ConsCom]- Clerk

Not present: Mark Fermanian (MF) [Planning Board], Beth Suedmeyer (BAS) [At Large], Vacancy [At Large]

APAC taped: NO

6:10 PM – Open Meeting

- **Meeting Minutes Approval**
 - BES moved to approve the minutes for 10/2/13 as written; JM 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.
- **Correspondence / Bills**
 - CJ Landscaping: \$1000 – for pick-up and installation of 76 plants, for the Pleasant Street School Pocket Park.
 - Invoice # 928.
 - JG moved to approve payment of \$1000; JM 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.
- **Old Business**
 - Fletcher Building follow-up
 - JP referred to the 10/28/13 email from David Maher, Director of Economic Development for Ayer.
 - The email was written in response to CPC questions raised at its 10/2 meeting about the process by which both a Preservation Restriction (PR) and a Housing Restriction (HR) were accepted and signed by the Board of Selectmen (BOS) without CPC review or input.
 - JP distributed copies of the HR which Mr. Maher provided per CPC's request.
 - JP also has talked with Stuart Saginor, Executive Director of the Community Preservation Coalition, for advice on dealing with this sort of situation.
 - Mr. Saginor suggested the following:
 - CPC incorporate changes to its application process that would require documents such as PRs, HRs and other Restrictions be made available for review by CPC, by a specified date, prior to CPC approval;
 - Meet with the BOS on their agenda, and on open record, to request that input be solicited from CPC, for CPC-funded projects, before the BOS signs off on documents such as the recent PR and HR for the Fletcher Building.
 - Kohler Place
 - No updates have been received from the Town.



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- **Committee Updates**

- Historic Commission

- BES distributed copies of the program brochure used at the recent (11/2) rededication of Camp Stevens, site of an old Civil War camp.
 - BES said the ceremony went well and included Sam Grant, portraying Ulysses S. Grant, as well as a Civil War re-enactor standing guard at the perimeter.
- BES is looking into what it would take to have the Town's 1934-era fire station placed on the State's Historical Register.
 - BES asked if the station was placed on the Register and retained by the Town, would it be eligible for CPC funding for historic preservation?
 - The answer was yes.

- Housing

- JP reported that Housing is continuing to work on its current budget as well as changes being implemented from the Governor's office.
- Housing is also exploring ideas for projects that might qualify for CPC funding.

- Parks & Recreation Department

- JM said the Parks Dept. is seeking to expand its role in Town to include landscape maintenance.
 - To this end, the department has taken over maintenance of the athletic fields at the High School.
- JP asked JM about community garden possibilities.
 - JM said Pirone Park might be an option.
 - JP will contact BAS to see if, for liability concerns, things like soil testing would need to be done.

- Conservation Commission

- JG said ConCom's planned joint meeting with the Dam & Pond Management Committee (DPMC), to review a comprehensive study of Ayer ponds, was postponed because the revised proposal from the vendor had not yet been received.
 - JG will make sure to contact JM when this meeting is rescheduled.
 - JM said the Parks Dept. should have a representative on the DPMC.
 - JG suggested talking to the BOS about this and thought it was a good idea.

- Planning Board

- The representative from the Planning Board was not present.

- **6:44 PM – Adjourn Meeting**

- JG moved to adjourn; BES 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.