

Town of Ayer
Community Preservation Committee

Town Hall * One Main Street * Ayer, MA 01432

Minutes for 6/4/2014 - Approved 8/6/2014

Location: Town Hall Garden Area, as doors were locked

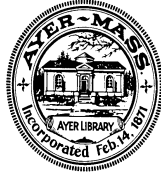
Members present: Janet Providakes (JP) [Housing]- Chair (Acting Clerk), Beth Suedmeyer (BAS) [At Large], Barry Schwarzel (BES) [Historical], Morris Babcock (MB) [Planning Board], Richard Durand (RD) [Parks & Rec.],

Not present: Jess Gugino (JG) [ConsCom]- Clerk; Vacancy [At Large]

APAC taped: NO

6:15 PM – Open Meeting

- **Meeting Minutes Approval Postponed**
 - BES moved to delay approval of the minutes for 3/5/2014 due to no quorum present to approve; BAS 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.
- **Correspondence/Bills**
 - JP reviewed the Sentinel & Enterprise invoice for \$236.28 for the cost of advertising of the Public Hearing on the support for the Comprehensive Water and Pond Study
 - BAS moved to accept the invoice for \$236.28 for the cost of advertising of the Public Hearing on the support for the Comprehensive Water and Pond Study; BES 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.
 - BES will copy and bring to Town Accountant
- **Old Business: Kohler Place**
 - Town Administrator Robert Pontbriand, not able to attend this meeting, sent an email with a document from Town Counsel to state the Right of Way exists for Kohler Place access.
 - JP and BAS recapped the history of the project for the new members of the CPC to bring them up to speed about the prospect of purchasing the property for conservation purposes.
 - MB asked several questions about the possibility of the town re-selling the buildable lots to raise the capital needed to build the boardwalk for conservation land and Sandy Pond access. BAS replied CPC guidelines do not allow for this to occur. JP also noted this is not in the agreement with Mr. Cornellier and the BOS.
 - BAS recommends the CPC members to review the document and after review by members JP will send an email back to Mr. Pontibrand about proceeding with the appraisal. Other members agreed.
 - JP also stated Mr. Pontibrand, Mr. Cornellier and the BOS would like to have this brought to Town Meeting in October 2014. Mr. Pontibrand would like to discuss the detailed timeline at our next meeting.



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- **New Business: New Members**

- New Members

- JP welcomed Morris Babcock (MB) and Richard Durand (RD) to the CPC. JP and BAS spoke about the Coalition and their helpful resources; also the Ayer Town Site and the links to the CPC pages. MB and RD will find the 5yr plan and other documents focused on Ayer's CPC. JP will send links.
- RD asked on how projects go through the "system" and BAS explained the best way was to meet with CPC prior to developing the pre-application; then the pre-application and then the application. After that there is the Public Hearing and then the vote at Town Meeting.
- JP emphasized the importance of the 5 separate Board/Committee members who legally need to be here on the CPC to be sure the projects are for the benefit of the Community. No matter what it is the Town that ultimately makes the decision; we need to do the due diligence the best that we can.
- RD asked what the current projects are and they are the Comprehensive Pond Study and Kohler Place.

- July Meeting

- JP suggested not to meet in July due to the holiday and vacation schedules. BAS made a motion if there needs to be action on Kohler Place then we should take appropriate action as needed, then not meet in July. BES 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.

- Pleasant Street Apartment Pocket Park Dedication

- BAS went to the dedication of the Pleasant Street Apartment Pocket Park and it was a nice ceremony. Mr. Pinard received an award for the volunteer work performed to get the park completed.

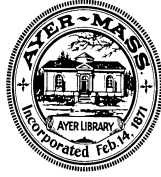
- **Committee Updates**

- Historical Commission (HC)

- BES said HC has restored the Women's Christian Temperance Union fountain outside of Town Hall. Only the granite slab needs to be placed under the fountain by Mr. Weitzel.
 - BES will let us know when the re-dedication happens.
- BES is still working on developing a walking tour of downtown
- HC is also continuing its effort to have the old fire station listed on the National Registry.

- Parks and Recreation

- RD spoke about a new fence around the baseball field with a 14' canopy to stop balls from flying over.



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- P&D is working on a joint effort with the Appalachian Mountain Club for an outdoor program for summer of next year.
- Planning
 - BAS remarked that having a new Town Engineer will help the PB with expert opinions on plans presented to PB
 - MB has begun his Chair position with a few issues still outstanding.
 - Checking on getting funding for Planning and Zoning Boards
 - Who will take over the work secretary used to perform
 - PB member not being able to attend meetings at Town Hall and possibility of video conferencing that needs State approval
 - No meeting in June, July the PB will be reviewing 4 different requests
- Housing
 - JP was not able to make the May meeting.
- **7:10PM – Adjourn Meeting**
 - BES moved to adjourn; BAS 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.