

**Planning Board Minutes**

Ashfield Town Hall

February 1, 2017

Present: Michael Fitzgerald (MF), Chair  
Lauren Preston-Wells (LPW)  
Alan Rice (AR)

Absent: Jim Cutler  
Ken Miller  
Meghan Bowen (scribe)

Meeting called to order at 7:34 PM (establish acting scribe: Alan Rice)

1. Board reviews mail.
2. Board reviews 1-18-2017 meeting minutes. AR moves to approve, as amended. LPW seconds. Motion passes, 3-0.
3. AR updates the Board on progress with the Open Space & Recreation Plan (OSRP) updating. The request for 2017 technical assistance funding was submitted by Kayce Warren to FRCOG, with a priority on the Plan update. As of this date, no grants have been awarded. AR will be requesting a percentage match for the project from the Town at the upcoming joint Select Board/Financial Committee meeting, on February 13.
4. MF reports on the submittal of the Board budget for FY2018. The amount requested is \$1,000 (FY2017 level) plus 2%, to reflect inflation, for a total budget request of \$1,020.
5. The proposed Senior Citizen Housing bylaw is briefly discussed. The Board reviews email correspondence from Mollie Babize (Zoning Board of Appeals Chair). The ZBA has expressed concerns about the way the proposed bylaw is currently written – specifically that the proposal is not flexible enough. She used as an example of a senior housing unit that can't be filled with someone aged 55 or over, and the potential costs of having to revert the unit. No action is taken at this time, due in part to the absence of a full Board. MF will consider drafting a response to ZBA. The Board notes that the time clock is running since the public hearing; there is still a few months remaining for the required Town vote to take place.
6. The Abbatiello special permit application inquiry is briefly discussed. It is not clear if the Abbatiellos have moved forward with the process. The Board agrees to add this to its next meeting.
7. The Board briefly discusses the agenda for the next meeting.
8. LPW moves to adjourn. AR seconds. Motion passes, 3-0. Meeting is adjourned at 8:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alan Rice, Clerk